

CONNECTIONS

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of Herkimer County Community College

Volume 6 | Issue 2 | Summer 2012



**CNNMoney
ranks Herkimer
Top 100
Community
Colleges
for Student Success**

CONNECTIONS

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends
of Herkimer County Community College

TABLE OF CONTENTS



Greetings	3
Family Connections	4
In The Community	8
Alumni Hall of Honor	12
Commencement	14
Athletics	16
Class Notes	20
Upcoming Events	back cover

Editor

Rebecca J. Ruffing
Director of Public Relations
ruffingrj@herkimer.edu

Contributors

Katherine A. Montano
Public Relations Coordinator
montanoka@herkimer.edu

Mary Katherine Maneen
Intern

Lucia M. Bliss
Executive Director of the Foundation
blisslm@herkimer.edu

Art Direction and Design
Cynthia Courtney

Photography
Arnal Photography
Matt Turner Photography
J. L. Holcomb Photography

Connections is a publication of Herkimer County Community 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, HCCC, 100 Reservoir Rd, Herkimer, NY 13350 or rebecca.ruffing@herkimer.edu. Send alumni updates or corrections with your name and/or mailing address to alumni@herkimer.edu.



ALUMNI GREETINGS

In a few years, we will celebrate the College's 50th anniversary and the significant achievements of a half century. This year we will reach the momentous number of 20,000 alumni who are spread throughout many continents around the world.

I'm sure the experience you had at Herkimer, like that of today's students, was truly transformative. New ideas, people and perspectives helped change the way you see yourself, the world, and your place in it. Staying connected as alumni can be equally impactful. We continually look for ways to help you keep connected and to build new relationships and strengthen existing ones with our alumni. We understand that many of you will likely one day return as members of the faculty and staff, trustees, or as parents of our students.

Please join us for Fall Fest & Alumni Weekend (September 27-29). A special alumni gathering will take place on Friday evening at Francesca's in Ilion, and on Saturday, we will host an alumni barbeque behind Wehrum Stadium (see schedule on page 19). If you share our affinity for Herkimer County Community College, join us and reconnect with your fellow alumni, share stories and remembrances from the past.

With kindest regards,

Lucia M. Bliss
Executive Director of the Foundation



HERKIMER | COUNTY | COLLEGE
Foundation™

Greetings from the President



The College is proud to present you with this latest issue of Connections. It is filled with stories of incredible accomplishments, life-long achievements and family ties to your alma mater. Those of us who work each day to make our College one that you can continue to be proud of, find these stories inspiring and uplifting. We think you will too, as you read about how our students flourish while studying here at Herkimer County Community College.

The compelling stories of our past and present students often indicate the “wonderful foundation” our College has provided them. Since most of our students are here to determine what they will do with their lives, the word foundation really does describe the essential groundwork needed to create a life well lived. How appropriate that we use the same word for our non-profit ancillary, The Herkimer County College Foundation.

The HCC Foundation helps our students through scholarship funding. It enriches programmatic offerings through instructional support funding so our students and the College can thrive. From the professional development which supports innovation in teaching and learning, to the capital construction which provides updated facilities such as our new science labs, to the multiple events we all enjoy, the Foundation is truly critical to the advancement of our College. We are grateful for the generosity of all who support us.

We hope that in this issue of Connections you learn about our high-quality, affordable, accessible opportunities and the impact we are making on our students and our extended communities. We hope you recognize the benefits of being alumni of this great institution. We look forward to you remaining connected and returning to campus often to remind yourself of that most important choice you made, to have Herkimer County Community College be the place where you built your foundation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ann Marie Murray". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ann Marie Murray, Ph.D.
President
Herkimer County Community College

A Tradition Of *Family Connections*

MANY ALUMNI HAVE A FAMILY CONNECTION, WITH SEVERAL FAMILY MEMBERS OR MORE THAN ONE GENERATION GRADUATING FROM HERKIMER.

The Lake Family



Robert

John

Rachel

Thomas

“(HCCC) has been indispensable in educating the Lake family, and for that we’ll always be grateful.”

Recent Alumni Hall of Honor recipient Thomas Lake ‘99 spent his teenage years homeschooled in the Mohawk Valley. He’s the fourth member of his immediate family to attend Herkimer. “Regarding Herkimer’s role in my family’s education, well, I can’t say enough good things about that,” Lake said. “My father, my older sister, my older brother and I all got need-based financial aid that allowed us to attend for pretty much free. It was a tremendous place to start. As of 2012, Lake, Liberal Arts & Sciences: General Studies, is the youngest senior writer for *Sports Illustrated*.

“My sister Rachel was guided along the way to her master’s degree, and so was my brother John,” Lake said. “Rachel is an adjunct professor at Spelman College, Georgia; and does volunteer work to help refugees in Clarkston, Georgia, one of the most diverse cities in America,” he added.

John ‘98, humanities, earned his HCCC degree, transferred to Roberts Wesleyan, then earned his master’s in social work from the University of Georgia. He’s a social worker in Atlanta, where he finds homes for lost children.

“My dad Robert, who was over 40 with no formal degree, had excellent professors at Herkimer, such as Dr. Peter Clarke (professor emeritus) who helped send him on his way to a doctorate,” Lake said. A few months ago, at the age of 60, Dr. Robert Lake earned his tenure as associate professor of curriculum studies at Georgia Southern University. He is now editing his third book. All six of the Lake children were home-schooled by their mother Elizabeth. “She taught me most of what I know about writing,” Lake added.

Lake credits many of the HCCC faculty with preparing him for a writing career. “The professors at Herkimer were just as good as I’ve found anywhere else,” he said. “This place has been indispensable in educating the Lake family, and for that we’ll always be grateful.”

The Schwabach Family

“Little did we know over 30 years ago, when we both started out our careers at HCCC, that we would meet each other, get married and raise three children who would all attend HCCC.”



Bruce
& Katie



Kelsey

Erica

James



J. Bruce and Katherine (Katie) Schwabach have seen all three of their children attend Herkimer. Bruce, associate professor of fine arts, was appointed to the HCCC faculty in 1978. Katie joined the professional staff in 1978 and is currently counselor/transfer services. She received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Professional Service in 1993.

