


# The Pauw Wow

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# “A Disabled Campus?”

BY EMILY ALEQUIN  
*Arts Editor*

For most members of the Saint Peter’s University Campus, getting to class from building to building is just an everyday routine, but to others it is a daily struggle.

Wheelchair ramps, automatic doors, accessible elevators and wheelchair accessible signs are all vital to accommodating persons with physical disabilities, but this is an idea not limited to just wheelchair bound people.

Injured students, elderly faculty or staff or just any person living with physical disabilities can often deal with lack of accessibility but people may often turn a blind eye to the situation or

just become accustomed to the way things are for those who are disabled - whether temporarily or permanently. But this is not the kind of attitude to have about any person’s situation.

“At any moment, any one of us could be in a similar situation - could be injured, could be in a wheelchair,” said Dr. Patricia Redden as she voiced her opinion on the need for more ramps, signs, and accessible elevators.

Dr. Redden is a volunteer for Canine Companions for Independence, a non-profit organization which raises and trains dogs to become companions for people with disabilities. Now training

her 4th dog for the organization, Dr. Redden continues to be a supporter of equality and fair treatment of people living with disabilities.

For years, she has taken notice of the need for change on Saint Peter’s campus in terms of accessibility and accommodation. During a campus tour with Dr. Redden, she pointed out areas and buildings in need of the most change.

Buildings such as McDermott, which has the very inaccessible enrollment services, financial aid department, and dean’s office. An area that is essential to all students is simply unreachable for persons with other needs.

McDermott Hall can be reached through the elevator from the bridge connecting to Kennedy Boulevard, but persons who use that route are limited to the second floor of McDermott - they cannot reach the third floor or the 1st, which has enrollment services.

From the outside of the building, there is a ramp-like entrance from Kennedy Boulevard, which leads to the entrance to enrollment, but the door is not automatic. There is a key box besides the onecard reader, yet it’s unclear whether or not keys are loaned to those who need them. But that doesn’t exactly change things or matter because once

TPW / © EMILY ALEQUIN

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TPW / © SHANNON NULTY

The Facilities Department of the University plans on using the space in the quad to help improve Dineen Hall, the future home for the School of Business & School of Education. Some students are divided on how they feel about the ongoing construction.

## Construction In Dineen Hall Progresses With Student Opinion Divided

BY SHANNON NULTY  
*Contributing Writer*

It’s a bit hard to go unnoticed as the sounds of heavy machinery fill the air during the day and the quad between the library, McDermott Hall, Gannon Hall, and Dineen Hall literally becomes a literal construction site. The result, however, is going to worth all of it, according to those attached to the project.

Construction workers have been working hard these past couple months, building a \$7 million dollar addition for the School of Business and the School of Education that will extend from the former Dineen Hall into the quad.

This project is part of the University’s Facilities Master Plan. The project has been in the works for the past two years and became possible when money became available through a state fund awarded to Saint Peter’s

through the state bond issue. The addition will be funded from a general obligations bond from the State of New Jersey by fundraising and borrowing.

When the committee behind this plan received the money, they hired Del Sano Construction Company to complete the job, while members of the administration developed the original plan in conjunction with departmental input from the School of Business and the School of Education.

While the plan is part of an overall makeover of the university, students are irritated with the work currently taking place.

“This is terrible timing, it should have been done over the summer when classes were not in session,” said junior Sean Henry, as he expresses his annoyance with the construction going on.

On the other hand, some students are thinking of the

outcomes that this construction will bring to the campus, especially to those students majoring in business and education.

Freshman Lucia Radovic, who is pursuing a degree in Elementary Education, is excited about the change and the construction of the new building.

“I am looking forward to the new building being more modern and I think it will give us more opportunities to excel in our field of study,” she said.

“It will be easier for us to get to class and focus on our major if we have a whole building to ourselves,” said Radovic.

In addition, freshman Christopher Stragapede majoring in Business believes it will be a big help for business students.

Saint Peter’s has offered programs in education

SEE DINEEN PAGE 2

## Regional Bike Share Initiative Rolls Out

BY ROSE DRISCOLL  
*Managing Editor*

Jersey City tourists on bicycles capitalize on the boardwalks of Liberty State Park with the Statue of Liberty behind them, or gliding through the Newport Financial Centers, framed by the iconic skyline of New York City. But the everyday population of commuters and delivery persons have also relied on bikes, and now they’ll be able to with the help of a Regional Bike Share Initiative.

Jersey City, along with Weehawken and Hoboken, will soon offer 300 publicly shared bikes in 30 different locations throughout the city. Proposals to the three municipal governments follow a successful pilot, or test program, in Hoboken during the summer of 2013.

Between the three cities, residents and visitors will be able to access at least 650 bikes. These can be borrowed in one city and returned in another in order to encourage the bikes’ use as a commuting tool. The bike share program is designed to be expanded into other nearby towns and cities.

The program was designed specifically for the largely commuting population of the metropolitan area. “Hoboken has the highest rate of transit commuters in the country,” said Hoboken Mayor Dawn Zimmer. and this program

will improve our region’s transportation resiliency and provide another low-cost, healthy transportation and recreation option.”

“I’ll use the bikes every day once I get the chance,” says James Driscoll, a 2012 Saint Peter’s graduate.

While living in the McGinley Square neighborhood and working in Newport in Jersey City, Driscoll made his bike a part of his daily commute until it was stolen from his porch in June 2013.

“Guess I won’t have to worry about that anymore, if the bikes are owned by the city. I’ll pay whatever the annual fee is, if they’ll pick up [the cost for] the lock and the repairs.”

Mayors Steven Fulop, Zimmer, and Richard F Turner of Jersey City, Hoboken, and Weehawken respectively, hope that bike share participation will expand along the entire Hudson waterfront.

The mayors and other planners hope that the bike share program will relieve traffic and parking difficulties. The mayors also believe that the program will promote a healthy lifestyle and decreasing pollution in communities along the Hudson River.

The Initiative also follows the success of the citibike program in New York City. CitiBike boasts that users

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# 2NEWS

## BIKES

FROM FRONT PAGE

have logged 4.9 million miles since May 2013.

