

Port Jefferson Life

The key to your community



Cross the L.I. Sound Via Ferry
CONNECTICUT DAY TRIP
 Color the Sky at Heritage Park
GO FLY A KITE
 Exhibit Celebrates Author's Life
COLLIER ON DISPLAY

April 2014

Refined Design

Take Spring Cleaning to the Next Level With Expert Tips

Port Jefferson Life

The key to your community

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A fond farewell from this month's issue of the magazine.

On the Cover

This cozy, yet clean and fashionable bedroom is only one spring-fresh concept by Port Jefferson-based interior designer Amber Freda. Learn more of her techniques on Page 14.
 Photo courtesy of Amber Freda



Children's book author is a community contributor!

Thanks to children's book author Laura Hill Timpanaro for an informative piece on how to not only declutter, but also to redesign your house this spring for that fresh feeling of renewal. Soak up some advice on Page 14.

Get involved! Send your photos, stories or events to:

portjefferson@hibu.com

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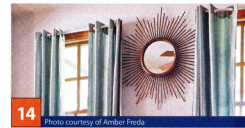
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Photo courtesy of Joan Wozniak



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Photo courtesy of Naomi Soto



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Photo courtesy of Amber Freda



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AROUND TOWN

Local news you can use.

College to Shed New Light on Old Stars

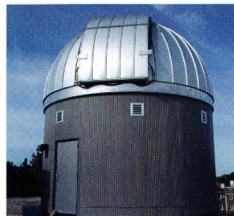
Suffolk County Community College in Selden is home to a powerful telescope at new observatory.

by Dre w Biondo
 Community contributor

The stars are shining a bit brighter on the Suffolk County Community College Ammerman Campus in Selden with the opening of the college's new state-of-the-art observatory, where stargazers can peer into the sky and look more than a billion years back in time. Suffolk County Community College now has one of only four observatories in Suffolk county — Stony Brook University, Custer Institute in Southold and Montauk have the other three — and Suffolk Community's is among the largest.

In astronomy, first light is the first use of a telescope (or, in general, a new instrument) to take an astronomical image after it has been constructed. This is often not the first viewing using the telescope; optical tests have been performed to adjust the components. Despite this, a first light is always a moment of tremendous excitement, both for those who design and build the telescope and for the astronomical community at large.

"This is a fantastic new addition to our college," said Suffolk County Community College President Dr. Shaun McKay. "It will provide research opportunities for faculty and as-



Stargazers have another opportunity to observe the sky in Suffolk County.
 Photo courtesy of Joan Wozniak

tronomy majors, as well as enhance our college's reputation in the scientific community while educating the public about astronomy through public outreach."

The observatory's 10-inch Meade RCX400 Ritchey-Chretien telescope has a resolving power of 0.45 arc seconds, which is equivalent to being able to see a dime a little more than five miles away, and is housed under a 20 1/2-foot rotating dome atop the Smithtown Sciences Building and equipped with networked computer controls allowing partial operation from remote locations. Full networking and remote operation are planned in the near future.

The instrument can also be operated via electronic hand controls and is equipped with software that accesses a catalog of coordinates for 145,000 celestial objects that make viewing and moving from one object to another easier. The telescope's primary mirror also has ultra-high transmission coatings to help increase light transmission by 20 percent, making objects brighter.

Suffolk County Community College's Ammerman Campus is located at 533 College Road in Selden. For more information, call 631-451-4110 or visit sunysuffolk.edu.

IN BRIEF

A Community Friendly Global Resource

Astronomers using the new telescope can also record what they are seeing through the college's CCD Camera equipped with filters that meet astronomical research standards. The telescope will soon be available to use by the general public. "The college's new observatory offers our students and faculty the opportunity to conduct research and share information with other students and scientists throughout the world," said Suffolk County Community College Board of Trustees Chairwoman Dafny Irizzary. "It will also serve as one more college resource available to the community at large."
 —Drew Biondo

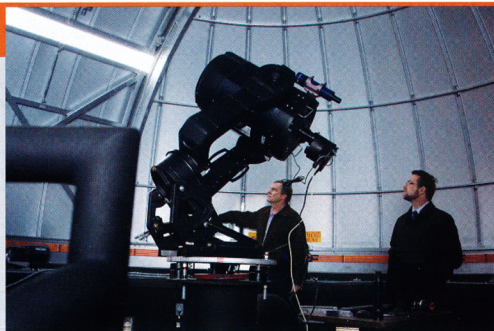


Photo courtesy of Joan Wozniak

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