Emeriti Honored as Torchbearers
Dear Alumni and Friends of Herkimer College

As we anticipate the arrival of spring, we at Herkimer College are particularly looking forward to a special event—the Green & Gold Event. As you are likely aware, the Herkimer Generals athletic program is incredibly successful and our teams regularly compete at the national level. Unfortunately, moving on in competition generally means considerable travel expenses. Colleges in the NJCAA are prohibited from spending operating dollars on intercollegiate athletics, so unfortunately, the cost is passed on to the students in the form of student fees and fundraising. But there are only so many bake sales and t-shirt sales that can be held. Additionally, like many two-year colleges, Herkimer is experiencing decreased enrollments resulting in decreased revenue from student fees. At the same time, travel costs are increasing.

In an effort to support participation in national competitions, an athletic endowment has been established. Seed money has been identified for the fund, but that is only the beginning. We are planning a major fundraising event this spring. We promise an exciting evening as we welcome former NY Mets legend Mookie Wilson and former Boston Red Sox first baseman Bill Buckner to campus (you may recall their infamous play in the 1986 World Series). Following their appearance, mentalist and speed painter (and America’s Got Talent contestant) Robert Channing will provide an ESP/mind reading show. In addition, there will be great food and a cash bar. We invite you to join us for a fun-filled evening to support a great cause.

In closing, as my second term as interim president winds down, I would like to thank all who have supported the College and the Foundation during the past year.

Sincerely,
Nicholas F. Laino, Interim President

It has been a pleasure to serve as executive director of the Foundation. The faculty, staff and students truly make Herkimer College a wonderful place to be and the experience has been inspiring.

For the Foundation, the highlight of the year was the auction of an original Cindy Sherman photograph at the Keno Auction House in New York City and the first-ever alumni reception in NYC. All who attended had a terrific time. The auction was a tremendous success for the Foundation.

This fall, we also inducted two distinguished alumni, Carolyn Bergeron ’03 and Jeff Carpenter ’87, into the Alumni Hall of Honor. It was an honor to participate in that event and spend time with those who came to celebrate.

The biggest challenge thus far has been the search for alumni. It’s more difficult than you’d think! It is my hope that as we approach the 50th anniversary of the College in 2016, that more and more alumni will be excited about the opportunity to reconnect with Herkimer College. I know that the College and Foundation together will give you plenty of reasons to be enthused.

The most encouraging remark I’ve heard, and I’ve heard it from virtually every alum I’ve spoken with, is that their time spent at Herkimer College was the best time of their collegiate lives. That’s an impressive statement and a true reflection of just how special the College is. I look forward to continuing to be part of that, and I thank you for your support of Herkimer College and the Herkimer County College Foundation.

Sincerely,
Rob Fowler, Executive Director

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Connections is a publication of Herkimer College and the Herkimer County College Foundation. It is published twice per year and distributed to alumni and friends of the College. Send feedback to: Rebecca Ruffing, Director of PR, Herkimer College, 100 Reservoir Rd, Herkimer, NY 13350 or rebecca.ruffman@herkimer.edu.

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A New Leader Is Chosen

DR. CATHLEEN C. McCOLGIN HAS BEEN APPOINTED AS THE FOURTH PRESIDENT OF HERKIMER COLLEGE. Since 2008, McColgin has been the provost and senior vice president for the Educational Services Division at Onondaga Community College. For 20 years prior, she served in many different capacities at Cayuga Community College, from instructor to associate dean, before becoming provost of the college’s branch campus in Fulton, New York, in 2005.

“Dr. McColgin has been a member of the SUNY family for more than 20 years, serving Cayuga Community College in many capacities from instructor to provost, and overseeing educational services as provost of Onondaga Community College for the last seven years,” said SUNY Chancellor Nancy L. Zimpher. “It goes without saying that this experience has prepared Dr. McColgin to serve as president of Herkimer County Community College. I am confident that Dr. McColgin’s leadership will continue to be a bright spot for SUNY.”

Dr. McColgin holds an A.A.S. degree in Respiratory Therapy from Washtenaw Community College, an A.A.S. degree in Nursing from Cayuga Community College, a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from Syracuse University, a Master’s of Science degree in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing from Syracuse University, and a Ph.D. in Higher Education-Teaching/Administration from Syracuse University. She is a New York State registered nurse and served for 15 years as a captain in the United States Army Reserve at the 376th Combat Support Hospital. McColgin has served on several college-wide, SUNY-wide, and local community boards and committees and is an evaluator for the Middle States Commission on Higher Education.

McColgin said, “I am honored that the Board of Trustees of Herkimer College has selected me to serve as the fourth president of the College, and I would like to thank the Board for their confidence in my ability to lead this institution. Herkimer College has a long history of providing high quality academic and co-curricular programs that meet the needs of a diverse student body. I look forward to building upon the College’s strong foundation by working with the Board of Trustees, the dedicated members of the faculty and staff, and the entire campus community. I will also work with members of the local community, and business and government leaders, to ensure that the College continues to meet the personal, educational and workforce needs of the citizens of Herkimer County.”

Herkimer College Board Chairwoman Isabella Crandall said, “On behalf of the Board, we look forward to welcoming Dr. McColgin to the Herkimer College community. We are confident that Dr. McColgin’s experience, leadership and vision will serve our college and community well into the future.” McColgin will begin her tenure at Herkimer College on or about June 1, 2015.
MIKE MASON DOES NOT HAVE THE TYPICAL POSITION OF AN AUTO DEALERSHIP CO-OWNER. IN FACT, MOST SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS WOULD GIVE UP A LOT TO BE IN HIS POSITION. Mason '86 is the co-owner and managing partner of the Michael Jordan Nissan auto dealership in Durham, NC. As such, he not only sells cars and runs the operations of the dealership, but also works on business plans with Michael Jordan, the basketball superstar whose 15 seasons with the NBA have earned him numerous awards and accolades. Still, Mason considers himself an average person. Growing up in Herkimer, NY, Mason was a pretty typical kid with many hometown memories – from playing sports to working at the local Friendly’s. As a teen, Mason’s career dreams mirrored that of many high school students – to play professional football. But it simply wasn’t going to work. “You find out that you just aren’t built for it,” he explains. So although he continued to coach football throughout his college years, he turned his academic attention to his childhood dream of owning his own business. “My father was a business owner, so it was sort of an obvious choice for me.”