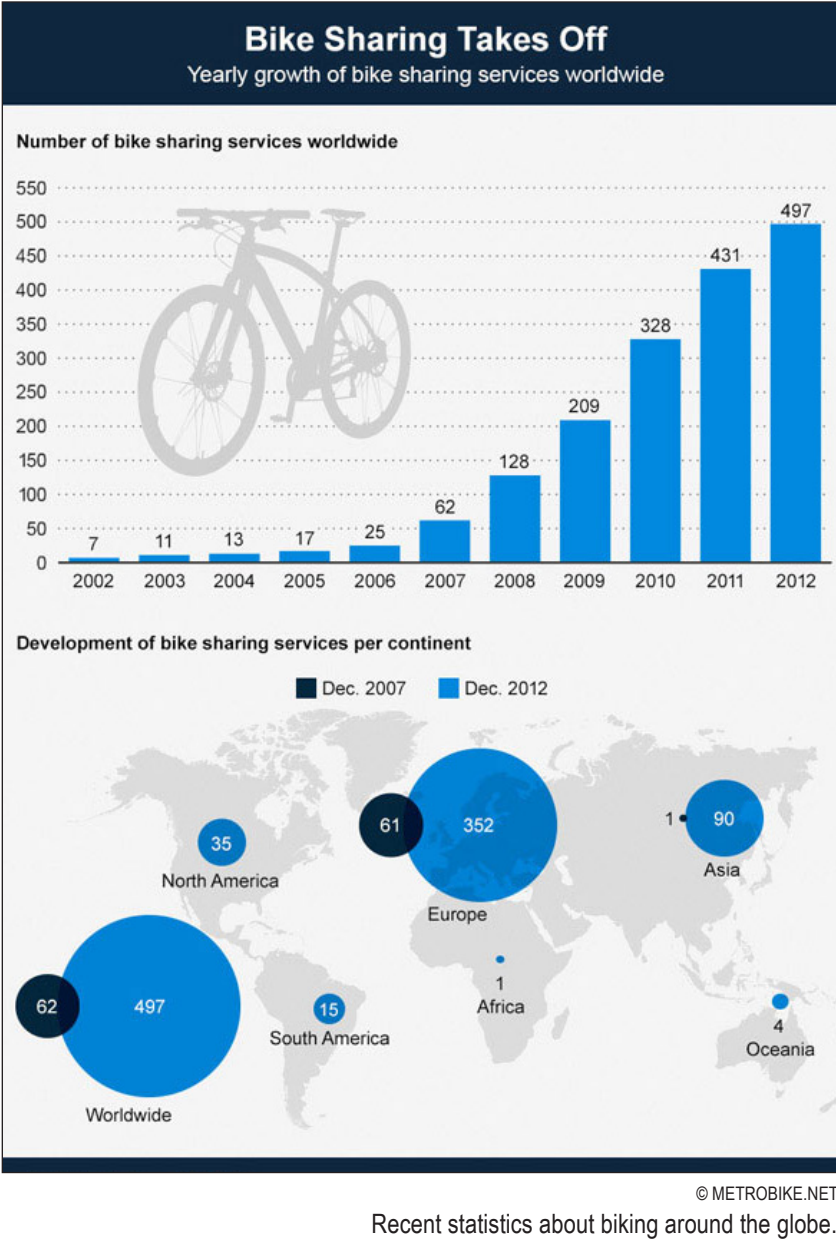
According to a December press release from Hoboken City Hall, a bike sharing program will also increase local shopping. Bikers tend to spend money in local shops that drivers would usually pass.

“That makes sense,” said Driscoll. “Once I got a bike, I was way more willing to meet someone on Grove Street for lunch rather than bringing one to work.”

Meanwhile, shops that rent bicycles will not be put out by the bike share program. The program prices bicycles that would be practical for an hour or less, but less so for an entire day. This design allows commuters to rent the bicycles as they go to work, but pushes tourists towards day-long bike rentals.

According to People for Bikes, CitiBike created 200 new jobs in New York City. Additionally, the installation of a bike share system in Paris increased local bicycle sales by 35 percent.

The three cities will each vote on the bike share in upcoming city council meetings. The bike share plan is expected to pass without problems due to mayoral support, and the program will begin before Summer 2014.



**LET US KNOW:**  
Do you plan on participating in the bike sharing program once the service becomes active in Jersey City?

## Transitioning To America as an International Student

BY ANA ZAPATA  
*Contributing Writer*

JERSEY CITY – Coming from a third world country, many young people would have never imagined that their dreams would eventually come true in the United States.

Meet Carlos A. Suarez, the goalie for the Saint Peter’s University men’s soccer team and currently a Risk Management graduate student. Suarez was born and raised in Bolivia and came to America during his junior year of high school. While he was playing for Bolivia’s national U-17 soccer team, he was offered a scholarship to play soccer at St. Benedict’s High School in Newark. Suarez was given a full scholarship including tuition, housing, food, transportation, and clothing-only having to worry about playing soccer, doing well in school, and learning English.

“I did not know one single word of English, I did not even know how to say hi when I came here,” said Suarez.

Many students like Suarez come to the United States as international students. They have to adapt to a certain lifestyle they are not familiar with and acclimate to

American culture. However, because they are international students, the stay in the United States is not always permanent.

In order for international students to study in America with a student visa, they have to be accepted to the institution as a full-time student, apply for an F-1 visa, and then the institution sends an I-20 form to the student to present to the United States embassy. The issuing of the visa varies from country to country.

Once the student completes his or her studies, their visas have an expiration date and, if they wish to continue their studies or look for work in their field, they are allowed to apply for Optional Practical Training (OPT). OPT allows them to stay in America for a period of 12-29 months, depending on what the student is pursuing.

In 2011, about 476,072 F-1 student visas were issued. While this number went up in 2012 with a total of 515,253, according to the Bureau of Counselor Affairs.

