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STAC'S NY ALUMNI CHAPTER SPONSORS THIRD ANNUAL BOWL-FOR-JUSTIN GARCIA

(SPARKILL, NY, April 13, 2009) – The St. Thomas Aquinas College New York Alumni Chapter is sponsoring its 3rd Annual Bowl-For-Justin benefit on Friday, April 24, 2009, at Pearl River Lanes in Pearl River, NY. The event raises funds in memory of Army Corporal Justin Garcia, '04.

Garcia died on November 14, 2006 in Baghdad, Iraq of injuries suffered when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle during combat operations. He left behind a wife, Michelle, and a son who was born in February 2007. Garcia joined the army after completing a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice at the College in 2004. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Washington.

St. Thomas Alum, Kevan Ottochian, initially organized the event in 2007, with the assistance of the College's Office of Alumni Affairs. "Justin's memory should be celebrated and this annual event is a great way of doing so," says Ottochian, "I feel that someone who served and sacrificed in this war deserves to be honored. His story should not go unheard. "

Last year's Bowl-For-Justin was a great success, filling the bowling alley to capacity. Local organizations have donated items, such as bowling and batting cages certificates, to be raffled off that evening. Proceeds will go towards the Justin Garcia Fund at St. Thomas Aquinas College.

Bowl-For-Justin takes place Friday, April 24 at 9:00pm at New City Lanes in New City, NY. A \$25 donation for bowlers: which includes unlimited games, shoe rental, as well as food and beverages, or \$15 for non-bowlers. For more information, please contact Joanne Favata in the Alumni Office at 845-398-4284 or jfavata@stac.edu.

MORE ABOUT ST. THOMAS

The College's 2,700 full and part time students can choose from over 97 different majors, minors, specializations, and dual degree programs across five divisions: The Humanities; Business Administration; Social Sciences; Natural Sciences & Mathematics; and Teacher Education or are enrolled in one of our graduate programs. St. Thomas has expanded its offerings to include: a Master of Science in Education with specializations in Literacy, Special Education, and Educational Leadership, a Post Masters Certificate program in Education, a Master of Science in Teaching, a Master of Business Administration program, a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Science in Education, and an Associate of Arts and an Associate of Science degree, the latter two offered at the West Point Military Academy. For more information on the College visit www.stac.edu.