Mason’s father, Professor Emeritus Irving Mason, taught business at Herkimer County Community College. Both Mason and his future wife Karen (Miner) Mason, ’86 took business classes from him while earning their degrees. Mason graduated with a Business Administration degree from Herkimer in 1986, and then received his bachelor’s degree in Business Management from SUNYIT.

After graduation, Mason decided he needed a change. “I sort of put my finger on the map,” he admits. “I wanted to go south, but not as far as Florida.” So Mason and his wife began interviewing in the Greensboro, NC area. “I started interviewing around, and the last day I was interviewing I went to a car dealership. My wife said, ‘Are you going to sell cars?’ and I said, ‘No, not really; I’m just interviewing.’” But after talking with his dad about the offer, Mason did accept the job with Crown, a large auto group in Greensboro.

He was good at his new job, too – during his first nine months at the dealership, he was the “salesman of the month” every single month. But his heart was still in Herkimer. “I guess I got kind of homesick,” he admits.

He spoke of his decision to return to New York one day with a friend, the finance director of Crown. “He said to me, ‘Before you do that, I want to tell you about what’s happening down here. How would you like to own a car dealership?’ and I said, ‘I don’t have money to own a car dealership.’” But in 1989, at the age of 23, Mason, his partner, Ray Vrsacak, and Jordan purchased the property that would become the Michael Jordan Nissan.

Over the years, the group opened a second Nissan dealership and a Lincoln Mercury dealership, both of which have since been sold.
Most people would be thrilled to have met – let alone work with – a star like Michael Jordan. But Mason doesn’t see it that way. “I don’t look at it like most people,” he says. “He’s just a regular guy . . . I see him just as Michael. He respects the fact that we don’t bother him and we respect the fact that [he lets us run the business].” But that doesn’t mean Michael Jordan is entirely hands-off. “He’s nothing but supportive,” Mason asserts. “He’s very engaged in business. He’s a good business person.”

Do Mason and his partner see Michael Jordan very often? “He’s pretty busy running a basketball team,” Mason says. But he and his partner have been invited to weddings and birthday parties, and one of the biggest honors was when Jordan invited Mason and his wife to his Hall of Fame induction. “It’s interesting; you get to see a lot of celebrity types.”

Michael Jordan also stops by to talk about the business and chat about sports.

And the dealership is flourishing. “We just redid the place; we gave it a real facelift,” Mason says proudly. “With its new look, it’s been rated one of the best Nissan dealerships in the country.”

The dealership sells about 250 cars each month, thanks to the leadership and the outstanding sales team.

“We have a lot of good people from [the Herkimer area and the College] working here,” Mason says. The general sales manager of the dealership also attended Herkimer College – Rick Simonette. “I kind of consider my wife and myself ‘pilgrims’ here [since so many family and friends have come to live down here with us]. My niece works here now.” Mason’s parents, sister, and in-laws still live in Herkimer.

“I still try to give back to the Herkimer community… I live in North Carolina, but I sponsored a girls’ softball team in Herkimer,” he laughs. Several of his friends from the area have had cancer, so he has helped them financially. “I try to help in every way I can.”

As a young adult, Mason thought of entering the restaurant industry. “I worked at Friendly’s Ice Cream forever,” he remembers. But life didn’t turn out that way. Still, he believes that the two industries are closely related. “I think the restaurant and car businesses are very similar. Some of our best employees are from the restaurant business. They’re used to the hours and [working with lots of different kinds of people].”

Does he want to return to Herkimer? “I’m trying to get the rest of the family to move down here, one person at a time,” he jokes. But no matter where he lives or what celebrities he meets, Mason has left a piece of his heart in Herkimer and continues to see himself as part of this community.
“I grew up in Brookline, Massachusetts, and every year we played a team in Cooperstown,” says baseball alum Brendan O’Connor, ’07. “Coach Rathbun came out, and I don’t really know how we even started communicating. Somehow he found me and we got linked up, and it was the best match. He came and saw me play one time … I don’t even really think I had a great game, but he saw something in me.”

As new coach’s first recruit, O’Connor was instrumental in leading the team to their first Region III Championship and earning them a place in the Division III NJCAA College World Series. He graduated from Herkimer College with a Liberal Arts and Sciences: General Studies A.A. in 2007, but he feels that he took more away from the experience than just a degree.

Just out of high school, O’Connor admits that he was unsure of his future. “I was looking at a few places,” he says, “but I didn’t know what I really wanted to do, and Coach Rathbun explained that I could go to a community college and make myself presentable to go somewhere else after two years. That really did make it an easy decision.”

“As a shortstop and a pitcher, we believed he could be a key piece in us building a program,” said Rathbun. O’Connor started two years at shortstop and won a huge game in the Regional Final Four on the mound tossing a gem against Mohawk Valley and capturing the first ever Herkimer baseball regional title.
Like his mentor, O’Connor is a baseball and basketball coach in his hometown, recently beginning a job as junior varsity coach at Brookline High School. His day job? Firefighting, just like his father and grandfather before him. “I grew up with my dad as a firefighter. I wasn’t even sure [becoming a firefighter] was what I wanted to do until it really happened.” O’Connor explains. “It took a few years, so I’ve been coaching sports throughout the whole process on and off.” He’s been a full-time fireman with the Brookline Fire Department for two years now, and says he’s happy with the ability to contribute to his community through the fire department and coaching at the same time.

O’Connor cites his former coach as a source of inspiration and his biggest supporter. He’s decided that he would like to continue being involved with coaching in the future, even if he starts a family, and he looks at Rathbun as a role model. “To this day he is coaching, even though he has a family of his own. It keeps me thinking that, ‘Wow, maybe I can do it someday!’” Even as the years have passed, he says that their friendship has never faded. “He was young and cool and we had a lot in common, so we hit it off immediately. I gave him a shot and he gave me a shot, and it really built. It’s great, we’re still friends.”

Rathbun said, “He was a great kid with a great family and he really grew up in his time at Herkimer. To move on to becoming a fireman in the heart of Boston, carrying on the O’Connor family name, is something that I am much more proud of.”

O’Connor looks back at his Herkimer experience with pride, and says he would do it all over again if he could. “A two-year school is absolutely a great option for many people. You can really step back and evaluate a lot of your life. It doesn’t work for everyone, but it worked for me and everyone I’m associated with from Herkimer.”