In the state of New Jersey as of 2013, there are about 15,634 foreign students, according to the Institute of International Education

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## DINEEN

FROM FRONT PAGE

for more than 60 years. Dr. Patrick Caulfield was the founding chairman of the Department and was responsible for the expansion of the Undergraduate and Graduate programs. Graduate programs have been offered at the Masters level since 1979, and at the Doctoral level since 2010. At the present time, the School of Education has been in existence for a number of years, and is accredited by Middle States, The Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC), and the New Jersey State Department of Education (NJ DOE). The School of Education is authorized by the NJ DOE to provide certification in 24 areas of study, according to John Frosoni who spoke on behalf of the Dean of Education, Joseph Doria.

“The School of Education is contemplating the addition of a number of new programs and courses over the upcoming years. This new location will help to facilitate their implementation,” said Frosoni.

However, some students who are earning a degree or minor in the fields on these two schools seem to think indifferent about the construction taking place. The administrators of the School of Education have been placed in trailers since June of 2011, according to Dr. Joseph V. Doria.

“How would it really benefit me? I just go to the trailer and talk to whomever I need. It doesn’t matter if it’s super new and modern or simple to me,” said junior Devon Williams, who is studying history with a minor in education.

However, Frosoni sees this new arrangement to provide multiple benefits to the students of the School of Education.

“The offices will allow all of the faculty and staff



TPW / © SHANNON NULTY

How the quad in the middle of campus looked before during the late weeks of November. Some students feel the space has been made impossible to enjoy.

of the School of Education to be housed in one location. In addition, all of the Education courses will be housed in Dineen Hall classrooms. This will allow easier access for students to faculty members for advisement and

professional interaction,” said Frosoni.

While Frosoni is looking to the future benefits, some students are not happy with the present.

“I think that the construction is actually really

annoying. It takes away space to sit in the quad and it makes way too much noise,” said senior Margret Neiswanger. “It’s very distracting when sitting in class and trying to pay attention. My teacher has to yell sometimes in order for her be heard over the noise. Sometimes the machinery holds up traffic when trying to get to class because the forklift goes back and forth through the pathway towards my classes,” said Nieswanger.

Many students have expressed that they thoroughly enjoy the time they can spend in the quad in between their classes and now they will miss the their regular spots with conversing with their friends.

Senior Karissa Gregor said, “I am always busy after classes with homework and activities, so during the time we have in between classes, I like to catch up with my friends that I do not always get to hang out with. The loud noises from the construction always going on really disrupts during my socializing time.”

“They took away my beautiful quad spots and the tradition I’ve had here at Saint Peter’s for the past four years,” Gregor added.

Despite the noises echoed through the campus, the construction, according to administrators is for the university’s good.

“The outcome will be that a large, currently vacant space will be converted into new interactive learning spaces with state-of-the-art facilities for teaching, learning and interaction. While the project will provide new homes for the School of Education and the School of Business and students studying in those disciplines, the use of this space that will not only be limited to students in those disciplines of study,” said Stargel.

With the cost for the completion of this project totaling a large amount, the faculty and board members did have to approve the decision,

but students are concerned that their voices were not heard.

“It is a waste of money that the school could use for other areas to improve on. For instance, they could have fixed the dorm rooms and modernize them or classrooms, offices or athletic facilities,” said Williams.

Senior Danielle Connolly also expressed concerned with the outcome of the building and the benefits it will provide with future students.

“There will be so much extra space for the building because it is only two majors getting the benefits. The whole bottom floor of the building could have been another eating option or hang out area because if you live down the hill, like by Durant, it is an inconvenient walk in between classes to the student center,” said Connolly.

Denton Stargel took these comments into consideration.

“The quad will continue to be a space that students can enjoy. It is being enhanced by the addition of the outdoor interactive learning space created by the stepped entrance to the School of Business. The ‘amphitheater’ space will have many uses for teaching and learning and continue to be an area for student gathering and use,” according to Stargel.

“There is no question that the new facility will be much more attractive to students and provide a much more professional learning environment for the more than 500 students currently enrolled in the Undergraduate, Masters, and Doctoral level programs that the School of Education offers,” according to Frosoni.

The project should be completed in early to mid summer of 2014 and ready for classes in the fall of 2014, according to Vice President of Finance Denton Stargel.



CAMPUS  
FROM FRONT PAGE

someone enters through that door, there are stairs directly at the entrance to enrollment with an inoperable lift machine at the top of those stairs. It's large and bright blue and is screwed to the wall yet students have rarely seen it actually being used.

"Years ago they put this lift in, except it doesn't work. It's missing pieces, some parts, and it hasn't worked for 6 months at least," said Dr. Redden.

She has questioned maintenance and security about the lift before; when her daughter, who has been in a wheelchair since childhood, came to campus to get her onecard, security was called to check on the lift yet reported that there were parts missing from the lift that were needed for it to operate. This leaves the question of what students or persons in wheelchairs are supposed to do when they need or want to visit enrollment services or financial aid?

"Put the things that are most important to students where they can get to them," explained Dr. Redden. "You can't get to a Dean or the enrollment center which is very important to a student. Whether you're going over to register, pay something on the one card, pay the tuition bill, or meet with someone."

President Cornacchia,

by a ramp from the Quad side of the building.

Connecting building Dineen Hall is better in terms of elevator accessibility to other floors, yet its ground entrance from the quad is not a preferable route because of what a person will have to pass and walk through to get to it.

The entrance leads from Glenwood Avenue at the back of the library. There are dumpsters that line the walkway and most recently that walkway has also been used by construction vehicles due to the changes being made to Dineen Hall.

One of the biggest issues Dr. Redden voiced was the problem with this construction. According to her, plans were made to have a ramp built for the new entrance of Dinneen, but those plans have recently changed. Dr. Redden spoke of her experience with attending meetings with others and Denton Stargel to discuss the construction being done.

"They had told us at public meetings, twice, they were going to have a wheelchair ramp built down there. And I asked specifically - "I'm looking at the plans - how is somebody in a chair going to get past those stairs - he (Stargel) kept saying "No problem, it's going to be accessible" and now I'm watching them pouring the concrete and I don't see any sign of a ramp here and I wrote to him and he said they took it out due to financial reasons and I also learned there's only going to



TPW / © EMILY ALEQUIN

The basement of Hilsdorf Hall that one must get through after coming in a side entrance to access the building if they cannot come through the front entrance due to the stairs.

