SCCC professor is a Times best seller author

Noted author, journalist, Suffolk County Community College English professor and Class of 1974 alumnus Tom Clavin has earned a spot on The New York Times Best Sellers list this month.

Clavin’s The Heart of Everything That Is, co-written with Bob Drury, is a biography of Red Cloud, the influential Sioux leader. The book examines the life of Red Cloud and his military prowess as well as the Plains Indians’ changing way of life in the 1850s and ’60s.

Clavin and Drury’s fiery narrative, fueled by contemporary diaries and journals, newspaper reports, eyewitness accounts, and meticulous first-hand sourcing, is a stirring chronicle of the conflict between the expanding white civilization and the Plains Indians who stood in its way. The Heart of Everything That Is not only places the reader at the center of this remarkable epoch, but finally gives the great warrior-chief Red Cloud the modern-day recognition he deserves.

Clavin was a contributing reporter to The New York Times for 15 years, has contributed more than 200 articles to regional and national magazines, including Smithsonian, Manhattan Magazine, Men’s Journal and others. He has written 15 non-fiction books on subjects as diverse as sports, the Vietnam War and the Golden Age of Las Vegas.

Clavin teaches English at Suffolk County Community College’s Ammerman Campus in Selden.

OBITUARIES

Christopher M. Hardie

Christopher M. Hardie, 47, of Northport, formerly of Lake Grove, died on Sept. 17. He was a local contractor known for working hard to support his family, being a trusted and devoted friend, and for having a larger-than-life personality and great sense of humor.

He was the beloved husband of Shela and adored father of two sons: Christopher Jr. and Neil, cherished son of Carel and the late James; treasured brother of Barbara (Paul), James (Cathy), and Robert (Joni). 

Funeral arrangements were entrusted to Bueggeman Funeral Home in East Northport. A funeral Mass was held at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Church in Centerport. A private cremation followed.

MILITARY NEWS

Sgt. Timothy Fay and Staff Sgt. Thomas Fisher, both of Lake Grove, have recently re-enlisted in the New York Army National Guard.

Sgt. Fay will continue his service with the Company B, 642nd Support Battalion, while Staff Sgt. Fisher will continue his service with the Company B, 1st 69th Infantry.

“The New York Army National Guard has sustained our force at or above 100 percent strength for the better part of five years now,” said Major General Patrick A. Murphy, the adjutant general. “Keeping those ready forces in our ranks means that New York is ready to provide forces for state missions here at home, as we saw during Hurricane Sandy or for the federal missions supporting our nation around the country and around the world.”

He added, “Each of our 16,000 men and women serving in the Army and Air National Guard has an important role, and I’m pleased that so many continue to re-enlist and remain part of our New York National Guard family.”

Coach Brown inducted into Hall

Suffolk County Community College Head Baseball Coach Eric Brown, who was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Baseball Coach’s Association Hall of Fame last spring, has been named the American Baseball Coaches Association/Diamond Sports Company National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Regional Coach of the Year. Brown will be honored at the ABCA Annual Convention in Florida next January.

A multi-sport star himself, Brown lettered in three sports, including baseball, as a student-athlete at Suffolk. He was hired to lead Suffolk’s baseball program in 1987 and was subsequently inducted into the SCCC Sports Hall of Fame in 1993. He has led Suffolk to six appearances in the NJCAA Division III World Series and is a five-time recipient of the Region 15/District F Coach of the Year Award.

In addition to his program’s success on the field, the NJCAA Region 15 Umpires Association has awarded his team its annual sportsmanship award four times.

Brown is the longest-tenured coach of any athletic program at Suffolk County Community College and has led the Sharks for 25 years, amassing an overall record of 587-322-7.

“Coach Brown has once again demonstrated that he is an exceptional leader. He is a credit to our institution, and I am proud to congratulate him personally and on behalf of the entire College community,” said SCCC President Shaun L. McKay.

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