

Sister Cities News Bulletins



Honorable David Thompson 1961 – 2010

Barbados Mourns the Death of Prime Minister David Thompson

SCAW was deeply saddened to learn of Barbados' Prime Minister David Thompson's untimely death on Saturday, October 23. It was only a month ago that the country first learned of Thompson's diagnosis of pancreatic cancer during a radio speech announcing that he was handing over many of his responsibilities to his ministers while he underwent treatment.

Thompson, 48, a member of the Democratic Labour Party, became the sixth elected, post-independence leader on January 15, 2008. Since his death, Thompson's deputy, Freundel Stuart, has been acting as Prime Minister. SCAW President Marilyn Cantarella wrote a letter of condolence on behalf of the SCAW Board of Directors in which she cites "Thompson's passion for and dedication to youth development" as among his many legacies; "...we share that commitment to investing in our young people to ensure a future of prosperity and peace," wrote Cantarella. Bridgeport, the capital of Barbados, is a sister city to Wilmington.

Three-way Partnership includes Doncaster's Sister City in Poland

For the first time, SCAW has worked with educators in Doncaster and Gliwice, Poland to form a three way partnership with a Wilmington school. Partnering with Doncaster International Partnerships Association (DIPA)

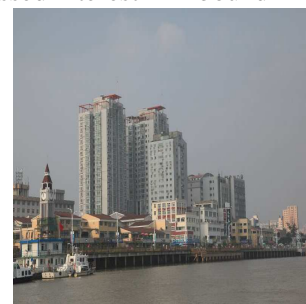
we were able to match three classes to begin a school exchange this fall. The 2010 school partnership program has grown to include several additional Wilmington schools interested in participating - Sunset Park Elementary, Parsley Elementary, Murray Middle School, and Holly Shelter Middle School. Cape Fear Academy, Forest Hills Global Elementary School, and St. Mary Catholic School are returning this year to partner with schools in Dandong, Doncaster, Gliwice, and San Pedro.

Dandong Firm Funds Establishment of US-China Research Center in NY

According to an NYU press release dated Oct. 23, Rilin Enterprises, Ltd., a global construction and logistics firm based in Dandong provided funding to establish a research center at the university to focus on economic interaction and foreign policy issues between China and the US. Wenliang Wang, chairman of Rilan Enterprises will serve as an honorary board member for the newly created center. Details of scholarship and exchange programs between China and NYU will be available on the center's website in the fall of 2011 (www.us.chinacenter.as.nyu.edu).

Past delegations of Dandong government officials traveling to Wilmington expressed interest in inbound and outbound investments.

Perhaps there are opportunities yet to be explored between Wilmington and our sister city in China. Dandong is home to one of 30 coastal large port enterprises in China. Rilin Enterprises built a large ship building plant in Dandong as part of an expansion plan for its coastal and inland water cargo transportation, loading, unloading, and storage facilities.



SPRC Primary School Student Advances in Lions International Art Contest

Allisandro Vasquez, a student at San Pedro Roman Catholic Primary School, was one of two San Pedro

students to have his work selected from 375,000 entries in the 23rd Annual Peace Poster Contest sponsored by the San Pedro and Belize City Lions Clubs. "Embracing the world together, hand in hand with different cultures, we can bring world peace," the 12 year old Vasquez from San Pedro said, according to the San Pedro Sun. The judging was held at the San Pedro Lions Den on November 20.

SCAW congratulates Allisandro for using his creative talents to bridge the cultural divide and expressing his wish for world peace. Wilmington participates in a school partnership with San Pedro Roman Catholic School.

Commission Updates

The Sister City Commission has welcomed two new members: Carol Cullum, Vice-President Student Development, at CFCC, and Shannon Moody, Communications Manager with the NC Ports Authority.

SCAW Peace Initiative

The *Peace Through Music* Concert that was sponsored by SCAW and held on Sunday, October 24, in honor of the Daniel Pearl World Music Days, was an overwhelming success with more than 500 attendees jamming into the pews and balcony of St Mary Church in downtown Wilmington. Those privileged to attend were treated to a wide array of musical performances as well as comments from community leaders who wished to honor the memory of the Wall Street Journal reporter, who was murdered by terrorists in Pakistan February, 2002.