House, a building used for open houses and meetings.

President Cornacchia stated that there will be changes to Dineen Hall along with the new construction.

"The construction project also includes plans for a wheelchair accessible elevator that is ADA-compliant and features a larger cab. The new elevator is expected to be operational in fall of 2014."

When construction is completed, students with disabilities can gain access into Dineen through the campus bridge, which will lead them to an elevator which has access to all floors within Dineen.

Other main buildings, such as the Library and Pope, have their own faults as well. The ramp, which leads from Glenwood and in between Pope Hall and the Library is, much too steep for use. Dr. Redden claimed she had only known two people who were able to go up and down that ramp and those people were: her daughter, who was at the time in athletic training, and a man who had served in the navy, but suffered a spinal cord injury.

Pope Hall does have a wheelchair accessible sign posted outside of its lower entrance and is one of the few buildings to have elevator access to every floor. Compared to Pope, Gannon Hall's elevator is not accessible to others unless they have a key to operate the elevator.

"When they renovated, we asked them to leave the elevator unlocked, but they wouldn't," said Dr. Redden when she spoke about how the faculty of the Biology and Chemistry departments dealt with renovations made to Gannon Hall. There was also an issue with making bathroom stalls wheelchair accessible, but they were able to have those put in.

Hilsdorf on Glenwood has no visible accessibility, but there is an entrance at the side of the building. This entrance, however, leads persons through the dark and dusty storage basement of the building where power

generators and discarded furniture are kept.

"The University plans to investigate the Hilsdorf entrance and develop a plan to revitalize it," said President Cornacchia.

There is also the problem of lack of awareness for the entrances themselves.

There are not many 'wheelchair accessible' signs posted around campus so any building that does not have a ramp built directly by its entrance may appear to simply be non-accessible. Cornacchia stated that there would be changes made to this problem as well.

"With the addition of Aramark and our new director of campus safety, plans have been developed to take a complete inventory of signage on campus in order to determine where additional signs are necessary."

As for counseling on campus, Present Cornacchia says that the university offers supportive services for students with disabilities.

"The academic dean's office or the graduate program director works with students with disabilities on an individual basis in order to make appropriate and reasonable arrangements," said Cornacchia. "The dean's office or graduate program director collaborates with other student support services, including such departments as the Center for Personal Development, Enrollment Services, Health Services, CALL, etc. to provide necessary and effective accommodations to students with disabilities."

According to those who know of people with difficulties accessing certain parts of the university, Saint Peter's University certainly does not need to undergo major changes. Instead, simply raising more awareness of what is offered for students and members of campus is the place to start.

Hopefully the university will see the promised changes within time.

AROUND  
JERSEY CITY

The feud between Gov. Chris Christie and Jersey City Mayor Steve Fulop kicked into higher gear today, with a Christie spokesman accusing the mayor of engaging in "partisan politics," according to the Jersey Journal.

Colin Reed, a Christie spokesman, blasted Fulop, hours after the mayor released emails and text messages that back up the mayor's contention that state officials canceled a series of meetings it set up with Fulop last July.

Fulop, a Democrat, says the meetings were canceled because he told Christie's allies he wouldn't be endorsing the Republican governor's reelection bid.

A seventh-grader at School 38 in Jersey City brought a loaded handgun to school yesterday morning, Jersey City school district spokeswoman Maryann Dickar confirmed to the Jersey Journal.

The student, a 14-year-old boy, showed the .22-caliber gun to a fellow student in a bathroom and may have threatened him, Dickar said.

The student who was shown the gun told a teacher, who then notified security, Dickar said.

The gun was confiscated at about 11:15 a.m. by a security officer and the student's parents were called.

The Jersey City City Council will vote Wednesday on temporarily renaming Christopher Columbus Drive, "Super Bowl Drive" to mark the playing of Super Bowl XLVIII on Feb. 2 at MetLife Stadium in East Rutherford.

According to the Jersey Journal, if approved, Christopher Columbus Drive would sport the moniker from Jan. 26 to Feb. 3, to include the game and related events.

"This event will attract thousands of visitors to the City of Jersey City and provide the city with national and international exposure from around the world," said the resolution. The game and related events "will have a tremendous positive economic impact on the City of Jersey City and the State of New Jersey."

According to the Star Ledger, The hard feelings between Senate President Stephen Sweeney and Jersey City Mayor Steven Fulop appear not to have passed, but the state Senate nevertheless approved a bill to overhaul the city's pension system.

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TPW / © EMILY ALEQUIN

One of the signs seen through the entrances that those in a wheelchair or who are physically disabled must go through when trying to get through Dineen Hall.

when asked about the lift, stated that the replacement parts are difficult to find.

"We began investigating alternatives to the current lift and selected a new vendor this fall. In order to have the new lift installed we had to work with the city of Jersey City to obtain a permit to ensure the new lift meets city requirements."

The permit was obtained in December and a new lift has been ordered and shipped to campus. It should be installed this semester.

President Cornacchia also mentioned the future of the new Advising Center (which is beneath McDermott where the old bookstore used to be located). The center will be open within a few more weeks and will be accessible

be one accessible bathroom."

Denton Stargel was contacted to discuss issues regarding Saint Peter's University, but a response was not received in time for publication. The Pauw Wow looks forward to speaking to Mr. Stargel on these matters.

In order to access the lower level of Dineen, which includes the QuickZone and lounge area that used to have Jazzman's, a wheelchair bound person would have to pass areas marked as "Danger: High Voltage". This would then lead them to a ramp and entrance into Dineen, but there is no onecard access to open the door, only a sign that reads "Press Buzzer for Assistance". A similar sign can be found at the back entrance of Lee



## 4 EDITORIAL

# Looking Forward Towards Spring

a letter from the editor

BY DYLAN SMITH  
*Editor-in-Chief*

As I write this editorial, I realize it is the very last first-of-the-semester editorial I will write as Editor-in-Chief, which makes me not only look back at the last four years of involvement I've had with The Pauw Wow, but also invokes the excitement I have the upcoming semester and what it hopefully pushes forward for The Pauw Wow for years to come, even after myself and the amazing people who are my fellow editors are long, gone and graduated.

