

# Xtra-curricular

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION



## From the Helm



I am pleased to report the activities of the South Country Education Fund to you, our supporters. The foundation uses our resources to enrich the education of our children by supporting programs which we feel will improve the educational experience.

The foundation supports programs at all grade levels in all the district's schools. We also support community-based educational activities.

As I write this, we have just finished our annual grant process. We will fund over \$13,000 in grants to our teachers and community organizations. The grants focus on mathematics.

In addition to the regular grant program, we initiated and completed a swim lesson program for all fifth graders at Frank P. Long Intermediate School. One thing which made the program success was the dedication of three volunteers, Diane Zanazzi, Mary Jane Cullen and Dava Stravinsky. Without them, the program would not have been the outstanding success that it was.

We are supporting music education through the Becker/Gambles Music Fund. We have an Instrument Donation Program to accept donations of musical instruments for use in our schools and we provide scholarships to students for summer study. Last summer we supported summer study for music students for a total of \$ 4,000. This year we will continue this level of support. In addition, we held two concerts this year and hope to host four next year - including one which will feature members of our music faculty.

The foundation continues to sponsor the Clipper Classic Race and Fun Walk. Proceeds from the event support scholarships for our graduating student athletes. This event is a highlight of the summer in our community

The foundation is always searching for other ways to use our resources so we can continue to enrich our children's education.

All of our activities depend upon your support. We know that the times are difficult financially, but we hope that the quality and quantity of our efforts will encourage you to continue your support.

Upcoming activities include the SCEF's 5th Annual Auction/Cocktail Party on July 10, The Clipper Classic Race and Fun Walk on July 11 and two concerts already scheduled—October 15, the Long Island Brassworks and December 11, the Camarata Singers from SUNY Stony Brook. Please make plans to attend these events and enjoy them. If you cannot attend, please consider using the form on the last page to make a donation. Thank you for your continuing support of our children and their education.

—GENE WESTHOFF, *President*

## Speedo and Sports Authority Donate to Swim Program

Due to the generous donations from Speedo, the world's largest swimwear maker, and Sports Authority, the sporting goods superstore, the students at Frank P. Long were much better equipped this winter for the pilot swim program at St. Joseph's College. Diane Zanazzi received a donation of girl's tanksuits from the Sayville Sports Authority which was most welcome. Local families also donated swimwear which was used by students who were unable to provide their own.

SCEF supporter Norm Nelson put us in contact with Peter Mani, an executive at Speedo, who kindly offered us equipment of any kind from the company. As winter approached for the second and third sessions, we asked if we might have swim caps for the girls with longer hair. Within a matter of days, he sent us a huge box with fifty swim caps plus fifty pairs of goggles. The accessories added a lot of excitement to an already enthusiastic group of students, not to mention the additional benefit of having

**WE CANNOT REACH *OUR* GOALS  
WITHOUT *YOUR* HELP**

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*Make your tax-deductible checks payable to:  
South Country Education Foundation, Inc.  
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Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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NEWSLETTER

Elena Brodie-Kusa, Editor  
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South Country Education Foundation, Inc.  
Post Office Box 512, Bellport, New York 11713

**SCEF Mission Statement**

*The South Country Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization committed to improving educational opportunities for all students in the South Country School District. Its mission is to promote and enhance educational initiatives by providing supplemental financial support for projects and programs that are outside of the South Country School District budget.*

**HELP US INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF OUR CHILDREN**

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Please come support the Annual Auction of the South Country Education Foundation and have a great time doing so! Highlights of the auction include:

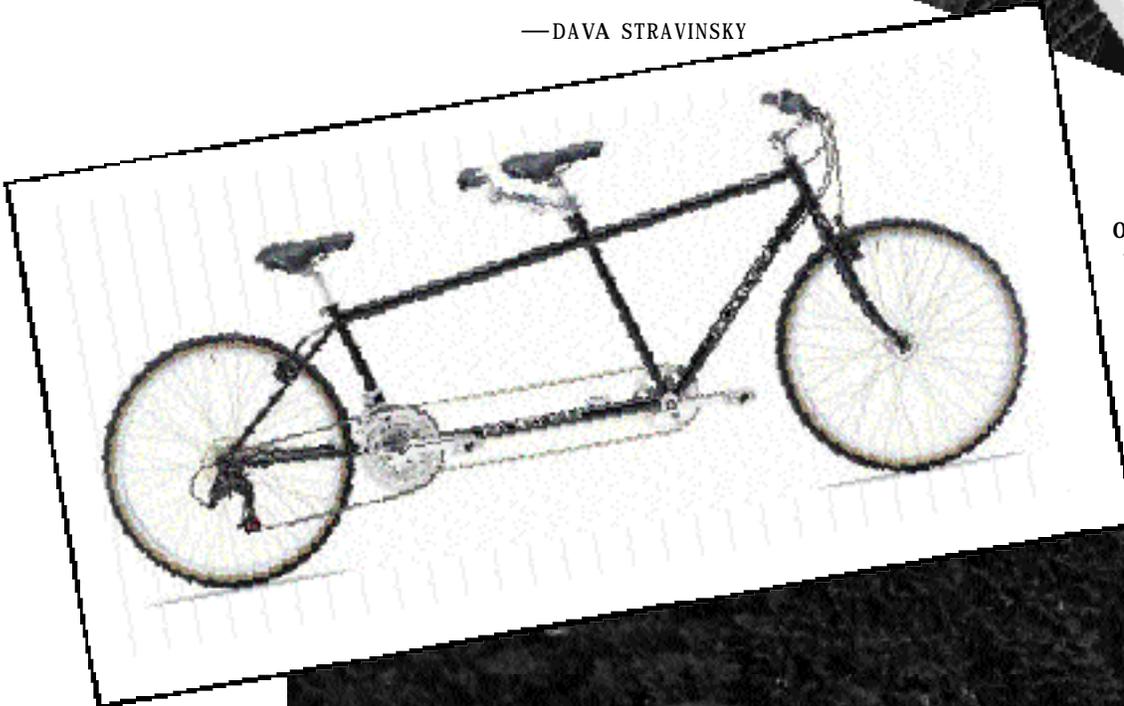
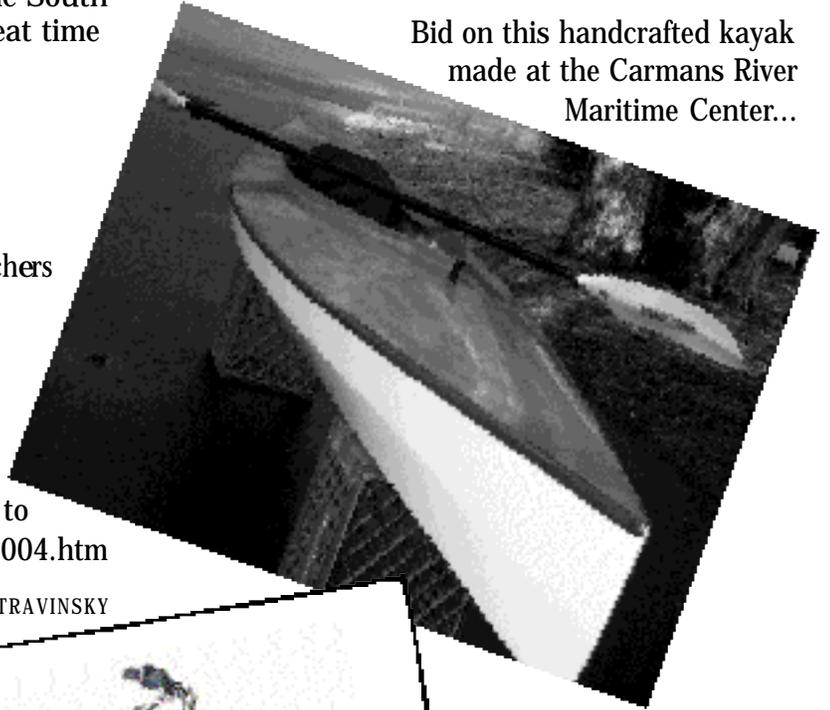
- A handcrafted kayak
- A week in a Sedona, Arizona condominium
- Art and jewels by local artists and craftsmen
- Golf, tennis, and music lessons by district teachers
- A Burley Zydeco tandem bicycle
- Laser eye surgery
- Tickets to major sporting events

and much, much more!

For more information call 286-3760 or click on to <http://www.scefonline.org//Auction%20List%202004.htm>

— DAVA STRAVINSKY

Bid on this handcrafted kayak made at the Carmans River Maritime Center...



or on this bicycle built for two...

or, for \$10, have your picture taken with these two friendly primates before they leave with some lucky bidder or bidders.





Swimming program instructor Kari Mills introduces the use of a personal flotation device to fifth grade students at Frank P. Long Intermediate School.

dry hair on cold winter days. We sincerely thank both companies for their enthusiastic support.

The swim program ended just before mid-winter break with over 350 students receiving six lessons each. The program received much praise from the administration, parents, and the students, and we hope that the program will be extended next year through funding from the district. We are very pleased to have been able to help bring this exciting new program to the South Country students.