Their daughter Kelsey '04 majored in Liberal Arts & Sciences: General Studies. Kelsey was president of Phi Theta Kappa and a presidential scholar. She received a Cogar Scholarship while at Herkimer and transferred to Hartwick College for nursing. Her first job was at Boston Children's Hospital in pediatric cardiac intensive care, before moving to Denver to accept a position at the Denver Children's Hospital, while earning her nurse practitioner degree from the University of Colorado, Denver. Kelsey is living in Washington, D.C. and plans to continue in the field of pediatric cardiac intensive care.

Son James took College Now classes in 2004-2005, earning 18 college credits while still in high school. He applied his HCCC credits toward a degree in psychology from Union College and a master's in sports psychology from Ithaca College. James also taught psychology classes at HCCC in fall 2011. He is currently employed by APEX Peak Performance,

Charlotte, NC. APEX has contracts with the U.S. Army (Wounded Warriors), corporate clients, and numerous athletic clients.

The Schwabach's youngest child, Erica, graduated from Herkimer this May with a degree in Liberal Arts & Sciences: General Studies. A President's List student, she is transferring to SUNY College of Environmental Science & Forestry, Syracuse for environmental studies. Erica won the Shirley Springer Scholarship sponsored by the Ilion Project, for students transferring into environmental studies. Erica's goal is to pursue environmental journalism and green public relations.

“Little did we know over 30 years ago when we both started out our careers at HCCC that we would meet each other, get married and raise three children who would all attend HCCC,” Katherine Schwabach states.

“It has been so rewarding to have seen what a great college foundation Herkimer has been for our children. By beginning their college studies at Herkimer they were able to focus in on a career path, transfer to some excellent colleges and earn several transfer scholarships, and end up with very successful and rewarding careers. We feel very fortunate,” she added.

The Lanza Family



Thomas & Sharon



Joshua

“There is a lot of personal attention at Herkimer. You don’t get that everywhere.”

Sharon works in the family business, Custom Tool & Model Corporation, Frankfort, NY, a local precision machine shop whose clients include Remington Arms.

Joshua Lanza, Herkimer, earned a degree in Music Industry in May, following in his parents footsteps as alums of HCCC. His dad, Thomas Lanza, started out in Liberal Arts & Sciences: Science at Herkimer ‘80, then studied to be a pilot at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Florida. The cost became prohibitive, and Thomas transferred to SUNY Cortland where he earned his bachelor’s in geology. He became a science teacher at Herkimer High School, then earned a master’s in technology from SUNY Oswego. Tom is currently employed as a technology teacher in the Utica City School District. He and his wife, the former Sharon Naegele, had attended Herkimer High School together. Sharon ‘82 earned a degree in data processing at Herkimer, then a bachelor’s in business administration from SUNYIT. Sharon said, “My Herkimer experience was great. I grew up in the village, and knew by attending the community college I would save my parents money.” She reflected on how Sharon-Gleasant Howell, recent Athletic Hall of Fame inductee, was her teacher, and legendary Coach Paul Wehrum recruited her husband Tom for lacrosse. Sharon also had him for a teacher. “I learned a lot about business from Irv Mason. There is a lot of personal attention at Herkimer. You don’t get that everywhere,” Sharon said.

Joshua, the oldest of the four Lanza boys, said he wanted to attend Herkimer as his parents were alumni, and since he graduated fifth in his Herkimer High School class, he received a Herkimer County College Foundation tuition scholarship, which paid full tuition for his first year and half for the second year. “I liked that it was a short five minute drive up the hill. The convenience and friendly atmosphere helped me meet my goal—to meet as many people as possible. I don’t know how many people President Murray knows by name, but it was important to me that I was one of them.” Josh plans to transfer to SUNY Oneonta to earn a bachelor’s degree in adolescent education with a focus in English, and then earn a master’s in music and become a teacher. “As Herkimer’s Music Industry program continues to grow down the road, I may want to return here to teach,” he concluded.

Josh’s parents said their goal is to educate all four of their sons with college degrees and a minimal amount of debt. Expect to see three other Lanza boys in the Herkimer student body in years to come!

SHARE YOUR FAMILY STORIES WITH US FOR POSSIBLE USE IN FUTURE PUBLICATIONS. EMAIL TO: MONTANOKA@HERKIMER.EDU.

Employees Honored for Excellence

TWO HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE EMPLOYEES ARE RECIPIENTS OF THE PRESTIGIOUS SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD. SENIOR ACCOUNT CLERK DIANE PALMIERI WAS AWARDED THE SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CLASSIFIED SERVICE, THE FIRST RECIPIENT OF THIS AWARD. ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE JANEMARIE VERRI RECEIVED THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING. THE TWO WERE PRESENTED WITH THE AWARDS AT THE COLLEGE'S RECENT COMMENCEMENT.



DIANE PALMIERI began her employment with HCCC in 1996. As a Senior Account Clerk in the Bursar's Office, Palmieri provides superior service to students and their families with the highest level of professionalism. Among her colleagues, she is known for always being willing to lend a hand, to provide needed guidance, and for the consummate knowledge of student finances that she brings to her work. Palmieri also gives of her own time to volunteer for special projects and initiatives on campus, including Open House and move-in days, assisting new students and their families with student finance questions. HCCC President Ann Marie Murray said, "I am proud to have high quality employees such as Diane Palmieri working at Herkimer. I'm pleased Diane has received this award in recognition of her outstanding commitment and service to this College and to our students," she added.

Associate Professor **JANEMARIE VERRI** was appointed to the HCCC faculty in 2002. She has demonstrated a remarkable ability to reach students through her teaching and to engage them in learning. Teaching a broad range of subjects within her discipline, Verri consistently achieves the learning outcomes she sets for her students. Her commitment to providing encouragement and positive guidance to students continues outside the classroom. She serves as an advisement specialist and faculty advisor to various student organizations including the Women's

Club. Verri serves on three standing campus committees and is a member of the College Foundation's Board of Directors. Verri has participated in panel discussions and presentations at both the regional and system-wide levels. Verri holds an A.A. from Herkimer County Community College; a B.A. from SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome; and an M.S. from The College of Saint Rose. Verri is committed to the advancement of Herkimer and SUNY. Dr. Murray said, "Janemarie Verri is an exemplary member of our teaching faculty and well deserving of this recognition."