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“Green & Gold Event at Herkimer College

Saturday, May 16, 2015
Herkimer College Gymnasium, 100 Reservoir Rd, Herkimer, NY

6-7 p.m. Social hour with carving & pasta stations, hors d’oeuvres and cash bar

7-8 p.m. A conversation with NY Mets legend Mookie Wilson and former Boston Red Sox first baseman Bill Buckner

8-9 p.m. An ESP/mind reading show by Robert Channing, the “world’s foremost mentalist & mental artist” and performance speed painter

Tickets are $50 per person and may be purchased online at www.herkimer.edu/greenandgold or by calling 315-866-0300, ext. 8459. Proceeds benefit the Herkimer Generals Athletic Endowment.

Please join us...
“I think I was maybe 10 years old. I was watching the Yankees game and I turned down the volume on the game and pretended to be the play-by-play announcer, and I think that’s when I first knew that’s what I wanted to do.” Thus began Pat Bailey’s media career. From soccer game coverage at Herkimer to reporting on the Boston Marathon bombing, Bailey ’03 has cultivated quite a résumé for himself. As the current assistant public information officer for the New York State Department of Corrections and Community Service, he deals with the media from a public relations standpoint on a daily basis, but that wasn’t necessarily his original intention. Bailey enrolled in the Herkimer College Radio-Television Broadcasting program in 2001, eventually transferring to SUNY Oswego to continue his education. While at Herkimer, he was an active sportscaster, just as he had hoped to be as a child. Along with working with the college news, he was an employee at WUTR-ABC in Utica at the same time. Those next seven years found him reporting for various news stations in Utica, Syracuse and Albany, which eventually led him to the New York Post and a prestigious position as a capitol correspondent.

As a graduate of Little Falls High School in Little Falls, NY, his media studies began soon after at Herkimer. “I knew some SUNY schools had Radio-Television programs, but no one was doing what Herkimer was doing,” Bailey says, commenting on his decision to choose Herkimer over anywhere else. “Broadcasting games live, doing play-by-play and color commentary, not just on campus but reaching out to Herkimer County and the public access channel, too.”

The classes were hands-on and focused on producing tangible outcomes with equipment that news stations expect prospective applicants to know, and that’s something Bailey claims was a real asset as he moved from school to the working world. “The hands-on classes were really the best. The professors were good at what they did and taught in simple ways. I was able to get a job very easily because I knew what I was doing right out of Herkimer.”

Now a thirteen-year veteran in the media business, Bailey has learned a thing or two about what it takes to make a name for yourself. “Gone are the days where you’re a reporter, and you show up at 9 o’clock in the morning, you’re handed your assignment and you leave with a photographer, go to your assignment for the morning, and then you come back and you’re done for the day. In this day in age, you had better come ready with some tips and ideas to show the news director at the morning meeting. Then if you’re lucky enough to be assigned a photographer, you head out and you’re responsible for at least two different versions of one story for TV, another for your website, and then possibly something else for your Facebook or your Twitter.” The nature of media is changing, he says, along with technology and the focus of your audience, bringing with it new challenges that he has had to adapt to as the years progressed. “Learn as much as possible,
because anybody who just knocks on the news station's door or newspaper's door or whatever it is you want to do, and is multitalented, will certainly have an edge over somebody else. Even in thirteen years the business has changed, a complete one-eighty, and it’s changing every day.”

The dynamic nature of journalism is something he always enjoyed, with the ability to go to work and do something different each day in a different place. His travels took him around the state and around the country, from following Syracuse basketball for an NCAA tournament through Salt Lake City and Cleveland to hitting New York City covering a story on the visiting Pope. The scope of his work hasn’t escaped him: “Just to be a journalist, this kid who grew up in Little Falls, and all of a sudden I’m doing a live bit for CNN or for the Weather Channel,” he says, “it’s just incredible what I was able to do.”

Despite enjoying his current position, Bailey admits that he has other ideas on where he can go and what he’d like to do someday. “Eventually I want to do something fun and do Public Relations for the New York Yankees or the Buffalo Bills, or work at a firm for Pepsi or something cool. I think having the media background and getting the experience now on the other side of the business, if you will, will hopefully be an advantage and I’ll be able to do what I want to do.”

So, what’s in the cards for Bailey as his career continues? “The way I look at what I’ve done, I’ve done everything I think I can do. I was a reporter in my hometown, not many people can say that and be proud of that. I was a reporter in the capitol of New York State, and a reporter for the largest market in the country, the New York Post, and looking back I think I’ve had a heck of a career in just a short time. I think I accomplished everything I wanted to accomplish,” Bailey says. “Now it’s just time to move on to a different chapter.”
RYO IINO ‘00 IS A FASHION INDUSTRY SUCCESS STORY. During his 17 years of living in the United States, Iino has worked with many of the “names” in the industry, including Shaneen Huxham, Keanan Duffty, and the owners of Limited Brands. Now relocated to his native Japan, Iino continues to collaborate with New York City artists and designers as he runs his own silkscreen business – BPLJ, an enterprise offering a variety of graphics on apparel and prints on other mediums.

Iino’s story began at Herkimer College, where he majored in Fashion Buying and Merchandising. One of his favorite memories of Herkimer College? “The view from the entrance of the Classroom/Administration Building.” However, recently retired Professor Janice Jenny influenced him most at the college. “She took us to meet two designers at NYC as a field trip,” Iino recalls. “I started to work with one of the designers, Shaneen Huxham, whom we met on the field trip … if I did not meet Professor Janice Jenny, my designer life would be very different.”

Jenny recalls Iino fondly. “He was particularly adept with balancing work and play,” she says. She especially remembers Iino traveling through the December cold across New York City to her hotel to show her the garments he had designed and made. “We were astonished that he rode his bike to see us, and how gorgeous his work was!”

After Herkimer, Iino studied at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York City. There he worked with Shaneen Huxham, whom he’d met on the field trip a few years earlier. After college, his first job was as an assistant designer at Keanan Duffty; he then moved on to work at Limited Brands on the Henri Bendel Line.

But after 17 years of living in the US, Iino took on a new challenge. “While I was studying apparel and women’s clothing design, I became interested in graphics,” he explains. “Then I found one of the ways to combine graphics with apparel was silkscreen printing. I taught myself how to process silkscreen.”

