

CONNECTIONS

A Magazine for Alumni and Friends of Herkimer County Community College

Volume 3 | Issue 2

Celebrating HCCC's Future



Summer 2009

Message from Alumni Association President

This academic year has certainly gone by quickly and we had much to celebrate! On Friday, April 17, the campus held an inauguration ceremony for our new President, Dr. Ann Marie Murray. Dr. Murray's inaugural speech focused on themes of excellence, leadership, hope and optimism. It was an historical event, marking only our third president in the College's history.

That night, an inaugural gala was held on campus. The College Center was transformed into a formal event with great food, music and energy! The proceeds from the event went into an endowment for future scholarships, and we are thankful to Dr. Murray for that.

Recently, our students took their final exams and once again the Alumni Association sponsored "treat/snack tables" during the testing week, a much appreciated and tangible reminder of the Alumni Association's support of the student body. From that point on, graduation was on every student's mind. At this year's commencement ceremony, I was honored with the recognition of Alumnus of the Year as well as the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Humbled and inspired, I must note that it is a testament to the power of Herkimer County Community College, as that is the primary foundation for many of my successes in life.

With so much to celebrate, the Alumni Association would like to once again extend the invitation to help us help YOU. We continue to have a dynamic group of alumni who meet almost monthly to stay abreast of and involved in campus and community events. We have visibility both on and off campus, and our members work to provide the students with a return on their investment.

This is the perfect time to assist us in reaching other alumni. If you know of other alumni who are not connected with us, please send the Alumni Association their e-mail and/or mailing address at shepardta@herkimer.edu. We are currently updating our website, so your assistance in networking is essential. We hope to continue future events, and plan on having a designated area for Alumni at this year's Independence Day Celebration, so stay tuned for future mailings. Once again, we began with celebrations, and we will end with one too! Life on HCCC's hill is good!

Cynthia Gabriel '87
President, HCCC Alumni Association

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Greetings from the President



Dr. Ann Marie Murray
President, Herkimer County Community College

This issue of *Connections* celebrates the past, present and future of Herkimer County Community College. It was a momentous occasion when hundreds of people came to the Presidential Inauguration, only the third in the 42-year history of the College. The ceremony was full of protocol and grandeur as community and educational leaders spoke of the development of the College and the promise it holds for the future. The evening gala was one of a kind as we continued the celebration to benefit the Herkimer County College Foundation which provides hope in the way of tuition assistance for so many students. It was apparent to all who attended the inaugural events that the future for HCCC is full of promise and opportunity.

This spring we recognized our students' academic achievements at various award ceremonies and graduation, and we celebrated our athletic accomplishments on our own field of dreams. We also proudly announced the new HCCC Hope Scholarship, provided by the College Foundation, for high school students from Herkimer County who fall just below the top 15% threshold in their graduating class. The Hope Scholarship will provide promise and opportunity for these fine students who may not qualify for the Foundation Tuition Scholarship program.

We also recently celebrated 10 years of our Internet Academy delivering degree programs and support services online. HCCC has been a leader in online education, and each year as the program grows, we grow in knowledge of this anytime, anywhere delivery of instruction.

Looking forward, we are optimistic and excited about our future. All who have a vested interest in the College will be invited to help us plan, as we move through the strategic planning process to set our goals and objectives for the next five years.

As you wander through these pages and see the recent accomplishments of our faculty, students and alumni, take time to remember when your everyday life was so tightly entwined with your alma mater. Consider the rewards of staying connected to those transformative years, and join us for one or more of the outstanding activities we have planned for next year. We look forward to seeing you on campus, over and over again.

Ann Marie Murray

HCCC Graduates Class of 2009



Five hundred forty-two students graduated from Herkimer County Community College at the 41st annual Commencement held Friday, May 15 in the gymnasium of the Physical Education building.

The student address, "Where Everybody Knows Your Name," was given by graduating senior Brittany Tarris, a Business: Small Business Management major from Frankfort.

HCCC student Anthony LaBarbera of Herkimer, performed the National Anthem. The invocation and benediction were given by Reverend Anthony Ligato, Holy Family Church, Little Falls, and Saints Anthony and Joseph, Herkimer. James Seward, NYS Senator, 51st District and Raymond Smith, Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature, brought greetings to the Class of 2009.