In the first issue of the semester, you will find

stories about the importance of looking forward and being extremely productive. As the Class of 2014 preps for their final moments before launching into the, as they call it, real world, these moments will be some of the most important and some of the most special.

With cover stories about the difficulties of those often forgotten faced on a daily basis, it seems important to remember those who are not as fortunate and might have to endure such horrible conditions outside in the dark at nights alone. As cura personalis says, it is important to remember to care for the whole of an entire

person and their well-being. With Saint Peter's University being a Jesuit institution, I am confident in members of the community being prevalent in their attempts to help others.

Also covered in this issue are stories emphasizing the importance of a strong community and a bonded community. Jersey City will be enacting a new bike sharing program and the emphasis to help build a strong community and one with a focus on growing small businesses is greater than ever. In the issue you will also find the stories of undocumented citizens facing the struggles that come with living in the

shadow of society and facing constant fear of being deported away from loved ones and one's home.

You will also find tips on how to be a better you and what some students are planning to do to become even better versions of themselves in 2014.

With that noted, it seems important to wish all a great beginning of the semester and to insist that all in the Saint Peter's community continue to strive for greatness and to keep pushing for the best of themselves, the best of others, and for the best for and out of their community in the new year.

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TRANSITION

FROM FRONT PAGE

(IIE). As for Saint Peter's University, on an average there are about 10-20 undergraduate and 5-10 graduate international students per year, according to Tushar N. Trivedi, Coordinator of Academic Success Program and International Student Advisor for Saint Peter's University.

"Most of the International Students who come to this school are usually athletes," Trivedi said. "Men's soccer being top one, men's and women's swimming being top two, and men's and women's tennis being top three with the most international students."

For Suarez, the transition of coming to America was not easy because the United States is so different than Bolivia. It was especially difficult for him because he came at a very young age and he was here by himself without his family.

"One of the requirements of St. Benedict's was to stay here for an entire year without going back, I had to go on a year without seeing my family," Suarez said. "It was tough for me because I did not really have anyone to depend on"

Nevertheless, Suarez did learn how to love this country and adapt to it.

"I love the diversity this country has, especially Saint Peter's University; I like that there are so many opportunities, and here you can be independent, you can do whatever you want to do," Suarez said. "I do dislike - but I can cope with [it] - the



TPW / © ANA ZAPATA

winter. What I miss the most from Bolivia is the affection of the people, the tropical weather and the food."

When Suarez graduated in 2013 with his bachelors in International Business, the expiration date on his visa was approaching; however, he updated it and he has until 2015 to stay here and then apply for OPT. Suarez does want to stay and, once he gets OPT, he wants to look for a job in sports and hopefully get a visa from the company that hires him.

Marcel Maddee has a similar story. He's a midfielder for the Saint Peter's University men's soccer a team and junior in business management. He was in a showcase in his hometown

Berlin, Germany, and Saint Peter's University offered him a full athletic scholarship. He arrived in 2011 and his F-1 visa expires in 2015. Luckily, Maddee already knew English when he came to the United States.

"I started to learn English

since I was 8 years old in elementary school," Maddee said.

What Maddee likes the most about this country is that the people are very welcoming and easygoing.

"The people in Germany are always very busy, if you go up and ask them something they will tell you they do not have time," said Maddee.

He also prefers the American school system over Germany's.

"Here you can hand something in late and professors are a lot more understanding, in Germany if you hand in something late you fail the whole class," said Maddee

However, Maddee occasionally misses Germany. He misses his friends and family,

but one of the main things he misses is the breakfasts.

"The breakfasts in Germany are salty and a lot healthier, here everything is so sweet," expressed Maddee.

Maddee goes to Germany once or twice a year and his family pays for the airfare. So far, Maddee is not sure whether he wants to live in America or not.

Another international student who attends Saint Peter's University is Jamoliddin Muminov from Dushanbe, Tajikistan. He is a senior majoring in Computer Science and currently works in the school's IT department. He, like Suarez, came to the United States during junior year of high school. The difference between Suarez or Maddee and Munimov is that Munimov does not have an athletic scholarship. Even though the school does give him part of the tuition, his uncle Bakhtiyor Muminov, the Technical Director of Babilon-T, is his sponsor and pays the rest of his tuition and housing.

During his senior year of high school, Saint Peter's University had an instant decision day and Muminov applied, spoke to a representative, and got accepted.

"I like this university, it is a small university and everyone knows me by my name," Muminov said. "I like working for the IT department,

the people are fun."

Muminov misses his family and friends in Tajikistan but particularly the food.

"The way it is cooked, it is unique, and everything tastes different, everything is natural," Muminov said.

He likes the diversity and the opportunities that America has and offers.

"People here are friendlier, more open and understanding than in my country," Muminov said.

One of the main differences between Tajikistan and the United States is that it is easier to get around because it is smaller, according to Muminov.

Ultimately Muminov wants to live in America. After he graduates, he wants to get a job, go to graduate school and try to get sponsored by the job that hires him in order to get his status changed to resident.

Most undergraduate international students, especially those who are business majors, get a permanent job with the internship they got as a student, and get sponsored by their job in order to stay permanently, according to Trivedi.

"Even though I miss my country, I always want to come back to America, it is my second home," Muminov said.

Living in the Shadows of Society: The Story of Three Undocumented Latino Immigrants

BY JOSE BUSTILLO  
Staff Writer

For fourteen years, being an undocumented person in the United States has been a real challenge for Ms. S, a New Jersey resident and single mother of two with a low pay job with no privileges. Last summer, Ms. S found out that she could no longer work at her job because of her immigration status.

The number of unauthorized immigrants living in New Jersey and other states in the U.S. has steadily grown even during and after the 2007-2009 recession, a new study from the Pew Research Center shows.

For some, the United States is the country where 'dreams' can come true. For others such as these three undocumented immigrants living in New Jersey from Mexico, Ecuador, and Honduras, that 'dream' is just a fantasy, as they continue to live under the shadows of society.