Iino moved back to his native country of Japan where he and his wife set up a silkscreen business, BPLJ (www.bplj.org/). This proved to be one of the most difficult parts of his new venture. “Hand silkscreen is not big here,” he says, so breaking into the market is difficult. Another challenge is the business end of the project. “I am taking care of all the work by myself, from designing to marketing,” he admits. “I cannot think of anything easy about it.”

But Iino is confident. He is still in contact with the designers he worked with in NYC, and plans to work with them in the coming year. His ultimate goal is to produce garments from patterns and to have a runway show.

However, he is quick to thank Herkimer College for helping him along the way. “Thank you very much to HCCC who gave me many opportunities to succeed!”

THANK YOU VERY MUCH TO HCCC WHO GAVE ME MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SUCCEED!
In the past, the process of selecting qualified candidates for medical clinical trials has been time-consuming at best and haphazard at worst – studies show that over 70% of qualified study candidates are never identified or are identified too late and therefore never took part in a study that could have saved their lives.

Mike Margiotta ’92 found this figure staggering. So, he decided to do something about it.

The result was the Patient Identification Platform (Patient I.P.), an automated identification system that matches qualified patients to the specific research requirements for each trial. Besides saving lives by allowing qualified patients access to the latest medical treatments, it also saves researchers tremendous amounts of time and money. Previously, researchers would have had to manually search through hundreds of thousands of patient records to find just one candidate who could take part in a specific trial. With Patient I.P., the researchers can simply use the software to find fully-qualified candidates in a matter of minutes instead of the weeks it would have taken before.

But creating the software wasn’t a piece of cake. “Starting a new venture, especially one that is focused on providing a “first-to-market” innovative solution, then combining that with the international healthcare technology field, is quite challenging,” Margiotta admits. He is thankful that this wasn’t his first venture; previously, he founded eHealth Technologies (eHT) with over half of the top 100 hospitals in the country as customers. During that time, he identified, developed, and launched two other first-to-market healthcare technology solutions. “Luckily, this is my second time around, so the path is a little easier to follow,” he says.

Margiotta transferred from SUNY Morrisville to attend Herkimer College. “My most favorite memory of HCCC was when our 1991 lacrosse team lost the National Championship,” confesses Margiotta. “Losing that year bonded the team unlike winning could have…we stayed very tight, came back stronger and more focused and had an undefeated season in 1992, including winning the National Championship.”

Coach Paul Wehrum influenced Margiotta the most at Herkimer College and left him with life lessons he uses in his ventures and family life to this day.

Coach Paul Wehrum influenced Margiotta the most at Herkimer College and left him with life lessons he uses in his ventures and family life to this day. “The first day of lacrosse practice, in front of the entire team, the coach called me out and told me to leave the field right then and go back to Morrisville… I didn’t leave, earned a starting spot on defense, and that year we made it to the National Finals. After the season, I asked him why he did that, especially in front of the entire new group. He said that he ‘wanted to see if I was a quitter and how bad I wanted to be there.’ That is a great life lesson I have shared many times… Although things might get tough and the situation might seem insurmountable, your hard work and dedication will reward the efforts you put into them.”
Ryan Doyle, ‘07, had an impressive run at Herkimer College, holding the president’s chair for the Phi Theta Kappa chapter, earning a SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence, as well as maintaining a 4.0 GPA before moving on to Rochester Institute of Technology. There, he earned yet another 4.0 for his B.S. in Computer Networking Administration with a minor in Criminal Justice, next entering Google’s Information Technology Residency Program. Now, as a corporate operations engineer for Google, he still remembers Herkimer as the place that started it all.

“It’s a funny story of how I got to Herkimer, to RIT, to Google, actually,” Doyle recalls. “One of my best friends went to Herkimer for a year and told me what a great experience he had, and suggested that I enroll at Herkimer as well. It was there that I met Jason Sims, who is also a Herkimer alumnus. Throughout my two years at Herkimer, Jason was also my lab partner and in a lot of my classes. Afterwards, we both ended up going to RIT together, where we were roommates. He started a job at Google, in the Information Technology Residency program. He actually referred me to them.”

Google, named the best place to work by both Glassdoor and Fortune in 2014, runs a residency program that allows participants to get work experience in their field offices at home or abroad. “Out in Mountainview, California, where Google’s main headquarters are, I pretty much provided support for all internal resources and applications,” he explains. “We troubleshooted systems varying from Linux, OSX, Windows, and Android. It’s hard to describe in just brief terms, but we supported everything internal to Google.” It is a competitive program to get in to and excel in, yet Doyle managed to do just that. From there he was offered the full-time position that he still holds today. So, how did Herkimer help get him there?

Doyle thanks his professors for their hand in his success. “The Computer Network Technician program at Herkimer is actually really excellent. I owe a huge thanks to Professor Ted Schiros and Professor John Cook. Their program gave me a great foundation and I was able to use that and build on those skills when I went to RIT. I was ahead of certain people that may not have had that experience.” He cites the hands-on experience and personalized attention that Herkimer offered as a contributing factor to his love for technology. “With Professors Schiros and Cook, they sparked my interest. They did a really great job of getting me interested in the work, getting me motivated and passionate about the field.”

Herkimer College is lucky enough to still employ John Cook, who runs the same
OYING A CAREER WITH GOOGLE

Deborah Sullivan Ingerick ’79 and Carolynn McCann ’81 reunited during Fall Fest & Alumni Weekend to jointly exhibit their work in the Cogar Gallery. Both earned art degrees from Herkimer College. Ingerick transferred to Nazareth College where she received a master’s degree in art education. She is a painter and has been teaching art in public schools for 21 years, currently in Spencerport, NY. McCann continued her education at Munson Williams Proctor Art Institute. A photographer in the Adirondacks, McCann has served as the director/librarian of the Raquette Lake Library for the past 12 years. Pictured from left is Assistant Professor Emeritus Bruce Schwabach, Ingerick and McCann.

program that Doyle was a part of years ago. Sadly, Ted Schiros passed away in 2008, but his legacy clearly lives on in the impact he had on his students. “Excellent teachers, excellent mentors, really,” Doyle stresses. “You could tell they really cared.”

Doyle leaves us with a clear piece of advice, pointing out that success doesn’t come easily. “Do what you love and work hard for it. College is the launching point of your career, make sure you put in the time and effort required.”