The recipients each received a Chancellor's Award medallion from the State University of New York. Their names will be included on a plaque in the lobby of the McLaughlin College Center.

STUDENTS THANK SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Several students were able to meet and thank the donors who made their scholarships possible at a spring Scholars Reception. Pictured is Teresa DeCarr '12 (center), a Business: Accounting major from Ilion, NY with Dr. H. David and Angela Trautlein (left) and Ada & Frank Menapace (right). DeCarr is the recipient of the Dr. Francis & Kathryn Menapace and Howard & Ruth Marquette Adult Student Scholarship; the Dr. H. David Trautlein, Dean of the College, Emeritus Scholarship; and the Joseph D. Leone Scholarship.





HERKIMER COMMUNITY MUSEUM

Grand Opening Celebration

“It is fitting that one year after the College was originally approached with the idea of providing a home for the replicated artifacts that now populate this new museum, we formally open the museum to the public.”

Daniel Sargent, Assistant to the President and Director of the Herkimer Community Museum

More than 100 college and community members celebrated the grand opening of the Herkimer Community Museum with a ribbon cutting and special museum tour in May. In collaboration with the International Museum Institute of New York (IMINY), Herkimer County Community College, and its partners, the Village of Herkimer, Herkimer Now, Herkimer BOCES and the Frank J. Basloe Library, worked together to make the Herkimer Community Museum possible.

The museum features replicated artifacts from three main exhibits: “Mesozoica: The Age of Dinosaurs,” featuring complete skeletons of a Chasmosaurus, a Maiasaur and a Raptor, as well as the skulls of a Tyrannosaurus Rex and an Allosaurus, and other dinosaur artifacts; “Paleomania,” which traces the evolution of dinosaurs from their beginnings to the coming of the giant meteor that is believed to have led to their extinction; and “Tutankhamen:

Wonderful Things from the Pharaoh’s Tomb,” featuring spectacular ancient Egyptian artifacts from the tomb of King Tut. The museum also has a fossil dig, where children can have a first-hand archeological experience as they discover a variety of fossils.

The museum brings educational opportunities to the community, particularly for elementary and middle school students, and reinforces their classroom curricula by establishing connections between the artifacts on exhibit and their classroom instruction. Public access is made possible by a Capacity Building Grant from the United Way of the Valley and Greater Utica Area.

Representatives of the collaborating organizations and major contributors, along with several children in attendance, participated in the cutting of the ribbon. Daniel Sargent, Assistant to the President and Director of the Herkimer Community Museum said, “We are grateful for the efforts and contribution of all those who helped acquire the collections, and renovate and enhance the space. We also thank each and every one of the contributors for making this a reality and bringing to our children a space they can visit to learn, to explore and to enjoy. More importantly, it is a place that they can be proud to have in their very community.”

Located at 301 North Prospect Street in Herkimer, adjacent to Curves, the museum is open to the public Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 11 am – 2 pm and by appointment for class visits.



Recent Faculty Retirements



DONNA TESTA, Professor of Business, retired in January 2012 following nearly 35 years of service at Herkimer. She was initially hired in 1977 as a part-time instructor. Testa was then appointed temporary full-time Lecturer in Business for fall of 1978 and continued as an Instructor until 1987. She was promoted to Assistant Professor in

1987, and to Associate Professor in 1992, then to full Professor effective 1997. Testa was named "HCCC Woman of the Year" in 2005-06 in recognition of her dedicated service to the College. She has coordinated the College's activities for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a cause she has supported since the late 1980s. Testa was coordinator of the College's Institute of Allied Health and faculty advisor of the Institute of Allied Health Student Association. She has served on the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, Herkimer County Catholic Charities, Folts Home and more. Testa was active on numerous College committees including Council of Professors, Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management.

Testa continues to teach on-line classes as an adjunct for HCCC. At their May 3, 2012 meeting, the HCCC Board of Trustees granted her Professor Emeritus status effective September 1, 2012. Testa holds an A.A.S. degree from Mohawk Valley Community College; B.P.S. from SUNY Institute of Technology at Utica/Rome; and an M.S. from SUC at Oswego.



ANGELA HARRIS, Professor, English as a Second Language (ESL), retired in August 2012. Harris was appointed Technology and Career Education Center Director in December 1995. In July 1997 she was appointed director of ESL to retirement and then associate professor of ESL in 2001. Harris was promoted to full professor in 2006. She

spent 18 months as director of the School to Work Program.

Harris was a long-time member of the Scholarship Committee, member of the Academic Affairs Committee, and member of the HCC Foundation International Dine-Around Committee. She served as secretary of the Academic Senate, advisor to the International Club and member of the Academic Computer Committee.

Active in the community, Harris was a member of the Board of the Mohawk Valley Center for the Arts, member and current Vice President of the Board of the Greater Little Falls Community Chest, and received the 2009 Woman of the Year in Education honor from the Women's Christian Association of Little Falls.

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES!

RETIREES REUNITE FOR ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Many stories, laughs and hugs were shared at a recent retiree luncheon held at the College. Several retired faculty and staff, many of whom are emeriti, gathered at the College for a luncheon hosted by President Ann Marie Murray and her executive team. *Pictured on the left are Professor Emeritus Joan Prymas, Associate Professor Emeritus Jeanne Galvin and Dean of Academic Affairs Michael Oriolo. On the right is Professor Emeritus Joseph DeLorenzo and Associate Professor Janemarie Verri.*



New Science Wing Nears Completion

A 2.6 million dollar renovation of the science labs and prep rooms in Johnson Hall is nearly complete. The entire wing was gutted and rebuilt with state of the art equipment, custom cabinetry, new energy efficient heating and cooling units, and a new roof. A ribbon cutting for the renovated science wing will take place in the fall.