Among those speaking was Rabbi Harley Karz-Wagman who gave a stirring tribute to Pearl in which he recounted his horrific death and the response of his family, in particular, his wife Mariane, and the establishment of the Daniel Pearl Foundation that has as its mission to promote cross-cultural understanding through journalism, music, and dialogue. Other speakers included Mayor Bill Saffo, who welcomed the audience to the celebration, and Bob Gruber of the *Star News*, who spoke about the Daniel Pearl Freedom of the Press Act. The event was hosted by television anchor Jon Evans.

SCAW invited its sister cities to participate in World Music Days or create their own events to promote 'harmony in humanity.' Doncaster's Shaw Primary School participated in the peace initiative through poetry. You can read a literary submission from our sister city on the SCAW web site along with some parent/teacher resources and find a recipe for a "peace cookie" to add to your holiday collection. The SCAW Literary Contest deadline was extended to January 2011 and a winner will be announced at the panel discussion, "Beyond Conflict," which will conclude the peace initiative.

Counted among the thousands of concerts held around the world during October, a folk concert was held at the Regent Hotel in Doncaster featuring artists from the US, Australia and the UK. Monies raised from the event organized by "Folk Delivering Hope" were donated to a medical clinic in a rural village in Pakistan.

Beyond Conflict – Coming January 27

The last activity in this year's peace initiative will be a panel discussion titled, "Beyond Conflict." The program will be held on Thursday, Jan. 27 beginning at 7:00 PM in Morton Hall on the UNCW campus. The university's International Programs Department will be a sponsoring partner and host a reception following the event.

A diverse panel of distinguished speakers will discuss conflict and the peace building process. Donn Ansell, host of Byline: Wilmington (CBS 10), will serve as moderator of the panel.

Christmas Traditions

In Belize, holiday trees are decorated with ornaments that recall the country's fishing industry; in Barbados, a plum pudding that does not contain plums is served at Christmas time. In Dandong, China, houses are decorated with paper lanterns for the religious holiday. And in Doncaster, England, the traditional plum pudding is served with a sprig of holly stuck on top.

All this and much more, including local recipes for Sorrel, a Barbados holiday drink, as well as plum pudding, are among the fascinating information about each sister city's Christmas traditions, including Wilmington traditions. You can check it out at SCAW's website: www.scawilmington.org. You will definitely learn something new!

Upcoming Events

JAN 27 – "Beyond Conflict", a panel discussion featuring an impressive group of individuals from diverse backgrounds and disciplines. The panel will be held in the first floor auditorium in Morton Hall on the UNCW Campus from 7:00 – 8:30 PM. A reception will follow immediately afterwards. Free.

FEB 7 – Chinese New Year Celebration will be held at Szechuan 132 located at 419 S. College Rd. (University Landing) beginning at 7:00 PM. Space is limited and advance reservations will be accepted until February 3.

FEB 12 – UNCW Intercultural Festival will be held from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM on campus in the Burney Center. Free.

MARCH 28 – SCAW Annual Meeting. Electronic proxy votes will be sent by February 28 to paid members.

PEACE THROUGH MUSIC



Photograph(above): St. Mary Liturgical Dancers



Photograph(above): B'nai Israel Kavanotes



Photograph(below): Tallis Chamber Orchestra

2010 BEAUJOLAIS CELEBRATION & FUNDRAISER



Scott Czechlewski chats with pianist, William Hueholt

From left: Leila Melson, Larolyn Zylicz, Marilyn Cantarella & Stephanie Walker





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WILMINGTON & NEW HANOVER COUNTY WELCOME INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Please note that letters of interest and/or nominations for SCAW officers and directors are due by January 30, 2011. People who are interested themselves or know someone they would like to recommend can send a resume or bio to membership@scawwilmington.org or to Steve Meinhold (meinholds@uncw.edu) who will be working on the nominations. The nominations committee will make a report on recommendations to the board at its February meeting. SCAW members then receive the slate of officers and directors 30 days prior to the annual meeting scheduled for March 28, 2011 when the election takes place. Additional nominations can be made up to ten days before the annual meeting by SCAW members. There is two unexpired terms to be filled and one three-year term for directors; officers are one-year terms. Expectations are to attend board meetings (four meetings plus the annual meeting unless a special meeting is called); be a SCAW member in good standing (pay annual dues); and support SCAW program activities throughout the year as your schedule permits.

TO ALL OUR FRIENDS WE WISH YOU A HEALTHY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!