Alumnae Art Featured at Cogar Gallery

Deborah Sullivan Ingerick ’79 and Carolynn McCann ’81 reunited during Fall Fest & Alumni Weekend to jointly exhibit their work in the Cogar Gallery. Both earned art degrees from Herkimer College. Ingerick transferred to Nazareth College where she received a master’s degree in art education. She is a painter and has been teaching art in public schools for 21 years, currently in Spencerport, NY. McCann continued her education at Munson Williams Proctor Art Institute. A photographer in the Adirondacks, McCann has served as the director/librarian of the Raquette Lake Library for the past 12 years. Pictured from left is Assistant Professor Emeritus Bruce Schwabach, Ingerick and McCann.

Join us for the 23rd Annual Generals Open Golf Tournament!

Monday, June 15, 2015
Stonebridge Golf & Country Club, New Hartford, NY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT THE HERKIMER COUNTY COLLEGE FOUNDATION AT (315) 866-0300 X8459.
Two Inducted To Alumni Hall of Honor

HERKIMER COLLEGE ALUMNI CAROLYN BERGERON ’03 AND JEFFREY S. CARPENTER ’87 WERE INDUCTED TO THE ALUMNI HALL OF HONOR ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4. The Herkimer College Alumni Hall of Honor recognizes alumni who have distinguished themselves in their careers or in service to their communities. The induction ceremony was held in Alumni Hall during the College’s Fall Fest & Alumni Weekend.

A 2003 graduate of Herkimer College with a Teaching Assistant certificate, Carolyn Bergeron, is an advocate for people with all kinds of disabilities. She is a member of the Self-Advocacy Council of the National Down Syndrome Congress and a three-term board member, an advocacy speaker for the New York State Speakers Bureau and a volunteer at the United Cerebral Palsy Tradewinds in Rome, NY. She received the 2005 National Down Syndrome Conference Award and the National Down Syndrome Society “Voices” Award in 2007. In her acceptance speech, Bergeron said,

Alumni from Classes of 1969 and 1970:
Where are you?

With the 50th anniversary of Herkimer College coming up in 2016, we are looking for alumni who attended classes in the factory buildings in Ilion. If you or someone you know graduated with the Class of 1969 or 1970, please send contact information and full name (including maiden name if applicable) via email to alumni@herkimer.edu or mail to the Foundation Office, Herkimer College, 100 Reservoir Rd, NY 13350. Thank you.

Calling all Alumni in South Florida:
Join our Alumni Ambassador Program

The Alumni Committee of the Foundation is forming an Alumni Ambassador program, so alumni who live and work in the same general area can connect with each other and network. A group has been formed on Facebook for alumni who live in South Florida—it can be found at: www.facebook.com/groups/herkimalumniswflorida. Join the group, connect with fellow alumni in your area, learn what’s new at Herkimer College, attend our events, and network with others in the group. If you live in another area of the country and are interested in forming an alumni ambassador group in your area, please contact Rob Fowler at (315) 866-0300, x. 8459 or fowllercr@herkimer.edu.
CAROLYN BERGERON AND JEFFREY CARPENTER

“I took the ‘dis’ from disability and made it my ability to advocate for those with special needs.”

Jeffrey S. Carpenter earned an associate in applied science degree in Criminal Justice from Herkimer College. He then earned a bachelor’s degree from the American University and his Juris Doctorate from Pepperdine University School of Law in 1992. He served as the Assistant District Attorney of Herkimer County from 2002 to 2013, and was elected to the position of Herkimer County District Attorney in 2013. Carpenter taught at Herkimer College from 1993 through 2012 and is responsible for donating the law collection to the Herkimer College Library. “When I look back through the years and I consider what I have done and where I have been, the one common denominator that I keep coming back to is HCCC. Little did I know how profoundly this institution would impact my life,” said Carpenter. “HCCC has produced hundreds, if not thousands, of great people who go to work or volunteer everyday doing their part to make the world a better place. I’m blessed to be considered by you to be one of them,” he added.

More information about the Alumni Hall of Honor is available at www.herkimer.edu/alumni-honor.
Sale of Cindy Sherman Print Benefits the Foundation

The recent sale of an exclusive Cindy Sherman print will greatly help the Herkimer County College Foundation. Discovered in the Foundation’s art collection, the print is one of only 10 in existence. It sold by Keno Auctions on October 1 for $155,000.

The print, named “Untitled Film Still #39” is part of a series of 60 photographs taken by Sherman of herself in the 1970’s. The Museum of Modern Art had the complete series on display in 2012. Sherman is widely recognized as one of the most important influential artists in contemporary art.

Recently retired art professor Bruce Schwabach discovered the print in the collection about 10 years ago. At the time, the print was worth a modest amount, but in recent years, its value increased substantially.

Leigh Keno ’77, owner of Keno Auctions, a premier full-service auction house located on Manhattan’s Upper East Side, donated his services to prepare the print for auction and reduced his commission on the sale to further benefit the Foundation. Originally from Mohawk, NY, Keno and his twin brother Leslie, as well a third brother Mitchell, are Herkimer College graduates. Leigh and Leslie were inducted to the Herkimer College Alumni Hall of Honor in 2000.

“This print was a great find in our collection, and its sale will allow the Foundation to increase its endowment and to ultimately help fund more student scholarships. We are grateful to Leigh Keno for his assistance and generosity,” said Robert Fowler, executive director of the Herkimer County College Foundation.

NYC Alumni Gathering at Keno Auctions

Herkimer College alum Leigh Keno generously offered his auction house for an alumni gathering held the evening before the auction. About a dozen alumni attended the first ever New York City alumni event sponsored by the Herkimer County College Foundation. Guests enjoyed reminiscing about their college days at Herkimer with several faculty, staff and administrators who also attended the event.
Students who earn an associate degree in education or 60+ credits including prerequisites are now able to earn a baccalaureate degree in Inclusive Early Childhood Education from Cazenovia College on the Herkimer College campus.

A minimum of three courses will be offered each semester in one of several formats including evening and weekend and online and hybrid. A final summer course will be completed on the Cazenovia Campus over two weekends. Herkimer students will have complete access to Cazenovia’s online library and other resources. Tuition will be charged at $245 per credit hour for Cazenovia College tuition.