The science wing will be named the Edward Manning Gaynor and Shirley Augar Gaynor Science Wing, thanks to a generous gift of \$300,000 from the Gaynor Trust. Several other contributions to the Foundation's Elements Campaign also helped make the renovation project possible, including

\$130,000 from The Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc. and the Harry F. Dise Fund, The Wesley & Marion Small Fund and the Rosamond G. Childs Fund; \$50,000 from M&T Bank; and \$15,000 from Excellus Blue Cross Blue Shield.

“We are very excited about this project as it will allow us to bring STEM education to the forefront of our offerings.”

Michael Oriolo, Dean of Academic Affairs



Ranks Herkimer As One of the Best

CNNMoney recently published success rates of community colleges throughout the nation in conjunction with an article by Kim Clark entitled, “Community College: How to Avoid ‘Dropout Factories.’” In the report, **Herkimer County Community College was ranked among the top 100 community colleges in the nation** based on federally-reported graduation and transfer rates. Herkimer tied with Genesee Community College, Batavia, NY, for the top-ranked community college in New York State.



**TOP
100**

CNNMoney based their report on a chart created by College Measures, a joint venture of the American Institutes of Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, to help students find the best options among community colleges. According to College Measures, Herkimer ranks in the 97th percentile nationally among medium-sized public community colleges with a 62.1% graduation and transfer rate. HCCC President Ann Marie Murray said, “This report validates what we have known for quite some time. Herkimer County Community College students are able to successfully transfer to four-year colleges due to their performance in the classroom and the support they receive from our dedicated faculty and staff.” Approximately two-thirds of Herkimer’s graduates continue their education at four-year colleges and universities.

CNNMoney’s report, “How does your community college stack up?” is available at: <http://money.cnn.com/pf/college/community-colleges> CNNMoney is the world’s largest business website and is the online home of FORTUNE and MONEY magazines, and serves as CNN’s exclusive business site.

Alumni Help Make Career Fair A Success

Herkimer County Community College held its largest ever Career Fair with more than 70 employers represented. Students, alumni and community members had the opportunity to discuss and apply for full-time and part-time employment, as well as learn about various career fields. WKTV anchor Don Shipman (Class of 2000) was guest speaker and discussed the benefits of a community college education and how attending Herkimer helped lead to his career success. He cited the opportunity to explore various areas of study while taking general education courses, affordability, and the ability to make an easier transition to college as key reasons he chose to start his college education at Herkimer. He said, “I wasn’t ready to go to a four-year school, but I knew I wanted to get a higher education. Herkimer was a great opportunity and I had a great experience. This school and the professors here helped me get the foundation to move on to a four-year school.” Shipman earned an associate in applied science degree in Radio-TV Broadcasting at Herkimer and furthered his education at Utica College. Shipman has



been employed with WKTV since 2004, and previously was a morning anchor at WUTR NewsChannel 20 for five years. Pictured is Shipman (left) at the HCCC Career Fair with Timothy Nuthall (Class of 2007), emedia manager at Nexstar Broadcasting Group WUTR/ WFXV/ WPNY.

ALUMNI FOCUS

Alumni Hall of Honor Inducts Sixth Class

TWO SUCCESSFUL HERKIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE ALUMNI WERE INDUCTED TO THE ALUMNI HALL OF HONOR AT A CEREMONY IN APRIL: DR. RONALD MIERS '80,'94 AND THOMAS LAKE '99



Herkimer County College Foundation Board Vice President Deborah Dempsey Scialdo served as Master of Ceremonies.



Honored posthumously, Dr. Ronald Miers '80 and '94 was an associate professor at Central Connecticut State University. Miers earned associate degrees in Accounting and Computer Aided Design and Drafting from HCCC, a B.S. in Construction Management from Utica College of Syracuse University and a master's and Ph.D. in Construction Management from SUNY ESF. Miers served on nationally and internationally respected civil engineering and materials academic advisory boards. He wrote the construction curriculum at Utica College, authored numerous scholarly articles and was invited to present at the ICERI conference in Madrid, Spain in 2009. His university service, scholarship application activities, departmental service and teaching experience earned him a nomination for a Board of Governors Award in 2007. Miers also served on the HCCC advisory committee for construction management. Reading from a statement provided by Dr. Mier's long-time companion Diane Brown, Executive Director of the Foundation Lucia Bliss said, "Ron had a unique background, combining academics with his practical experiences. He possessed great common sense and was able to convey these things to his students. Ron was a consummate professional in all that he did, and undoubtedly inspired many of his students to excel." Dr. Miers died unexpectedly in January 2012.

Thomas Lake '99 of Atlanta, Georgia is a senior writer for *Sports Illustrated* magazine. Lake's journalistic accomplishments include national award winning feature articles. In his acceptance speech, Lake praised several faculty at HCCC, including Ray Osborne, Fred Lieber, Faye Eichholzer and Sharon Gleasman-Howell. He said, "In my work I've had colleagues who graduated from Brown, Cornell, Columbia and Harvard. When they ask me where I went, I say Herkimer County Community College, and I say it with pride. America will always be the land of opportunity as long as places like this keep their lights burning."



“In my work I’ve had colleagues who graduated from Brown, Cornell, Columbia and Harvard. When they ask me where I went, I say Herkimer County Community College, and I say it with pride.”
 Thomas Lake '99

From left: Professor Emeritus Raymond Osborne, Thomas Lake '99 and Professor Sharon Gleasman-Howell '79



Miers Family photo from left: Erin Miers (niece), Gary Miers (brother), Karen Miers (sister-in-law), Kristina Miers (daughter-in-law), Ron Miers (son), Melissa Miers (daughter), Diane Brown (companion), Robert Miers (cousin).

“I have marveled at watching you grow in confidence and abilities. . . You have met today’s academic challenges and prepared yourselves for the future. You have much to be proud of.”

Dr. Ann Marie Murray



Commencement 2012

GRADUATES GO GREEN

Graduates and faculty wore caps and gowns made of 100 percent, post-consumer recycled plastic bottles at the College’s commencement this spring.

Herkimer has made the switch to GreenWeaver; the fabric is spun from molten plastic pellets, and on average, it takes 23 bottles to make each gown. Graduates not wanting to keep their regalia for keepsakes placed them in collection containers after the ceremony so they can be recycled into yet other products. Faculty will now keep their regalia for future use.

