

LIVINGSTON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
News



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### LAA Mourns the Passing of Alex Demouzos, Class of 2007

Alex Demousoz '07 was about to return for his final semester at Livingston College and was no doubt looking forward to graduation in May, following which he planned to take a year off and then apply to law school to study international maritime law. Those plans were cut tragically short by a car accident in Athens, Greece, where he was visiting his family over winter break.

[Full story in Targum](#)

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### Aurelio Clifton Landeros, Class of 1973

Aurelio Clifton Landeros '73 died August 26, 2006. Landeros, 54, taught English in the Plainfield School District, and also taught for 25 years at the South Second Street Youth Center. Funeral services were held August 30. At Livingston he was a member of the African dance troupe.

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### Kevin Apuzzio Receives Bloustein Community Service Award

Kevin Apuzzio, LC '06, who lost his life trying to save the lives of others trapped in a fire in April, posthumously received the 2006 Edward J. Bloustein Award for Community Service. The award was accepted by his sister, Leila (pictured at right), at the Rutgers University Alumni Federation's Meritorious Service Award dinner on September 15, 2006.

The [East Franklin Volunteer Fire Company](#) is planning a memorial to Kevin and is accepting donations.



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### LC Alumna Wins NJ Teaching Award

Lisa-Marie Batelli '05 was one of four Graduate School of Education students who received the New Jersey Department of Education Commissioner's Distinguished Teacher Candidate Award. Batelli, who graduated with highest honors, was cited for her excellence in social studies education.

The students were nominated by GSE faculty members for their outstanding achievement during their teaching internships, and will join 11 others in the state on May 1 when they are recognized on May 1st at the New Jersey State Department of Education in Trenton.

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### LC Web Site Redesign Created by Jay Garrett '03

Jay Garrett '03 was the primary designer for the 2005 redesign of the Livingston College Web site. He worked in conjunction with web master Dean Tamar Kieval Brill and Kevin Grigorenko RC '06, who was responsible for the technical programming.

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### Livingston Student Center Expansion

The Livingston College Governing Association has been working diligently all year to better the Livingston College community. Most significantly, they have been pursuing an expansion to the Livingston Student Center. Members of the Livingston community have been fighting for its expansion ever since it opened its doors over a decade and a half ago.

This year the LCGA decided to make the final campaign, so they fought harder than ever to achieve this expansion. Through petitions, information packets, meetings with administrators, presentations to the Board of Governors, editorials and newspaper articles the LCGA procured a written commitment from university President Richard L. McCormick.

This is a monumental event in the long struggle for expansion, but it is certainly not the end. The entire Livingston community, students, staff, administrators, and alumni, must make sure that the student center expansion is kept at the forefront of the University's priority list. The momentum must continue.

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## Spotlight on Stephanie Ledgin '74

For Stephanie P. Ledgin, LC '74, 2005 marks thirty years as a professional music journalist and photographer. In September 2004 her first book, *Homegrown Music: Discovering Bluegrass* (Praeger Publishers), was released; it sold out its first print run within the first three months of availability. *Library Journal* gave the bluegrass primer a "starred" review (10/1/04), concluding that "Every library should own a copy."

At press time, *Homegrown Music* had just been nominated for the Belmont 2004 Country Music Book of the Year award, the winner to be announced in May in Nashville. A seasoned music journalist, Stephanie has been touring in support of her book, making the rounds of book stores, libraries and special events. A highlight was her presentation at the prestigious Virginia Festival of the Book in March in Charlottesville.

Not the type for "down time," Stephanie will release her second book in May. A full-color photo narrative, *From Every Stage: Images of America's Roots Music* (University Press of Mississippi) features 200 of her photographs and includes rare, previously unreleased interviews with several music legends. Charles Osgood, anchor of CBS News Sunday Morning, wrote the foreword.

She began her professional career in 1975 as an editor of the seminal bluegrass magazine *Pickin'*. Since that time her work has appeared around the globe in a multitude of magazines, books, recordings and a museum. A successful concert promoter and radio announcer, Stephanie also spent ten years managing Italian guitar virtuoso Beppe Gambetta.

At Rutgers, Stephanie served a decade on the faculty of the American Studies Department as the director of the long-running New Jersey Folk Festival. As a result of improvements and higher standards she introduced, attendance during her tenure tripled to a record-breaking 18,000 at the 2002 event. In addition, Stephanie authored the "Folk Music" entry for the *Encyclopedia of New Jersey* (RU Press, 2004). In her "spare" time, she serves on the Executive Council of the Livingston Alumni Association.

Stephanie follows in the footsteps of her journalist father, Norm Ledgin (RC '50), a groundbreaking editor-in-chief of *Targum* who was the first to integrate fraternities at RU and was the last person to interview Paul Robeson before the iconic alumnus was banished from the gates of his alma mater. Stephanie is married to geologist Theodoros (Ted) Toskos (GSNB '84); they live in Piscataway.

For more on Stephanie, visit <http://fiddlingwithwords.com>.