—DAVA STRAVINSKY

## Magical Moments

Friday and Saturday, May 14th and 15th were filled with magical moments, not brought on by Harry Potter, but rather brought to us by the Daedalus Quartet. The quartet paid their second visit to the school district under the sponsorship of the Becker/Gambles Music Fund of the South Country Education Foundation, Inc.

The quartet is one of the best young classical groups on today's music scene. We are proud to say that three of the members are alumni of the school district. Violinists, Min-Young Kim ('88) and Kyu-Young Kim ('90), cellist, Raman Ramakrishnan ('94) and violist, Jessica Thompson are the Daedalus Quartet.

On Friday, the quartet visited the district to work with the orchestra students at Bellport High School, Bellport Middle School and Frank P. Long Intermediate School. They performed for the students, held master classes and conducted question and answer sessions. Their ability to communicate with the students was truly amazing to behold. They worked closely with a quartet from Frank P. Long School and in the course of about an hour of coaching, the amount the students had learned and improved was astounding. The warmth, caring and passion of these highly-skilled and professional musicians was completely evident during their entire stay with the young students.

Later that evening, the quartet helped raise money for the music fund by attending and performing at a gala dinner hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Richard Berman. The guests were treated to a marvelous dinner and a spectacular performance by the quartet.

On Saturday evening, the magic was continued. At a benefit concert in the high school, the quartet performed works by Haydn, Bartok and Beethoven. The performance was a *tour de force*. The precision, musicality, exuberance, clarity of expression and purity of sound had to be heard to be believed. The members of the quartet have reached the highest levels of the performing arts. The standing ovation they received was never more truly earned.

It must have been a nostalgic moment for the quartet as the three alumni reminisced about their days in our schools. For us, the two days were certainly magical.

—GENE WESTHOFF

## Master Class

This spring in March and April our Bellport High School Band, Chorus and Orchestra were each visited by a Doctoral Candidate from SUNY Stony Brook. The Master Teachers were Michael Aberback, percussionist; Jubal Fulks, violinist; and Mihaela Buhaiavic, soprano. The two accomplished pianists who accompanied the performers were also Doctoral Candidates. In separate periods the Band, Chorus and Orchestra were treated to a performance by one of the Master Teachers. This was followed by a question-and-answer period when the teachers shared their backgrounds, techniques, while answering students' questions. In a second meeting, students who had prepared a solo performed for their classmates, and were coached individually by the Master Teacher. These Master Teachers are young men and women preparing for a career in performance and teaching at the college or high school level.

The SCEF coordinated this new program with the Greater Port Jefferson Brookhaven Arts Council, and the Stony Brook University. We thank Allan Varela, Director of the Arts Council, our Music Coordinator Tim Hogan, and the HS Music Faculty for facilitating this Master Class Program.

—DARYL JORDAN

SCEF Coordinator of the Master Class Program

Members of the Daedalus Quartet working with fifth grade students at Frank P. Long School in a master class on May 14th.



## 2004 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SATURDAY, JULY 10 / Annual Cocktail Party and Auction (Contact Mindy Smith 286-6474)

SUNDAY, JULY 11 / Clipper Classic 5K Road Race & 1.5M Walk

(Contact: [clipperclassic@scefonline.org](mailto:clipperclassic@scefonline.org))

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15 / Long Island Brassworks (Contact Gene Westhoff 325-8527)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11 / The Camarata Singers from SUNY Stony Brook

(Contact Gene Westhoff 325-8527)

### Committee Members

Debbie and Jim Becht, Darcy Corral, Mary Jane Cullen, Tom Cullen, Fran and Tom Dunton, Elly and Glenn Fujii, Karen and Bill Hughes, Marie Lena, Kathy Leone, Elaine Messina, Sara Morse, Dick Realander, Jill Stewart, Spencer Stickley, Dava Stravinsky, Diane Zanazzi

### Longtime Sponsors

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### New Sponsors

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—LORI KLAMUT

Anthony Collichio	1972
Melanie Strickland Collichio	1973
James Walsh	1974
David Hannon	1974
Alice Strickland Walsh	1975
Anne Strickland Burge	1976
George Burge	1976
Ruth Strickland	1980
Christopher Hannon	1991
Sarah-Ruth Hannon	1996

## Bellport Alumni Family Search

We have a recent addition to our request for the largest family of BHS alumni. Please keep them coming! You can send a list of the family members, with years graduated to SCEF, PO Box 512, Bellport, New York 11713. Please also include your contact information.