Based on an approximate 500 gowns worn at Herkimer’s commencement, it is estimated that 11,500 plastic bottles were kept out of landfills this year.

“Herkimer provides you with opportunities to get involved and achieve things you did not think were possible before coming here.”

Michael Elleman '12





MIDNIGHT BREAKFAST

In preparation for late night studying for final exams, more than 300 students enjoyed a midnight breakfast buffet on the last day of classes. Sponsored by the Foundation, the breakfast was served by several College administrators and staff, including President Murray and Trustee Michael Testa.



SPRING 2012 Athletics in Review



SOFTBALL WINS REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP, FINISHES 5TH AT NATIONALS

BASEBALL

The baseball season ended during Region III playoffs with a pair of losses to Niagara Community College. Herkimer's overall record was 33-11 and the team's Mountain Valley Conference Record was 22-3.

Five Herkimer baseball players were named to the 2012 All Mountain Valley Conference baseball team. They are second baseman Tyler Hall (Fonda), outfielder Hassan Evans (Brooklyn), catcher Luke Nethaway (Fonda), designated hitter Justin Weakley (Cold Brook) and pitcher Willie Gabay (Mahopac). Gabay was also named Mountain Valley Conference Player of the Year. John LeClair (Mohawk) was named the Rawlings Golden Glove shortstop for the NJCAA Division III baseball. This award is presented to the top defensive Division III player at each of the nine positions.

The softball team ended their regular season with an overall record of 33-4, 30-1 in Region III play, and 12-0 in the Mountain Valley Conference and won the program's first Regional Championship in 12 years. The Generals were rewarded with the number one seed in the tournament out of Region III. The Herkimer Nine swept Corning Community College 19-0 and 9-3 to win the best-of-three series to win the Region IIIA Championship. The Generals placed three on the Region IIIA All Tournament team which included Andrea Rodgers who was also named the tournament MVP, Jessica Dutka, and Krista Oakes. Freshman Stephanie Siriano was named Co-Player of the Year for Region III.

The team made a very strong showing at Nationals earning fifth place and finished the season with an outstanding record of 38-6. Four student-athletes earned spots on the 2012 All-American team. They were First Team selections Jessica Patterelli, Abby Black, Stephanie Siriano and Second Team Selection Andrea Rodgers.

MEN'S LACROSSE

It was a rebuilding year for the men's lacrosse team. First year coach Jamie Ireland says goodbye to only six seniors from this year's team. With 19 freshmen returning, Ireland looks forward to a great season next year.

Three men's lacrosse players were named to the 2012 All Mountain Valley Conference Lacrosse Team. They are

attacker Berek Martichuski (Littleton, CO), midfielder Davey Mitchell (Schenectady) and defenseman Joe Vacca (Geneva).

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Five women's lacrosse players were named to the 2012 Region III All Region Team. Katie McGovern (Babylon) and Angelique Rudy (Palmyra) were named

to the First Team All-Region. Marissa Mowers (Dolgeville), Michelle Varney (Canton) and Whitney Brown (Far Rockaway) were named to the Second Team All-Region.

Herkimer's season ended in the Region III semi-finals with a 24-14 loss to the Onondaga Lazars, bringing the Generals' women's lacrosse season record to 8-7.

TRACK AND FIELD

The **WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM** had a strong showing at Nationals to finish in 5th place out of 21 scoring teams. Senior



Samantha Lawson (Syracuse, NY) was the team's top performer of the weekend with a third place finish in the heptathlon with 2,729, 11 points shy of second place. She also placed 5th in the 800m and was a member of the 5th place 3200m relay, 9th place 1600m, and 10th place 400m relay teams. Freshman Elizabeth McGough (Remsen, NY) also turned in 4th place finishes in 3,000m steeplechase, 5,000m, and the 10,000m.

From the **MEN'S TRACK AND FIELD TEAM**, senior runner Andrew Gregg (Homer, NY) became Herkimer's first-ever male athlete to become a track & field national champion. Gregg earned that honor by winning the 400 Hurdles. He also placed fifth in the 110 Hurdles and 15th in the open 400m. Gregg's first-place finish qualifies him as an All-



Alex Benoit (Ilion, NY) placed fourth in the discus and threw a new school record of 42.83 meters at the National Championship meet held at Alfred State. Donnelle Davis (Bronx, NY) came in second place in the long jump with a personal best



jump. With this performance he was named a Second Team All-American.

American. Gregg also received the Male Track Athlete of the meet at the Region III Championship meet. Head Coach Sharon Gleasman-Howell said, "I am extremely pleased with the hard work, dedication and perseverance that Andrew has shown over the past 2 years. Andrew is one of the hardest working and most talented athletes I have ever coached."

FRESHMAN BOWLER EARNS SUNY CHANCELLOR'S SCHOLAR ATHLETE AWARD

Freshman Sara Edenhofer of Hilton, NY is one of 79 students from 64 SUNY campuses to be honored with the 2011-2012 SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award. The award recognizes outstanding academic excellence and athletic achievement.



A social science major, Edenhofer is an honors student and a member of the collegiate bowling team. She won the first bowling national championship in the history of the College and was named a First Team All-American.

FROM HERKIMER TO MLB: WILLIE GABAY AND HASSAN EVANS



PITCHER WILLIE GABAY WAS SELECTED IN THE MLB DRAFT IN THE 15TH ROUND BY THE TAMPA BAY RAYS. The first ever MLB selection from Herkimer, Gabay was a two-year starter for the Generals and earned Mountain Valley Conference Player of the Year honors as a sophomore. He was named to the All-American team and was the team's MVP. Gabay set the Herkimer school record for strikeouts with 91 in 58.1 innings. Head Coach Jason Rathbun said "Willie was the most dominant strikeout pitcher we have ever had here at Herkimer." Rathbun also said "Willie is a special person, and his drive and motivation to be the best is what will lead him through this process. I have all the confidence in the world that Willie will make an impact in the Rays organization. I am thankful they have given him this opportunity. Willie has opened the door for so many more players who will come through our program in the future."