Dr. Robin Voetterl-Riecker, associate dean for humanities and social science, said, “The partnership with Cazenovia College represents a new model in education that also addresses the need for highly qualified teachers in our K-12 schools. It brings a high-quality bachelor’s degree to the Herkimer campus, and by doing so we provide a new opportunity for our students. With low tuition rates, a part-time pace and evening/alternate format classes, Herkimer students can get the upper division education they need to improve their lives and earning potential, without the hurdles of traditional education. Students don’t have to move, commute or take out large loans to complete their degrees—all benefits that are very important to our students.”

Thanks to a new partnership with Sitrin Medical Rehabilitation Center, students enrolled in the Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA) program are receiving specialized training in baseline concussion screenings for athletes while addressing a need in the community.

Baseline screening is a process that involves gathering data on athletes and how they think as well as how well they maintain their balance after an injury. Dr. James Wallace, Director of Clinical Rehabilitation Services at Sitrin said “These two areas are vital and allow therapists to individualize return-to-play decisions for athletes.” In addition to learning how to conduct baseline screenings for local athletes, students also have the unique opportunity to increase their knowledge of concussions and address a need in the community.

Pictured are PTA students with two Utica Comets players for whom they performed baseline concussion screenings.
Friday, October 10, 2014 was an evening like no other in a very long time. The McLaughlin College Center lobby buzzed with excitement and emotions were running high as dozens of retirees and long-time employees reunited. The hugs, smiles and laughs were contagious. The presence of so many former and current faculty, staff and board members was a tribute to the three Torchbearers honored that evening—Dr. Robert Campo of Ilion, NY; David Champoux of Bluffton, SC; and Thomas LaPuma of Frankfort, NY.

Campo, Champoux and LaPuma joined 19 previous Torchbearer Award recipients who have made substantial contributions to the College’s development, particularly those made during the first 20 years of the College’s history.

The common theme in the honorees’ acceptance speeches was one of humility and gratitude to their colleagues. “To those of you who worked so hard to make our students successful, it could not have been done without you,” said Dean Emeritus Robert Campo who retired in 1990 after 21 years of service as the dean of students. Campo was responsible for developing and overseeing all student services, including personal, career and transfer counseling, admissions, financial aid, the office of the registrar, student activities, veterans’ services, and testing/orientation.

Associate Dean Emeritus David Champoux had a story about each of the faculty and staff whom he served with and was especially grateful to Dr. H. David Trautlein for hiring him and giving him a chance to establish the Radio/TV Broadcasting program at Herkimer College. Champoux was an innovative leader, teacher and mentor at Herkimer College for over 30 years and served as an associate dean of academic affairs and division chair for several academic divisions and departments. “I am profoundly humbled by this award, and I thank you very much,” said Champoux.
Professor Emeritus Thomas LaPuma was employed at Herkimer College from 1970 to 2003, during which time he served as director of athletics for 16 years. During his tenure, LaPuma was instrumental in establishing the intercollegiate and intramural athletics programs and developing the physical education curriculum. He also coached no fewer than nine team sports and played a key role in the creation of the fitness center. “When asked how I became successful . . . well that’s easy . . . surround yourself with successful people,” said LaPuma who named many of the coaches whom he worked with including Paul Wehrum and Jeanne Galvin.

Interim President Nicholas F. Laino said, “These individuals helped create a culture and tradition of excellence and opportunity for their students, colleagues and the community--a culture fostered by those who follow in their footsteps--a culture that continues to thrive.”

Award recipients are recognized with individual plaques on the Torchbearer’s Wall in the Robert McLaughlin College Center lobby. The center plaque bears the following text: “We recognize those who have given themselves to light the way for future generations. Through their vision and commitment, our Torchbearers have built this community college and maintained its tradition of opportunity and excellence.”

For more information, visit www.herkimer.edu/torchbearers.

Best Wishes to Our Recent Retirees

Professor Janice Jenny retired in December after 26 years of service. Jenny was appointed as an instructor in the Business Division in 1988 and promoted to assistant professor in 1994, associate professor in 1998, and professor in 2004. She said, “It has been a great ride! I’m so grateful to have worked at Herkimer County Community College and to have had the opportunity to be affiliated with the Fashion Buying and Merchandising program. I’ll miss the students and my friends and colleagues, but I’m excited about the future. I have boxes and boxes of books I haven’t had time to read and lots of invitations to visit friends and relatives.”

After 36 years of service as a librarian, Valerie Prescott retired in August 2014. She joined the staff as a part-time assistant librarian in 1978 and was later appointed full-time in 1981. Prescott was the recipient of the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Librarianship in 1990. She has been a member of the SUNY Librarians Association for over 30 years and served as a board member and president of Central New York Library Resources Council. Though officially retired, she continues to assist the Library on a part-time basis.

Prescott said, “It is great to continue working part-time in my long-time position at the Library. Seeing and working with the staff each week still feels natural and I am not ready to give it up yet. There are a few technical changes coming up in the world of SUNY libraries that I hope to help our library incorporate in the next year or so.”
ATHLETICS

Cross Country Runner Wins National Championship
FIRST NATIONAL TITLE FOR CROSS COUNTRY IN 18 YEARS.

The Herkimer Generals cross country season was capped with its first individual national championship in 18 years after sophomore Victoria Campanian ran a 20:05.7 at Finger Lakes Community College in November. It gave the resident of Glenfield, NY first team All-American honors in the process. She also won a Region III and Mountain Valley Conference championship. Joining Campanian on the All-Region and All-Conference Team was Haruka Murakami. The sophomore finished seventh at Hudson Valley and 10th at SUNY Delhi with times in the low 20’s. Repeating for the men as an All-Conference Team member was Sam Morrett. The sophomore’s time of 27:18 gave him sixth place, joining Campanian as the only General to repeat from their freshman year.

“Our cross country team competed at a high level this year and saw some tough competition,” said Head Cross Country Coach Stephen Sydoriw. “All of my student-athletes continued to work hard and cut their times from the start of the season! As for Tori, it was very rewarding to see her capture a national championship at Finger Lakes. She beat out a field of 109 runners!”

WOMEN’S TENNIS & VOLLEYBALL
Teams End Season on a High Note

Freshmen Emilee Lanz and Jordan Mercer, both from Oneida, NY, were quite the doubles pair for the women’s tennis team during the fall. The tandem won four matches against Mountain Valley and Mid-State Athletic Conference opponents, helping the Generals end the season on a high note, defeating Onondaga 5-4 at home.