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## Jason Goldstein '02's *Chuckleball*



Jason Goldstein '02, founder of the Livingston Theatre Company, wrote, produced, and directed a new show entitled *Chuckleball: The Sports Comedy & Parody Musical Revue*, which ran from July 8 - August 8, 2004 at The Producers Club Theater in the heart of Times Square. Geared towards both sports and theater fans, the show lampoons and celebrates the craziness of current sports news by creating original song parodies about both regional headlines and national stories. The performers do impressions and parody songs about baseball, football, basketball, hockey, professional wrestling, and more. The show is in the style of *Forbidden Broadway* (theater parody) and *The Capitol Steps* (political satire).

*Chuckleball* marked Jason's first New York venture, but he's been at this a long time, having produced, managed, and/or directed over 50 successful theatrical productions over the last 15 years. He holds an individualized B.A. in theatrical business and communication and a minor in music from Rutgers University, and is currently working on completing an M.B.A. at Rutgers. He is also a Vice President of the LAA and a member of the Livingston Student Center staff. He resides in East Brunswick.

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## ● Frank Carvill '75 Killed in Iraq

Sgt. Frank Carvill '75 of Carlstadt, NJ, 51, a member of the New Jersey National Guard serving in Iraq, was killed June 4 when his convoy was ambushed by a roadside explosive device in the Shiite district of Sadr City in Baghdad. He was one of five soldiers killed in that attack, during which three other New Jerseyans were also wounded.

Sgt. Carvill and the other soldier, Spc. Christopher Duffy, 26, were the first New Jersey National Guard servicemen to die in the Iraq war. The two men, from the 112th Field Artillery unit based in Lawrenceville, Mercer County. They were part of Task Force Baghdad, made up primarily of elements of the Texas-based 1st Cavalry Division, said division spokesman Lt. Col. James Hutton. Two other NJ National Guardsmen were killed in a similar ambush the following day.

According to his sister, Peggy Ligouri, Carvill had survived both terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in 1993 and 2001. He was working in the North Tower as a paralegal for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey on Sept. 11, 2001. He was helping a co-worker with a disability get into a van to go to a court appearance in Brooklyn when he saw the first plane hit the building.

Carvill is the second LC alumnus killed in Iraq. [Seth Dvorin '02](#) was killed March 3.

- [Star-Ledger coverage](#)
  - [Friend, Patriot, Good Man to All](#)
  - [Fallen Heroes](#)
- [WNBC-TV coverage](#)
- [New York Times coverage](#)
- [AP coverage \(Newsday\)](#)
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[Dr. Clifton Lacy](#) (Class of '75) and [Eddie Jordan](#) (Class of '80) were inducted into the [Rutgers University Hall of Distinguished Alumni](#) on May 1, 2004. They join Avery Brooks (Class of '73; HDA '93) as the only LC graduates on whom this honor has been bestowed.

Rutgers University's Hall of Distinguished Alumni recognizes those alumni who have brought honor to themselves and to the University through their superlative achievements in professional and civic life. The Hall of Distinguished Alumni also serves to commemorate the more than 200 years of history and tradition of the Rutgers community, and to inspire students and alumni to strive for excellence.

**Dr. Clifton R. Lacy** received his bachelors degree from Livingston College in 1975. He then earned his M.D. degree from the UMDNJ Rutgers Medical School (now the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School) and is board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular diseases. Lacy is currently the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services, a position to which he was appointed by Governor James E. McGreevey. He was previously Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs and Chief of Staff at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

An active and widely-published researcher and educator, Dr. Lacy has received numerous awards for teaching and is regarded as one of the best teachers at UMDNJ-Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. He has been listed as one of the Best Doctors in America. In September 2000, he was named a Distinguished Livingston Alumnus by the LAA.

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**Eddie Jordan** was named head coach of the Washington Wizards on June 19, 2003. A native of Washington, D.C., Jordan spent the previous four seasons as the lead assistant coach of the New Jersey Nets, whom he helped guide to consecutive Eastern Conference championships in 2002 and 2003.

Jordan was the point guard and catalyst of the great Rutgers University basketball teams of the mid-1970s. Fast Eddie was the on-court general for the undefeated 1975-76 Scarlet Knights, who reached the NCAA's Final Four. He holds the Rutgers records for all-time assists with 585 and steals with 220.

Drafted by the Cleveland Cavaliers in the third round of the 1977 NBA draft, Jordan was later a member of the 1980 Los Angeles Lakers NBA championship team. In a career which included stints with the New Jersey Nets and Portland Trailblazers, he played in 420 NBA games, scoring 3,414 career points. Jordan also served four seasons as an assistant coach at Rutgers.

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#### • **Seth Jeremy Dvorin '02 Killed in Iraq**

Army First Lt. Seth Jeremy Dvorin, a 2002 graduate of Livingston College, was tragically killed in Iraq on February 3, 2004. He was in a platoon that was disarming an explosive device. Seth, a resident of East Brunswick, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in

Administration of Justice.

The Seth Dvorin Distinguished Young Alumni Award was established in 2004 to honor Seth's memory. The awardees to date have been [Karen Rogers '92](#) in 2004 and [Gregg Spiridellis '93](#) in 2006.

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