"Baseball is my life and I am grateful for my opportunity to play for the Rays organization," stated Gabay. He added, "Herkimer baseball was the first step that helped me accomplish this dream."



HASSAN EVANS, HERKIMER'S MALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR, WAS SELECTED BY THE CHICAGO CUBS IN THE 38TH ROUND OF THE 2012 MLB DRAFT. Evans posted a .389 batting average with seven doubles and six triples, and was second on the team in runs batted in with 34. Evans was honored as a first team All-Region and All-Mountain Valley Conference Team member. He was also honored with HCCC's highest athletics achievement award, Male Athlete of the Year, which considers all sports played by the Generals. The 6' 3" right-hander is currently playing for the Mohawk Valley DiamondDawgs of the Perfect Game Collegiate League, a wood bat summer league for higher-level collegiate players. Head Baseball Coach Jason Rathbun had the highest praise for Evans, stating "Hassan was selected as our school's male athlete of the year because he is just an unbelievable athlete."

COACHES APPOINTED

JAMES IRELAND '05, of Herkimer, was appointed to the position of head men's lacrosse coach for 2012-13. Ireland was a member of Herkimer's 2003 NJCAA National Championship lacrosse team, was a two-time 1st team All American and NJCAA Player of the Year in 2004, and earned a lacrosse scholarship to Division I Syracuse University. He is a certified lacrosse instructor with 11 years of experience teaching youth and high school lacrosse, evaluating players and instructing at various clinics and camps. Ireland is also a Technical Assistant in the Fitness Center.

KIEL ADAMS '04, of Rome, accepted the position as assistant men's lacrosse coach for 2012-13. Adams was a member of Herkimer's 2003 NJCAA National Championship lacrosse team, and continued his lacrosse career at Division I Sacred Heart University where he was named to the All Colonial Athletic Association Men's Lacrosse First Team. Adams is a technology support technician in the Information Services department.

BRADLEY GOUGER, of Utica, was appointed head women's basketball coach for 2012-13. Gouger is a guidance counselor in the Utica City School District. He has been the Whitesboro Central School assistant varsity boys' basketball coach for seven years, has coached in the Zebra Classic, and led the Tri-Valley League All-Stars to the championship game. Gouger has also coached varsity and JV softball, played collegiate basketball and baseball, and was named to the Plattsburgh State and State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) All-Academic Teams.

TEAMS EARN ACADEMIC HONORS

Herkimer County Community College's women's bowling team was recently named the 2011-12 NJCAA Women's Bowling Academic Team of the Year. The team earned the designation by having the highest overall GPA (3.47) for their sport.



Bowling team, from left: Maripat McNally, Jordanna Dodge, Kayla Cross, Ashley Marthage, Sara Edenhofer, Megan Douglass, Head Coach PJ Anadio.

Five Herkimer teams were named recipients of the 2011-12 NJCAA All-Academic Team Awards: Men's Cross Country, Women's Swimming and Diving, Women's Tennis, Women's Volleyball and Women's Softball. Teams must have an overall team GPA above 3.0 to qualify.

HCCC Director of Athletics Donald Dutcher said, "We are proud that our athletic teams excel in the classroom as well as on the field. They are outstanding student-athletes."

Over 450 teams nationwide qualified for academic team accolades. Nearly 60,000 student-athletes competed in the NJCAA for the 2011-12 academic year on more than 3,500 teams in 28 different sports.

NOMINATIONS FOR

Athletic Hall of Fame

Nominations for the 2013 Athletic Hall of Fame, honoring former Herkimer teams and individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the College through intercollegiate athletics, are currently being accepted.

The College is seeking nominations in four categories: 1) athlete 2) team 3) coach and 4) associate member, administrator or contributor. To be eligible for membership, nominees must meet the following criteria:

- Athletes must have successfully completed at least one full season in a given sport, brought prestige and recognition to the College, and either graduated from HCCC or transferred to a four-year college or university where he/she received a bachelor's degree.
- Teams must have compiled a significant record of accomplishments at the regional and/or national level.
- Coaches must have compiled a significant winning record for a minimum of five complete seasons while contributing to the future success, either in college or employment, of the athletes who competed under his/her leadership.
- Associate members, administrators and contributors must have made special contributions to the quality, growth and reputation of Herkimer's intercollegiate athletic program at the community, state, and/or national level.
- Nominees must have been disassociated with the college by virtue of graduation, advancement in career or transfer to another institution of higher education for at least five years or have been disassociated with his/her coaching or administrative responsibilities for a period of five years.

To nominate an individual or team for this prestigious honor, please complete a nomination form available at herkimergenerals.com/halloffame and submit by January 1, 2013.

For more information, contact HCCC Athletic Director Donald Dutcher at dutcherdm@herkimer.edu or (315) 866-0300, ext. 8255.



ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Female and Male Athlete of the Year went to **KRISTA OAKES** (Akwesasne, NY) and **HASSAN EVANS** (Brooklyn, NY) respectively. Other awards given included the Pop Walsh Award, Tyler Hall (Fonda, NY), Nancy Fabozzi Award, Mollee Putnam (Gloversville, NY), Female Scholar Athlete, Abigail Smith (Seneca Falls, NY) and the Male Scholar Athlete went to Mike Elleman (New Harford, NY).

FALL FEST

& Alumni Weekend

September 27-29, 2012

Rain or Shine!

Music, Games, Food & Much More!!!

herkimer.edu/fallfest

Thursday, September 27

7:00 p.m.

• **Ariel String Quartet**

Robert H. Wood Great Artists Series
(RMCC 247)

Sponsored by the Foundation

• **Recreational Swimming**

at Cristman Pool (PE Building)

• **NEW Science Lab Tours**

(Meet outside College Bookstore)

• **Explore the Herkimer Jail & new Herkimer Community Museum**

(Meet outside RMCC)

Friday, September 28

7:00 - 11:00 p.m.

Alumni Gathering

Great food, live band, dancing and cash bar! Have a rocking great time and reconnect with your fellow alumni.

(Francesca's Banquet Hall; Ilion, NY)

Sponsored by the Foundation

12-2:00 p.m.