### Pamela Hannon reports:

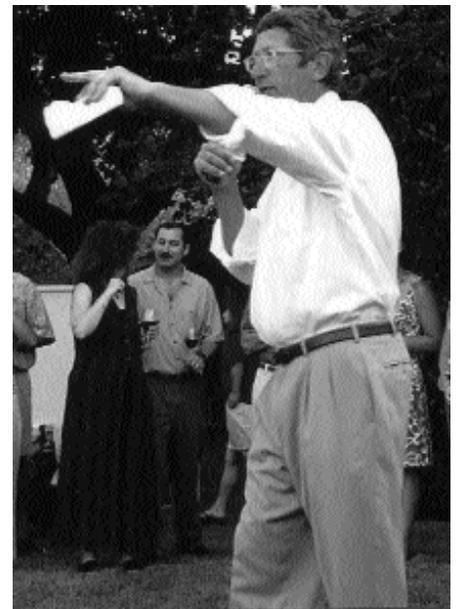
Her parents moved to Bellport in 1963, where she and her husband Brian currently reside. She and Brian raised their two children, Christopher and Sarah-Ruth in Bellport. Both children are graduates of Bellport High School, and Northeastern University in Boston.

James E. Hannon, Jr.	1963
Sharon Strickland Davis	1965
Brian Hannon	1965
Pamela Strickland Hannon	1966
Karla Stegman Strickland	1968
Kenneth Strickland	1968
John Hannon	1969

## SCEF Cocktail Party and Auction

Please join us for the sixth annual SCEF Cocktail Party and Auction held this year at Phyllis and Ed Masback's beautiful Bellport home which overlooks the Great South Bay. Enjoy libations and hors d'oeuvres from the area's finest restaurants and from our own best chefs as you browse this year's bountiful array of auction items.

Come witness the enthusiasm of our favorite auctioneer John Stravinsky as he encourages the bidding for the benefit of SCEF.





A grant given last year by the South Country Education Foundation to PTA President Lorrie D. Colichio resulted in a "Snuggle Up and Read" evening. Lori Ann Morabito, dressed for the part, read *The Princess and the Pea* and Christine Belford, Verne W. Critz librarian, was seen as Dr. Seuss' *Cat in the Hat*.



manipulative, games, etc. It will target remedial students and strengthen math skills.

**Artistic Problem Solving for First Grade** at Brookhaven Elementary School sponsored by Mary Pettit and Michelle Procida. Students will create drawings in the art room to be used as manipulative in the classroom for use with graphic organizers.

**Camans River Maritime Center** in Brookhaven sponsored by Ralph Maust. The project seeks to involve parent/child teams in building canoes or kayaks out of wood and epoxy using the stitch and glue method.

**Cooking Through Literature** at Kreamer Elementary School sponsored by Christine Daniels. ELL students will be provided the opportunity to increase their math skills to include planning, purchasing and preparing meals.

**The Power Hour** at the Boys and Girls Club of Bellport, sponsored by John D. Norris Jr. Executive Director. Tutors will help students with daily homework assignments.

**Woodworkers Club** at Frank P. Long Intermediate School sponsored by Peter K. Cisek. Students use rulers, tools and project design elements to create several craft projects.

## Grants

The South Country Education Foundation is please to announce its educational grant winners for 2004. Seven grants are being awarded to fund innovative programs and projects in the field of mathematics for the benefit of the students in the South Country School District.

The grants totaling over thirteen thousand dollars will fund educational initiatives both in the district schools and in the surrounding community. These funds have been raised by generous donations to the foundation from community members, alumni, and local nonprofit organizations and all donations are tax deductible. Congratulations to all recipients.

### *This year's grants are for:*

**ELL Student Learning** at Brookhaven Elementary School sponsored by Sonia Orfin. This project will help English language learners improve their literacy, comprehension, problem solving and communications skills through math-based children's literature.

**Mathematics at the Home** at Frank P. Long Intermediate School, sponsored by Constance Havens. Improving mathematical skills and concepts through

## 21st Annual Bellport Clipper Classic 5K Run and 1.5M Fun Walk, Sunday, July 11, 5:30pm

The Bellport Clipper Classic Committee is excited to announce that this year Start to Finish, Inc., a professional computerized road race timing company, will assist us in conducting our race. Their technology will give us the advantage of speed and accuracy that many great races in the area are now using. We hope that the improved calculations will attract even more runners to this fine Bellport tradition.

You will see many new faces working alongside the longtime committee members this year. We are looking forward to making a smooth transition as we pass the torch to new, exciting people in the community.

Applications can be found in the Bellport Deli, the Bellport Village Hall, and the Bellport Library or downloaded from our website [www.scefonline.org](http://www.scefonline.org). Online registration is available at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com).

### Chairpersons

Lori Klamut, Lorie Roth, Mary and John Denise, Paula Tirelli