Pew researchers found that, as of March 2012, about 11.7 million unauthorized immigrants were living in the United States based on U.S. government data. To estimate this number, researchers subtracted legal immigration from the adjusted total foreign-born population. Like most other states, New Jersey's unauthorized immigrants declined during the recession; however, it rose to an estimate of 525,000 unauthorized immigrants in 2012. Ms. S is just one of several employees who lost their job that morning. In total, 80 were told not to come back because of their status.

After working 7 years, Ms. S, 37, a Passaic resident from Mexico, her situation became even more complicated after her manager told her she

could no longer work at the Port Logistics Group located in Clifton, NJ. The PLG is considered as a leading provider of gateway logistics services.

According to Ms. S, a letter sent to the company by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), revealed the name of employees that did not have a legal social security number. Her name and the ones of more than 80 employees were on that 'list'.

"Tengo 14 años de vivir en este país, y tengo miedo por lo que le pueda pasar a mis hijos porque las cosas se están poniendo difícil." Translated in English, she said in a phone interview, "I been living in the country for 14 years, and I am afraid of what could happen to my children because things are becoming complicated." She added that after getting fired, she had to leave her apartment together with her sister who had five children. She eventually found a new job, but she is afraid of getting fired again.

She repeated many times of feeling intimidated by the managers, but denied any irregularities with her payment, or inappropriate working conditions. While Ms. S paid to be member of a union, she thinks the union did not do anything to help her stay with the company.

Meanwhile, Ms. Z, 39, a West New York Resident from Ecuador, was also listed in the letter sent by ICE. She was told about the paper, but she believes the company used the letter as a reason to fire her because she never saw such letter. According to her, the PLG Company called her twice to discuss the letter and told her that their papers were not 'legal'. She was also part of the union, and felt same way as Ms. S.

"Nunca tuve problemas con mi pago, ni tampoco con las condiciones de trabajo." "I never had problems with my payment, neither with the working conditions," she said.

For others, such as Mr. H, 29, a resident of Union City from Honduras who also worked at the PLG and paid by an agency, not having documentation makes the working conditions complicated. For Mr. H, not having documentation makes him have fewer aspirations because even if he wants to work for a well-known company, he will need a social security number and most companies are using E-verify; therefore, companies cannot give many opportunities to people like him.

According to Wilfredo Laransuent, representative of the union and person who dealt with the workers situation at PLG, there was a letter sent by ICE to PLG which contained the name of 80 people, apparently without legal documentation.

"Yo les dije acerca de la carta, y tratamos de ayudarles a todos pero no se pudo." "I told them about the letter, and we tried to help everyone but we couldn't," Laransuent said on a phone interview. He added that the 'law is the law', and that PLG just tried to protect themselves of legal charges by the government for having undocumented immigrants working for them. In addition, he said that he did not have anything against undocumented immigrants, but agreed that as a union they just respected the law.

According to Jennifer Oltarsh, an immigration lawyer at Oltarsh & Associates, P.C in New York City, ICE has been sending such a letter to different companies when they find discrepancies

in the social security number.

"Unfortunately, this has been happening a lot recently," she said. "There is not too much undocumented people can do because that is the law." She added that it is not illegal to fire someone for not having a legal documentation. However, people can sue a company if they got fired because of their color, sex, race, sexual orientation, national origin, and others.

PLG was contacted by phone, but no one answered the call.

For Catalina Adorno, an alumna at Saint Peter's and currently working for the Dreamer Educational Empowerment Program (DEEP) and for the New Jersey Dream Act Coalition (NJDAC), the current immigration system is broken and undocumented immigrants are paying the price. Adorno believes that employers take advantage of undocumented workers by making them work extensive hours, and by not paying them a decent wage. Even though the undocumented workers interviewed said they were being paid fair wages, that is not the case for everyone.

"There are many inequalities in regards to undocumented immigrants," she said. "Most of them work under the table." She added that undocumented

"New Jersey alone would lose \$24.2 billion if undocumented immigrants were removed," she said.

According to Nicholas A. Chiaravalloti, Executive Director at the Guarini Institute for Government & Leadership, current US law forces millions of undocumented residents to work and live in the shadows of society and that is never a good or just action.

"It is important, both ethically and economically, that

we recognize the 12 million undocumented currently in the United States," he said on an email interview.

Mr. Chiaravalloti believes that Americans need an honest conversation about immigration reform in this country. He added that the conversation needs to move toward the practical common sense solutions needed to ultimately provide a pathway to citizenship for undocumented residents and equal treatment of 'dreamers'.

"The idea of deporting 12 million residents is fantasy. The idea of an immediate amnesty is also a fantasy," he said. "It is important that we continue to see undocumented people as individuals."

While some have already found the 'American dream', the experience of these three undocumented people from Mexico, Ecuador, and Honduras in the U.S. has not been as easy as they thought it would have been. However, they continue to hope that one day immigration laws will change for the best and that it will allow them the price of experiencing a true American dream for them and theirs.

According to Mr. Chiaravalloti, undocumented immigrants are individuals with families who are productive members of society.

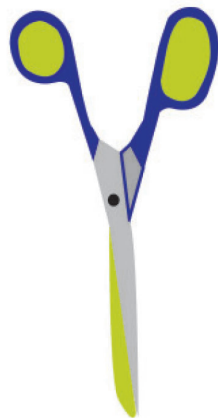
"Whether we know it or not, they can be our co-workers, friends, neighbors, classmates, and students," he said.

The Minuteman Civil Defense and the Alipac, both against the unlawful and unauthorized entry of individual were contacted by email, but did not answer before the story's deadline.

People interviewed for this article asked their names not to be revealed because of legal implications.



## 6 LIFESTYLE



BY NATALIE CASTILLO  
*Online Editor*

Need a year to make yourself a better you in the new year? Below are some guides on how to become a more organized, healthier and overall happier than you were in 2013!

### Organization

1. Use Google Calendar and add due dates, meetings, and social dates to your calendar. Sync the calendar to your iPhone and receive alerts so that you're always on task.

2. Make To-Do lists for school assignments, club projects, or even personal goals. Set your goals into existence and once they're accomplished, check them off and move onto the next goal.

### Health/Beauty



Organic hair products can be very expensive, so here's how you can make your own.