• **International Food Event**

Alumni BBQ

(Behind Wehrum Stadium – look for the tent!) Bring your fellow former team members, classmates and friends.

All activities are in RMCC or in parking lot unless otherwise noted.

Saturday, September 29

11:00 a.m.

• **Breast Cancer Awareness Walk**

Registration begins at 10:00 a.m.
(RMCC 288)

12-3:00 p.m.

• **Horse Drawn Wagon Rides** (Parking Lot, pick up at RMCC entrance)

1:00 p.m.

• **HCCC Men's Soccer vs. Bryant & Stratton** (Wehrum Stadium)

12-4:00 p.m.

• **Motorcycle, Antique Tractor & Car Show**

• **DJ/Music**

• **Geocaching** Find prizes using GPS to explore our Nature Trails

• **Caricatures** by W.C. Pope

• **Herkimer County Dairy Princess & her Court**

• **NYS Maple Queen**

• **MVAS Solar Star Gazing**

• **Inflatable Games/Novelties**

• **Frisbee Golf, Volleyball, Bocce Ball**

1-3:00 p.m.

Alumni Art Show & Reception

Recent Paintings of Robert Willman, Class of '89 (Cogar Gallery, RMCC)

3:00 p.m.

• **Motorcycle, Antique Tractor & Car Show Awards**

4:00 p.m.

• **Leon Etienne, Illusionist** (RMCC 247)

• **HCCC Men's Alumni Lacrosse Game** (Wehrum Stadium)

ATTENTION ALUMNI:

In order to estimate attendance, please email to let us know which alumni events you (and a guest) will be attending.

alumni@herkimer.edu
All email respondents will be entered in a raffle for an iPad and other great prizes.

Partners in Education

The HCC Foundation has started a new program called Partners in Education. All businesses, groups and private individuals who give \$2,000 or more to the Foundation receive special recognition throughout the year. We are grateful to our partners and the impact they make in our students' lives through their generosity. To date, we have 17 partners, who will be recognized in our annual report, at events, and on our website. If you are interested in joining our Partners in Education, please call 315.866.0300 X 8268 or email lucia.bliss@herkmer.edu.



Mr. Steven J. Altieri
Cogar Foundation
Herkimer Motel & Suites
Mrs. Catherine A. Miller
Mountain Hill Investment Partners
Town & Village Superintendents
Association of Herkimer County
CASA Imports
ICON Prevalere Life Sciences LLC

CLASS NOTES

CLASS OF 1969

Rosemary Scaduto D'Agostino, Sound Beach, Long Island, NY retired from Middle Country School District in Centereach, NY in 2005 after 33 years of teaching.

CLASS OF 1974

Rosemary Camilleri, Sayville, NY earned a bachelor's degree from Ithaca College in 1976. She is the Assistant Superintendent of Schools for Human Resources at Sayville Public Schools, on Long Island.

Robert Baber, Westmoreland, NY, a native of Utica, has been appointed marketing director for the fiber optic manufacturing and distribution

company Fiber Instrument Sales. His responsibilities include overseeing marketing and communications, publications, website design and development, graphic design, public relations and advertising. Prior to joining FIS, Baber was dean of the School of Art at Munson-Williams-Proctor Arts Institute, and director of communications and development. He is also a graduate of Utica College, and earned his master's from Ball State University. Baber is a former journalism instructor at Utica College and was managing editor of the Evening Telegram in Herkimer, NY. He and his wife Nancy have two children and four grandchildren.

CLASS OF 1979

Robert S. Harris, Frankfort, NY earned a Doctor of Naturopathy (N.D.) degree in 1989 from the Clayton College of Natural Health in Birmingham, Alabama. Since that time, he worked as a high school science teacher, and is currently in private practice as a naturopathic doctor and member of the adjunct science faculty at HCCC, teaching Anatomy and Physiology for over a decade. He has published a book, *The Winning Edge! Use Nature's principles to dramatically improve athletic performance...no matter what sport you play!* (ECKO House Publishing, Sandy, Utah 2010). He also counsels several HCCC athletic teams.

CLASS OF 1989

Brian Haak, Albany, NY was recently appointed to fill a vacancy on the Colonie Town Board. Located in northern Albany County, Colonie has a population of just over 83,000. Haak also recently received the Albany Law School Distinguished Alumnus in Government Award in recognition of his 25 years of public service. He is an Attorney and Counselor-at-Law.

CLASS OF 2008

Deborah Meigel Horner, Frankfort, NY is a recent graduate of Empire State College with a Bachelor of Science degree in childcare administration. She will continue her education working toward a master's in special education.

IN MEMORIAM

The Herkimer County Community College Alumni Association extends its sincere sympathy to the families of the following deceased alumni and members of the HCCC family:

Richard George Cole, 34, Albany, NY, Class of 2002, died December 25, 2011 in Albany Medical Center.

Beverly A. Lamanna, 63, Little Falls, NY, Class of 1987, died March 8, 2012.

Robert E. Fulmer, 66, Little Falls, NY, Class of 1977, died peacefully at home on April 12, 2012. Following military service, he furthered his education at HCCC, earning an associate degree in business administration. He was a salesman for various businesses, and worked at Univac and Remington Arms.

Marilyn R. Schuyler, 60, Frankfort, NY, Class of '72, passed away April 12, 2012. She earned degrees from HCCC and SUNY Brockport, and then taught elementary school in Herkimer.

Andrew Jonathan Elow, 47, Rome, NY, Class of 1988, passed away April 13, 2012 in Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare, Utica, NY with the comfort of his loving family at his side. After graduating from Herkimer, he earned a master's degree in education from Patriot Bible College. He served in the U.S. Army Reserves, was employed by Jay-K Lumber and Adelphia Communications, and was most recently self-employed as a medical biller. He enjoyed playing basketball and football.

Pattiann Hartman Crossett, 47, Middleville, NY, Class of 2002, died April 16, 2012 at Valley Health Services after a six-year courageous battle with cancer. A criminal justice graduate of HCCC, she was last employed as a Corrections Officer with the Herkimer County Sheriff Department and an officer with the police department. She was a nurturing and loving mother with her main focus in life on her children.

