



A slam dunk for St. Francis hoops

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

Welcome to **Linda Cimino**, the new head coach for the **Terriers**, the women's basketball team at **St. Francis College**.

Linda steers the school toward a new future as the 13th head coach, replacing retired coach **John Thurston**.

Irma Garcia, director of athletics, made the announcement on May 21 and said, "Linda Cimino brings passion, pride and commitment with her as she enters the gold doors on Remsen Street. We could not have asked for a better individual to lead our Women's Basketball Program."



Prior to coming to St. Francis, Linda led the charge at **Binghamton University** (America East) for the past four years, both on and off the court.

Linda shared her enthusiasm on her return to the area. "This is a place where I have spent most of my career and to work under the leadership of **Irma Garcia**, a person who has been a mentor to me. I fully embrace the Franciscan mission of St. Francis College as I am deeply connected to my faith and look forward to developing strong, well-rounded leaders who will serve from their hearts. I'm eager to bring my personality and style of play to Brooklyn and continue to build upon the success of this program."

Miguel Martinez-Saenz, St. Francis College president, said: "Her experience as both a head coach and administrator shows her commitment not only to the game of women's basketball, but to providing opportunities for students to succeed in life."

St. Francis College (180 Remsen St. at Court Street in Brooklyn Heights, www.sfc.edu).

BENSONHURST

Par excellence

Congrats to **Karina Cusumano** on receiving the **Community Health Nursing award** from **Wagner College**.



EAT UPI: Bianca Pappas and Frank Tilelli, founders of South Brooklyn Food and Drink, hosting their second Pot Luck Dinner at Irish Haven.

Taking pot luck to a higher level

BAY RIDGE

Standing O is asking, "Did ya eat yet?" Yes, it's the second annual **Pot Luck** event hosted by **South Brooklyn Food and Drink**, founded by favorite gastronomes **Frank Tilelli** and **Bianca Pappas**.

"It was a smash," said Frank. The culinary couple really know how to host a 'do. This second pot luck soiree invited members to come eat and enjoy at the **Irish Haven** in Bay Ridge on June 2. Members were asked to either bring their own home-cooked specialties or pay a stipend for the cause. Non-members were also invited to attend.

Bianca, Frank's partner in cookery, shared: "There was excellent food donated and brought by the best local restaurants and home cooks — a really great bunch of people — and others who just wanted to come and sample everyone's food."

lege on Staten Island. The honor recognizes a nursing student who demonstrates volunteerism, thoughtfulness, caring and patience while promoting the health of individuals, families and groups within the community. Our borough daughter is a junior nursing student who has demonstrated exceptional promise as a community nursing leader by assisting the faculty with organizing a campus program promoting education and awareness about organ donation in collaboration with the **NY Organ Donor Network**.

Participating eateries included, **Cebu Bar and Bistro**, **Somethingreek Bay Ridge**, **The Kettle Black**, **Ho'Brah Taco Joint**, **A.L.C. Italian Grocery**, **Embers Steakhouse**, **Paneantico Bakery Cafe Inc.**, **Patsy's Pizzeria of Bay Ridge**, **Schnitzel Haus**, and **Miss American Pie**.

The pair started a Facebook page, where members post snaps of their meals with brief reviews of restaurants, nearby foodie news and events, how-to videos, and swap recipes for some ambitious eats, to let the folks in the borough know where the best places to pin on a bib, pull up a chair, and enjoy the best dang food anywhere, anytime.

Frank let the O know that since last time the O covered the **Pot Luck** in January, membership has mushroomed to more than 7,000 members. Way to go, Frank!

If you want to join in, e-mail Frank at FKRidge@yahoo.com for more info or check out South Brooklyn Food and Drink on Facebook.

BORO PARK

Ultra care

Welcome to the new "**Ultra Care Unit**" at the **Boro Park Center**. Residents are now able to receive treatment in the highly specialized 14-bed unit with each bed possessing cardio-respiratory telemetry capabilities and increased nursing staffing ratio. The unit is used as the nursing home intensive care unit and to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations especially for infections, sepsis, heart failure



DOWNTOWN

Welcome to the board

Standing O is putting out the welcome mat for **Dr. Alka Nischal**. The geriatric medicine specialist at **Winthrop University Hospital of Medicine** has been named as a board member to the **Board of Trustees** at **Helen Keller Services**.

Helen Keller Services is the largest and oldest human service organizations serving individuals who are blind, visually impaired, deaf-blind, or have combined hearing and vision loss.

Joseph Bruno, president and chief executive officer at the center, made the announcement and said: "Dr. Nischal is a compassionate, highly-skilled physician with board certifications in Internal Medicine and Geriatrics. I am confident she will make an excellent trustee given her strong background in serving diverse populations and her keen belief in our mission."

Dr. Nischal has practiced medicine at Winthrop in Mineola since 2015, and has been a physician for the past 15 years. Prior to that she treated patients at **Harlem Hospital Health Center** for four years. Professional memberships include Society of Hospital Medicine, American Geriatric Society, and American College of Physicians, among others.

Helen Keller Services [57 Wiloughby St. in Downtown, (718) 522-2122].

and other disease processes. The unit boasts a dedicated physician, respiratory therapy, medication stock and aims to provide the same quality care that the hospital provides.

Dr. Jason Zimmerman, medical director, explained: "The unit is providing the kind of transitional care that has been missing from the health-care community for too long. We have implemented quality measures like this to ensure our residents have the best possible outcomes."

Boro Park Center [4915 10th Ave. and 49th Street in Boro Park, (718) 851-3700].