The Herkimer Generals women’s volleyball team won their final two matches at home in 2014, defeating Columbia-Greene 3-2 and 3-0 after a tough stretch with 19 consecutive away matches. Standouts for the Generals were Shahadah Williams and JaNay Mucitelli, combining for 16 service points, 21 kills and six blocks.
MEN’S SOCCER
An Emotional Season

Paying tribute to one of their own, the 2014 men’s soccer season was dedicated to former captain Peter McAvoy (Dundee, Scotland) who passed last April of a heart ailment. The 2013 National Player of the Year scored the game-winning goal in each game of the NJCAA DIII National Tournament helping the program to its third consecutive national title. McAvoy also wore jersey #4 which resulted in a #4Pete social media campaign (#4Pete asked supporters all over the world to take a photo with four fingers held up, then post it to their social media profiles) as the team prepared for the 2014 season, looking to four-peat for the first time in the history of the program.

Led by Head Coach Pepe Aragon, who had won four of the last six national championships, the team retooled, starting nine new players with Jermaine Windster (Rotterdam, Holland) and Mitchel White (Leicester, England) as their only returning freshmen. It didn’t faze the Generals however, rising to the challenge, becoming one of the best offenses, totaling 110 goals which was third best in the nation. Helping the offensive charge was the nation’s leading scorer Ben Polk (Banbury, UK) who accumulated 33 goals which helped the Generals cruise to their 25th consecutive Region III championship, outscoring the competition 10-0 in two games.

As it turns out, Herkimer scored 10 goals in the national tournament also, only conceding three. It didn’t get them to the national championship game however, finishing in third place with victories over Union County and Cayuga Community College. Without an appearance in the national championship game for only the fifth time in the last 10 years, the Generals were unable to reach their lofty expectation of winning four consecutive championships.

Despite not reaching their goal on the field, the #4Pete campaign was able to raise over $18,000. McAvoy’s father, who is also named Peter, gave $10,000 to the Cardiac Risk in the Young and $8,000 to the British Heart Foundation with the intention of helping raise awareness of sudden cardiac death (SCD) and sudden death syndrome (SDS) but also funding research which is aimed to prevent heart disease in humans.

“The 2014 season was truly an amazing season,” said Aragon. “We dedicated the season to Pete who was one of the best captains I have ever coached. Although we came up just short on our quest for a four-peat, we achieved our goal, to play our best for Pete which we did the entire season. The #4Pete campaign was and still is one of the most beautiful things that I have ever seen a part of. To see people from all over the world show their support and love for Pete, his family and the Herkimer Family is something that I will never forget. The money raised by the McAvoy family and Pete’s friends for Cardiac Risk in the Young and the British Heart Foundation is truly remarkable. We will forever love our Dundee, Scotland family!”

WOMEN’S SOCCER
Coming Back Strong

Under first year Head Coach Ryan Brooks-Newton, the Herkimer Generals women’s soccer team finished third overall nationally and helped the program to its first Region III championship since 2005, beating Hudson Valley 2-1. Brooks got the most he could out of a roster which included 14 freshmen, accumulating four wins over nationally ranked opponents during the regular season. In return his team remained nationally ranked in the Top 10 throughout the season, racking up an 11-2 overall and 7-0 conference record. That momentum remained throughout the postseason, seeing the Generals go 4-1, only losing to Richland Community College in the national semifinal 2-1, outscoring the best competition in the country 9-to-4.

Herkimer’s on field success resulted in numerous accolades. Sophomore Danielle Nicosia (Oneonta, NY) was named first team All-American, Region III Player of the Year and Mountain Valley Conference Most Valuable Player. Joining Nicosia as an All-American was freshman Teigha Ward (Ilion, NY), on the second team. The forward was also recognized as a first team All-Region and All-Conference member thanks to her 23 total goals which ranked eighth in the nation. Nicole Doolen (Ilion, NY) joined Nicosia and Ward on the All-Region team, as a second team nomination, and was also mentioned with teammate Emily Rexford (Canton, NY) to the All-Conference team.

“I am very proud of what these girls accomplished in my first year at Herkimer,” said Brooks-Newton. “Their commitment and hard work paid off on the field and in the classroom! I’ve learned a lot these past few months and look to implement that knowledge going forward.”
Charlie Anderson ’13

Former men’s soccer player Charlie Anderson (Southampton, England), who helped Herkimer win two NJCAA DII national championships in 2011 and 2012, now has a third with the Lynn Knights after his team defeated Charleston (West Virginia) 3-2 for the 2014 NCAA DII national championship.

Anderson, a forward under Head Men’s Soccer Coach Pepe Aragon, was a two-time All-American and is now the first men’s soccer graduate of Herkimer College to ever win a national championship. “Charlie winning three national championships in four years of his college career is unbelievable,” said Aragon. “The Herkimer soccer family is extremely proud of the success he has had!”

Triston Henry ’13

Quinnipiac University has announced the acquisition of Herkimer College grad and UConn transfer Triston Henry. Henry will join the Bobcats for the spring 2015 session. A гос keeper from Scarborough, Ontario, Henry played two seasons for the Herkimer Generals before transferring to the University of Connecticut for the 2014 season. After not appearing in any matches for the Huskies, Henry will be a junior on the field for the 2015 season. Quinnipiac Head Coach Eric DeCosta said, “Triston comes to us with a terrific background and a stellar junior college career. He has some very good attributes that should add quality to our program. Triston is enrolled with us this spring and his inclusion in the squad should make for a comfortable transition for him. We are excited to adding Triston to our family.”

Willie Gabay ’12

Willie Gabay, a former All-American pitcher for the Generals, was one of the program’s first players to get drafted professionally, selected by the Tampa Bay Rays in the 15th round of an amateur draft in 2012. Gabay just finished up his third season with the Rays’ minor league program, appearing in 21 games for the Bowling Green Hot Rods, going 2-1 with a 2.13 ERA, almost racking up a strikeout per inning with 39 in 22 innings. A starter for the Generals in 2011 and 2012, Gabay holds Herkimer’s single-season strikeout record, accumulating 91 in 2012.

Gabay stays in contact with Head Baseball Coach Jason Rathbun and generously supports the baseball program. “Willie still considers ‘Herkimer home,” said Rathbun. “We believed in him and he took advantage of every opportunity given to him. He is a great young man, we’re very proud of him.”