**Natural Hairspray** - All you need is a spray bottle, a mixing bowl, a tablespoon of honey, and boiling water. Combine the honey with a cup of boiling water and mix into boil and let it cool down before pouring into the spray bottle. This

organic recipe will give your hair more shine and less crunchiness.

**Dry-Shampoo** - All you need is 6 drops of lemon oil, two tablespoons of cornstarch, two tablespoons of rice flour, two tablespoons of arrow-root powder, a mixing bowl, and an empty salt-shaker. In the bowl, mix the dry ingredients and get rid of lumps by mashing them with a spoon. (For dark hair, add two tablespoons of cocoa powder so that it'll blend in perfectly with your hair color). Add the lemon oil and stir. Pour the mixture into the empty salt shaker and apply to your roots.

### Fashion/Style

**Nail Art** - Design your own nail art by using Sharpie markers. You'll need a base coat polish, colorful Sharpie markers, and a top coat (use in that order). The design can be wiped off with nail polish remover because the marker was applied on the base coat.

**Sweater Weather** - Use your old sweaters and convert them into scarves. You'll need some old sweaters, card stock, a hot glue gun, fabric scissors, and painter's tape.

Cut a page of 8 ½ by 11 inches cardstock in half, wrap tape so that it's sticks on both sides and stick a piece on each corner of the paper, you'll be using this as a template. Tape the cardstock to an area on the sweater and cut around it using fabric scissors. Repeat this using as many sweaters so that you can create your pattern or design.

You should have a pile of rectangular pieces of fabric before you move onto the next step. Lay out the pieces of fabric in the way you would like to design your scarf. Using the hot glue gun, put hot glue on the top edge of your first piece and attach a bottom edge piece to the glue. Press down firmly to tighten the seams and repeat with the rest of the rectangles.

Trim any uneven edges of the scarf before you connect the ends. Make sure you don't end up with a twist in your scarf and lay both ends flat on the table. Glue one end of the scarf and press the other end firmly onto the glued end as you have done with the other rectangular pieces.

Now get cozy with your new infinity scarf! (brit.co)

### Fitness

**Cardio** - Every January 2nd, there are always newcomers at the gym, but how many actually stick to the resolution of staying fit?

Here's a 10-minute cardio workout. (All exercises are 1 minute long).

You should do cardio five times a week for 30 minutes or at least three times a week for 20 intense minutes. For this exercise you can either do more reps or longer reps (repetition).

1. Jog in place
2. Jumping jacks
3. Knee ups
4. Butt kickers
5. Mountain climber pulls
6. Step ups



### To Do List:



7. Plie squat hops
8. Ski hops
9. Shuffle punches
10. Jump rope

**Fitness Smoothies** - These fitness smoothies work well as breakfast, lunch, or a pre/post workout protein intake.

**Peanut Butter Bananas Smoothie** - 10 ounces of milk of choice, 1 tablespoon of natural peanut butter, 1 medium banana. Blend the ingredients until the mix is smooth. You can use six ice cubes for thicker consistency.

**Banana Kiwi Smoothie** - 1 peeled banana cut into chunks, 1 peeled and sliced kiwi fruit (about ½ cup), 1 cup of low-fat yogurt, ½ cup of ice cubes, 2 tablespoons of maple syrup (optional). Combine all of the ingredients into a blender and blend until the mixture is smooth. (fitnessmagazine.com)

Follow some of these tips and you'll begin to see your new year already start to improve.

# Creating A Better You In The New Year

BY TY-KIERA BROWN  
*Staff Writer*

The New Year has approached and it's time to set new goals. 2014 is the year to reinvent yourself for a better you. This may include searching for an internship or having high expectations for post-graduation. Self-motivation is fundamental so one can remain positive through obstacles endured by failure.

Many students are discouraged when receiving their first grade back from a professor, and the grade is not equivalent to their expectations. Do you quit working hard when you don't receive a high grade

on an assignment? The answer is no - failure helps build character, according to Meghan Ianiro.

Ianiro is a junior at Saint Peter's University who majors in Communication and Media Studies. She believes that, in order to succeed in life, you would have to fail - at least sometimes.

"Failure makes me want to improve myself, conquer it, and get myself out of whatever low place I may be in," explained Ianiro.

As an ambitious young woman, Ianiro believes that, without having experienced failure in her life, she would not be the confident student that she is today.

This lines up with studies many colleges have done to find out what drives young people to want to succeed.

According to Carnegie Mellon University, "students lack interest in school when students see little value in a course or content."

Carnegie Mellon University is a global research company that help creates start-up businesses. The research company list suggestions on their website to help students and teachers understand the problems that may occur in a classroom. For example, not completing assignments and not being proficient with the material.

"Sometimes I am disinterested in a course, but I want to pass so I take a look at my list of goals and remember to remain positive for a positive outcome," said Ianiro.

According to their

research students are more motivated to work when they are aware of what goals they are working towards. John Soloman's initial experiences proves the research results true.

Soloman is a sophomore at Saint Peter's born and raised in Asbury Park, New Jersey.

"Where I am from, there are not a lot of opportunities [and] many people don't create goals - they just deal with life," explained Soloman. "I just want to do something different"

According to Nj.com Asbury Park residents face tough statistics: 32.8 percent of children in families between the ages of 5-17 are in poverty with a 50.7 percent graduation rate.

Soloman says he was

inspired by all the good and bad in his neighborhood. He believes that school will take him where he wants to be in life, so he works hard every day. Soloman also wants to be the role model for the children of Asbury Park, believing that his goals can help a child dream more.

What can one do to make oneself better? Many suggest creating a list of your goals and list just how you can work towards all of them. Talk about your goals to your peers to create ways you can help one another achieve your goals. Most of all, live your life productively.

"I just live to make myself proud by living up to my full potential," said Ianiro.



