

PEOPLE

Bert Briscoe Memorial Scholarships awarded to three students

Briscoe Protective Systems of Centereach recently presented the winners of the Bert Briscoe Memorial Scholarship — Emily Tacopina, Cody Carman and Timothy Melcher — with a framed certificate and scholarship check.

To qualify for the award, recipients must be students who are related to a Suffolk County fire district officer, manager or commissioner.

Additionally, the award winners are selected based on their community service and career plans, and they should exemplify Briscoe's core value of giving back to the community.

The scholarship is named in memory of Bert Briscoe, the grandfather of Bob Williams, president of Briscoe Protective Systems.

First-place winner Tacopina received \$500 toward her education. Runner-ups Carman and Melcher received \$250 apiece.

Tacopina and Melcher were each presented with a framed certificate and scholarship check at the Fire District Managers meeting held at the Centereach firehouse on June 18.

Carman was awarded with his certificate and scholarship check at his induction to the Selden Fire Department on June 2.

Following the presentations, the winners were given a tour of Briscoe's facility and attended a luncheon in



their honor.

Pictured above are Tacopina; Carman; Melcher; Lieutenant Nick Puleo,

Coram Fire Department; Public Relations Director Denise Rueda, Briscoe Protective Systems; and President

Larry Santangelo, Suffolk County Fire District Managers Association.

Mandia named Union Fellow and American Geophysical Union ambassador

The American Geophysical Union awarded Suffolk County Community College meteorology professor Scott Mandia the American Geophysical Union Ambassador award, which is given annually to honorees for their contributions to the Earth science community. Additionally, Mandia was honored as a Union Fellow for "attained acknowledged eminence in the Earth and space sciences."

"The entire college community joins me in congratulating Professor Mandia," SCCC President Shaun L. McKay said in a statement.

"Scott's commitment to our college, outstanding performance and high academic standards are an inspiration to each of our students, faculty and staff," McKay said, adding "this award is well deserved."

"I am honored that the American Geophysical Union has recognized me for this prestigious award and am pleased that the [American Geophysical Union] recognizes the work of community college faculty in promoting science education. There are numerous people who have helped me with my climate outreach efforts and



they share this award with me," Mandia, a resident of Miller Place, said.

Mandia helped found the Climate Science Rapid Response Team, which matches journalists with scientists to enable the media to better explain climate change and meteorological phenomenon to the public, and co-founded the Climate Science Legal Defense Fund, to assist scientists when they face legal scrutiny of their work, including demands for their personal correspondence.

Middle Country People

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SCCC's Bailey sings national anthem

Suffolk County Community College student Vanessa Bailey was honored to sing the national anthem to open the 2014 Yonex U.S. Open Championship badminton finals on July 13.

The tournament, which was held at the college's Michael J. Grant Campus' Health, Sports and Education Center Field House, began on July 8 with the qualifying rounds and ended with the finals on July 13.

Bailey, a West Babylon resident, is a sophomore at SCCC.