Erica Schwabach ’12 recently came back to campus to walk the Nature trail. She is currently attending SUNY College of Environmental Science as an Environmental Studies major and is a research assistant working with a graduate student investigating indicators of maturity in eels. This past summer she attended the Wild Rockies Field Institute in Montana for a three week outdoor course “Restoration Ecology in Greater Yellowstone.” The course explored the scientific, cultural and philosophical bases of restoration ecology through a combination of field investigations, readings, work projects and meetings with land managers.

Please let us know about your news, life celebrations (births, weddings), changes (promotions, retirements) and relocations.

Send alumni updates to alumni@herkimer.edu.

Class Notes

Barbara Dodge Lesniak ’75 retired from Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, NY after 32 years of service. Lesniak was employed as a laboratory technician in the Microbiology/Immunology Department and was responsible for the preparation and instruction of lab for second year medical students. She had her husband Richard now reside in Bluffton, SC.

Blake Pitcher ’99 Assistant Professor of Digital Graphics at Herkimer College, recently published “Letters from the Apocalypse.” The 158 page book is the story of two people separated by the end of the world, and the letters that could bring them together again. The book can be purchased on amazon.com. Pitcher also holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees from SUNY IT at Utica/Rome.

Jason Doi ’06 has been named district manager of the National Division of AXA Advisors, LLC. Doi is responsible for the New York, NY branch office and its 300 financial professionals. In addition, Doi works with individuals and business owners to provide strategies to achieve financial goals. Doi was a member of the 1999 men’s soccer team. He resides in Brooklyn, and also maintains a residence in Oneonta.
In Memoriam
Herkimer College extends its sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni and members of the Herkimer College family.

**Class of 1970**
Robert Golden Jr. 64 of Whitesboro passed away on Saturday, November 29, 2014 with his loving family at his side. Robert was born in Brooklyn on May 11, 1950, the son of Robert L and Madelyn (Bernstock) Golden. He was a graduate of Whitesboro High School. On August 25, 1973 Robert married Lynnette Specht. He was employed with Lawson Products and worked for over 20 years with area car dealerships in the parts department. He enjoyed spending long weekends with his wife at their camp in the 1000 Islands region.

Mary L. LaPaglia, 65, a longtime resident of New York Mills passed away on Wednesday, October 8, 2014. She was born in Boonville on September 24, 1949, the daughter of Edward and Jane Morgan Cole, and was a graduate of Utica Free Academy. On October 9, 1971 she was married to Rocco LaPaglia. She was employed with the Mohawk Correctional Facility until her recent retirement.

**Class of 1985**
Margaret “Maggie” (Lacy) Sadallah, 51 of New Hartford passed away on Thursday, December 4, 2014 after a courageous five year battle with breast cancer with her loving family by her side. She was born on July 23, 1963 in Ilion, NY, the daughter of Edward and Jane Morgan Cole, and was a graduate of Utica Free Academy. On October 9, 1971 she was married to Rocco LaPaglia. She was employed with the Mohawk Correctional Facility until her recent retirement.

**Class of 1988**
Christine B. Mergenthaler, 62, of Ilion passed away unexpectedly on Friday, August 8, 2014. She was born on October 31, 1951, the daughter of the late Robert and Jane Daly Lacy. On October 3, 1986 she was married to S. Charles “Chuck” Sadallah. Maggie enjoyed reading, music, talking with friends, watching the Yankees and most of all being with her family.

**Class of 1991**
Leah Ruth Carter, 62, of Mohawk passed away peacefully on Friday, August 22, 2014. She was born on June 1, 1952 in Ilion to Attorney Paul N. Carter and Taimi Hanikat Carter. Leah graduated from Mohawk High School in 1970. After receiving her Paralegal degree from Herkimer, she received a B.S. from Springfield College and a Masters in Sports and Exercise Studies from West Virginia University. At one time, she was employed as a computer operator at Walmart Distribution Center in Marcy.

Jeffrey P. Copperwheat, 55, of Utica passed away Wednesday, August 27, 2014 with his loving family by his side. He was born on March 13, 1959, the son of Sidney and Elizabeth (Scholl) Copperwheat. He was a graduate of Oriskany High School and received a B.P.S. in Business from SUNYIT after completing an A.A.S. in Construction Technology at Herkimer. His most recent employment was with Sid Harvey Industries, Inc. Jeff loved golf, baseball and especially his beloved Boston Red Sox and Green Bay Packers. He also had a passion for cooking, especially Thanksgiving dinner for his family.

**Class of 2001**
Claudia A. Alford, 56, formerly of Salisbury Center and more recently Martinez Lake, AZ passed away peacefully on February 26, 2014 after a short battle with cancer. She was born on January 17, 1958. She was a dedicated mother and grandmother.

Get your Herkimer College and Generals gear ONLINE now!

Shop online for official Herkimer College apparel and merchandise. Proceeds from Bookstore sales are used by the Faculty Student Association for student activities and events, intercollegiate athletics, and other initiatives in support of the mission of the College.

www.herkimer.edu/bookstore

Partners in Education

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The Herkimer College athletic program was recognized at the Utica Comets hockey game on January 3, 2015 for winning the National Alliance of Two-Year College Athletic Administrators Cup Award recognizing excellence in championship competition. Interim President Nick Laino dropped the first puck and was joined by Athletic Director Don Dutcher and several members of the athletic department staff.

**Coming Events** | [www.herkimer.edu/events](http://www.herkimer.edu/events)

**Commencement**
Friday, May 15, 5 pm
[www.herkimer.edu/commencement](http://www.herkimer.edu/commencement)

**The Green & Gold Event**
To benefit the Herkimer Generals Athletic Endowment
Saturday, May 16, 6-9 pm
[www.herkimer.edu/greenandgold](http://www.herkimer.edu/greenandgold)

**23rd Annual Generals Open Golf Tournament**
Monday, June 15, 10 am
[www.herkimer.edu/golf](http://www.herkimer.edu/golf)

**Fall Fest & Alumni Weekend**
Friday and Saturday, October 2-3
[www.herkimer.edu/fallfest](http://www.herkimer.edu/fallfest)

**Athletic Hall of Fame Inductions**
Friday, October 2

**Robert H. Wood Great Artist Series**
**String Orchestra of New York City**
Friday, October 23, 7 pm
[www.herkimer.edu/greatartists](http://www.herkimer.edu/greatartists)