Dolores "Candy" Mancini, 63, passed away unexpectedly at her home in Frankfort on June 23, 2012. Candy was a secretary in Student Activities and retired from HCCC in 2001 after 37 years. On December 14, 1974 she was united in marriage with Rocco "Rock" Mancini, a 37 year union that ended on January 18, 2012 with his unexpected passing.

Patrick A. Mody, 47, Clark Mills, NY, Class of 1988, passed away June 3, 2012 at Faxton-St. Luke's Healthcare, Utica, NY.

Betty J. Albrecht, 85, Little Falls, NY and more recently a resident of the Alpine Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, passed away April 21, 2012. For over 20 years she was employed as a library clerk at Herkimer County Community College.

Francis T. Martin, 80, Remsen, NY, Class of 1992, died May 2, 2012. Fran started his career at General Electric, for 41 years, retiring in 1989. It wasn't until after he retired that he earned a college degree in paralegal from HCCC.

Henry E. Gaffey, 83, Herkimer, NY died May 8, 2012 with his supportive family by his side. He was proudly discharged as a U.S. Army veteran from the Korean War. Henry was appointed to serve on the Herkimer County Community College Board of Trustees by Governor Mario Cuomo from 1990 until 1999. He started Gaffey's automatic carwash, and while completing his college studies, he bought a brand new ice cream truck and started selling as Mr. Softee. His truck is now on display in a museum in Boyertown, PA.

John T. Harter, 53, Herkimer, NY, Class of 1999, died unexpectedly May 24, 2012 in Little Falls Hospital. A veteran, Harter was once employed by Remington Arms and Upstate Cerebral Palsy. Most recently, he worked on the assembly line at Beechnut Co., Amsterdam, NY.

Allen L. Lonis, 56, Vernon Center, NY died May 26, 2012 at Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY. He was employed at Par Technologies, New Hartford and previously at Riverside Lanes, Marcy.

alumni updates

alumni@herkimer.edu

We want to keep in touch!

Please let us know about your news, life celebrations (births, weddings), changes (promotions, retirements) and relocations. Send us an email at alumni@herkimer.edu



Recent Gifts Enhance the Campus

The Foundation recently received two in-kind gifts. A Paul De Angelo fish display of trout and salmon from the Lake Ontario region, was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Albert Spraker of Little Falls, NY. Additionally, eight pieces of technical equipment from the Los Angeles studios of David Fincher were donated by Mr. Fincher, who directed numerous well-known movies, most recently “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo.” In-kind gifts are very important as they enhance campus learning spaces in a unique way and contribute to the support and development of the College.

Guests at the fourth annual President’s Gala were present for the unveiling of the fish display and learned the history and importance of the fish. DeAngelo, who created the display, is one of the premier taxidermy artists in the country and his work is nationally renowned. This display will be incorporated into the newly renovated Gaynor Science wing in Johnson Hall. We are grateful to the Sprakers, Mr. Fincher and all those who have made in-kind gifts.

The College is funded by student tuition and support from local and state dollars. The Foundation was established in the 1960’s as a not-for-profit 510 C(3) to accept donations on the College’s behalf. As a not-for-profit, the donations made to the College, through the Foundation, are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. This added support is very important, especially in light of cuts in local, state and federal funding sources.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING A GIFT IN KIND, PLEASE CONTACT THE GIFT ACCEPTANCE COMMITTEE AT 315.866.0300 x 8268 OR EMAIL US AT LUCIA.BLISS@HERKIMER.EDU.



Ways to **Give Back** to Herkimer

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GIVE BACK TO YOUR COLLEGE COMMUNITY.

Scholarships

Invest in a student's success by creating a scholarship. Many of our students rely upon the generosity of others to make the opportunity and promise of a better future through higher education a reality.

Matching Corporate/Employee Gift Programs

Our office can help you double or even triple the impact of your gift through gifts from your employer or corporation.

Time and Talent

Our events require many hands, and would not be possible without the voluntary help of others. Your time and talent can be shared in so many ways, from the voluntary service on our Foundation Board, to mentoring a student in your career field, helping our Admissions Office during a recruiting visit or giving a few hours of your time during one of our fundraising events.

Gifts In-Kind

Gifts received by the Foundation on behalf of the College are just as important as purchased items and sometimes hold a truly unique value, contributing to the support and development of the College. Please contact us about the process of gift acceptance.

Annual Fund Gifts

Cash, checks, credit card payments or electronic fund transfers are utilized where the need is greatest.

Restricted Gifts

Cash, checks, credit card payments or electronic fund transfers are designated for specific areas or programs on campus.

Bequests

Bequests in any amount may be left through your will or insurance policy, as a residual or stated amount. Let us know if we are in your plans so that we may properly recognize your legacy.

Endowments or Memorial Gifts

Donate at the \$10,000 or above level to commemorate loved ones or endow a fund into perpetuity.

Other Planned Gifts of Securities, IRA Rollovers

Please let us know of your plans for your legacy gift, and how that gift can be made as a meaningful investment in our students' futures.

PLEASE GIVE OUR OFFICE A CALL, AT 315.866.0300 EXT. 8268 AND WE WILL BE GLAD TO WORK WITH YOU IN MAKING YOUR GIFT TO YOUR ALMA MATER, YOUR HERKIMER.

Herkimer County College Foundation
100 Reservoir Road
Herkimer, NY 13350

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

TM

NON-PROFIT
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 75
UTICA, NY



www.facebook.com/herkimercollege



Upcoming HCCC Events

Fall Fest & Alumni Weekend

Thursday-Saturday,
September 27-29

Robert H. Wood Great Artists Series Concert

Ariel String Quartet
Thursday, September 27

College Fall Open House

Saturday, October 27

36th Herkimer County Arts & Crafts Fair

Saturday & Sunday,
November 10 & 11

Region III Championships Men's Soccer

Saturday & Sunday,
October 28 & 29

NJCAA Division III Men's Soccer National Championships

Thursday-Sunday,
November 8-11

ROBERT H. WOOD

Great Artists
SERIES

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 27, 2012
7:00 PM

SARKUS-BUSCH THEATER

THE CONCERT IS
FREE TO ALL.

herkimer.edu