# Why Switzerland Is Cooler Than Us

BY SABRINA CARTEGENA  
*Staff Writer*

Switzerland is holding a public referendum after a truck dumped eight million coins -- one for every citizen -- outside the Parliament building on October 4. Along with the coins were 125,000 signatures petitioning for every Swiss citizen, no matter how old or young or rich or poor, to be paid \$2,800 monthly simply for being alive. This would end poverty and create some security for the poor. Something like that would probably never go down in the United States because we're just not as cool as the Swiss. Here are a few reasons why:



1. They have a direct democracy

This is how Swiss citizens could force the parliament to consider their proposal to pay Swiss citizens monthly. In a direct democracy, citizens have more power than in a representative democracy, which is what the U.S. has. U.S. citizens vote for political figures to represent and make decisions for the country. Swiss citizens directly participate in the government and can propose changes to the constitution

as well as demand referendums on laws the parliament has put into place.

2. The Swiss spend way less on the military

The U.S. spends 4.6 percent of its GDP (gross domestic product) on its military, while Switzerland spends 1 percent, according to findthedata.org. That's probably because they're a neutral country, which is another thing to make us jealous.

3. The Swiss people have a safe gun culture

Gun ownership represents responsibility and safety in Switzerland. It is rooted in their patriotism. The idea is that if the country was invaded, soldiers would be ready. Switzerland has a lower violent-crime rate than the U.S. and the last mass shooting in Switzerland was in 2001, while the U.S.' most recent mass shooting was this past September. The Swiss see weapons as a way to defend, not offend. Just to be clear, the point is not that they have looser gun laws than the U.S. -- it's that their looser gun laws do not result in a higher crime rate than the U.S..

4. They've got the whole healthcare situation figured out

It's like Obamacare, but better. Citizens in both countries have to obtain health insurance, but the Swiss have unlinked health insurance and employment. This helps the Swiss in choosing the job they actually want, and not just the one with good health benefits. The Swiss healthcare system has a higher approval rating, and probably also a better-running website.

There must be areas in which Switzerland could learn from the U.S. But if the two countries got to be too alike, that could be one less country Switzerland is cooler than. So you're welcome, Switzerland.

GRAPHIC DESIGNER? ARTIST?  
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## Featured News



December 22, 2013 at 2:01 pm  
**Five D.I.Y. Christmas Gifts in Five Steps or Less**

## Latest Issues:



## SPORTS

# New Coach, New Season, New Attitude

From Last Place to First Place: Saint Peter's Softball Team Wants a MAAC Championship

BY NATALIE CASTILLO  
*Online Editor*

Finishing 9-45 overall last season, the Saint Peter's University softball team is off to a new start for the 2014 season with new head coach, Ken Passante.

Passante, who has prior experience as an athletic director, assistant and head coach, was announced as the new head for Saint Peter's softball team back in October. He has coached at Adelphi University where he led the team to nine regional playoff appearances, including eight trips to the College World Series and Briarcliffe College where he led the team to a fourth-place finish at the College World Series.

"A good friend of mine told me of the opening so I sent in my resume and here I am," said Passante on his arrival to Saint Peter's.

There are four seniors on the 2014 season roster who

all have vital positions on the team.

"For some of these young ladies it will be their last time playing college ball and I want to do my best to help give them a memory for a lifetime," said Passante.

Senior and pitcher, Erica Colon from Fairview, New Jersey, is likely to make more appearances on the mound since starting pitcher Shelby Beaver graduated last May. Colon finished last season with 33 appearances and 70 strikeouts.

Other seniors include third baseman Kristen Kaneyuki, outfielder Aimee Schneck, and infielder Michelle Tinajero.

The team finished last season with over 200 strikeouts, more than 330 hits, and nearly 20 home runs.

"The only problem we have is [that] I don't know what's on the other side of the ball," said Coach Passante. "Because I have been out of the game for a few years I don't know the talent level of the teams we will be playing.

I have really stacked up the schedule for the beginning of the season in order to show us exactly what we need to do to make the MAAC playoffs, which is our goal."

As of May 2013, the MAAC standings include Fairfield, Siena, Marist, Manhattan, and Niagara as the top five teams. But, when looking at overall averages for batting, pitching, and fielding Saint Peter's who placed in ninth place is not far behind.

Marist College won the 2013 Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference softball championship and finished their season 9-7 in the MAAC and 30-27 overall.

The Peacocks faced Marist last April in a double header where both games ended in the fifth inning. Although Saint Peter's wasn't able to score in the first game, they put in three runs for the second.

"We have run some great workouts and I really feel like we have a real competitive team that by the looks of things might do

some damage," said Coach Passante.

Coach Passante has been to the College World Series before and plans to take the Saint Peter's softball team there as well.

"What got us there was the way we went about our season, we were never the most talented team but I always felt we were one of the most prepared teams," said Coach Passante.

Passante believes that as long as the players know how capable they are at their position, the team will have a great season.

"The personalities of these girls is one of winners and one that really shows a tremendous amount of respect for each other," said Coach Passante. "Those factors, along with their talent tells me we are in for a very special season and I can't wait to begin."

Six freshmen and sophomores make up the rest of the 2014 roster, including five juniors.

"I am very excited about

[four] players we are bringing in," said Coach Passante. "I think all [four] bring different things to the table that I feel we will need moving forward, bringing a balance of power, speed, defense and depth."

With games starting in February, the Peacocks and Coach Passante have wasted no time in working on their team chemistry and preparing for this season and the next.

"The biggest thing about replacing these players is not in their athletic ability, it will be in finding people like these young ladies who feel the way they do about each other and the university," said Coach Passante on losing four seniors. "These kind of kids do not come by everyday and my hope is with their help we begin to set the stage for players of the future to want to look at Saint Peter's as one of their top choices for the next chapter in their lives."



# WINTER SPORTS REVIEW

## PICTORIAL HIGHLIGHTS

ALL PHOTOS COURTESY OF SAINT PETER'S ATHLETICS



WASHINGTON (11) PUSHES PEACOCKS PAST FAIRFIELD AT LAST MINUTE FOR A 56-55 WIN



WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FALLS TO RIDER 68-40



MEN'S BASKETBALL DEFEATS QUINNIPIAC 74-67



TRACK & FIELD NOTCH EIGHT 1ST PLACE FINISHES AT RUTGERS INVITATIONAL



BENT (34) HELPS THE PEACOCKS WIN OVER NIAGARA FOR A 67-55 WIN