HCCC Student Government President Yolanda Liu, an international student from Spain, spoke on behalf of the graduates.

Degrees were conferred by President Ann Marie Murray and Deans Daniel Murphy and Matthew Hawes. A reception for graduates and their guests followed in the McLaughlin College Center. The ceremony was broadcast live on HCTV, Time Warner Cable channel 99. There was also a live webcast of commencement for those unable to attend.



Chinese Students Recognized at Graduation

Herkimer County Community College participated in the SUNY China 150 Program this year, hosting 11 students from Sichuan Province, China. The area suffered a major earthquake in May 2008. The students arrived in Herkimer in August 2008 to attend HCCC for two semesters. HCCC was one of 22 campuses within the SUNY system hosting a total of 150 students. President Ann Marie Murray recognized each student with a certificate at commencement, as they prepared to return home.

Gabriel Named Alumnus of the Year

Cynthia Gabriel '87 was named recipient of the 2009 Alumnus of the Year Award from Herkimer County Community College. The award was presented at the College's commencement.

The award honors an alumnus who has demonstrated the highest level of excellence in their professional field. The recipient is selected by the alumni board. Gabriel is an Associate Professor of English at HCCC, and is actively involved on campus and in the community. She serves as president of the Alumni Association. Gabriel was also presented with the prestigious SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching at the 2009 commencement.

Gabriel holds an A.A. degree in Liberal Arts & Sciences: Humanities from HCCC, a B.S. in secondary English Education and an M.A. in English from SUNY Oneonta.



Internet Academy Celebrates 10 Years of Success

HCCC's Internet Academy recently celebrated 10 years of offering degree programs entirely online. It was on April 1, 1999 that HCCC announced a new initiative--the Internet Academy. After a few semesters of offering a handful of online courses, it became apparent that there was a need and a market for offering complete degrees through this non-traditional delivery method. William Pelz, Professor of Psychology and Coordinator of the Internet Academy, along with faculty members Karen Evans, Ronald Carvin and Debra Sutton, taught the first online classes offered. "The classes were successful and it grew from there. We saw this as a great opportunity for the College and for students, particularly working adults," said Pelz.

Ten years later, the Internet Academy is a critical component of the College's enrollment with 19 degrees and four certificates, as well as a myriad of support services, available completely online. In the spring of 2009, almost 800 students were studying entirely online with an additional 700 taking at least one online course.

"Offering complete online programs and comprehensive support services has been the secret to our success," said Pelz. Online

services include admissions, registration, academic advisement, tutoring, ordering of books and transfer counseling. "We wanted students to have access to online support services equivalent to those offered to students on campus," said Linda Lamb, Associate Dean of Continuing Education.

Support services and faculty tools continue to evolve due to changes in technology. The Internet Academy operates on the ANGEL course management system, which provides many features and teaching tools, including an electronic grade book, engaging multi-media learning activities and a variety of assessment tools. "Our faculty are using the system in some very innovative ways, and many find that the online tools really enhance their on-campus classes as well," said Lamb.

There have been countless unique situations where students have found that online learning is the only way they could obtain their college education. "It's about access," said Pelz. The Internet Academy provides a means to higher education for those who would not otherwise be able to attend college. "It really appeals to adults. Of course, it is not for everybody, but for many it is a great option."

said Pelz. "Some students learn better without the distraction of the campus, and find they can be more focused online."

HCCC has long been a leader in the delivery of online education. In addition to teaching a full load online, Pelz also provides faculty training statewide and is a faculty mentor for the Sloan Consortium which offers online faculty certification. "As an instructional designer and trainer, my goal is to find ways to make online learning effective."

According to Pelz, one of the common misperceptions is that learning online is impersonal. "It is actually quite the opposite of what many think. The community of inquiry that evolves online is often more intimate than that in the classroom." Intimacy, self-disclosure, honest conversation and debate are frequently more likely in an environment where physical and personal barriers do not exist, says Pelz.

Pelz offers the following advice for anyone thinking about taking classes online. "Know yourself, your capabilities and your limitations. Studying online requires self-discipline, good time management and intrinsic motivation."



DANIELLE FARGAS, '09 AAS, Human Services

When she began taking classes through the Internet Academy, Danielle Fargas, Utica, had very little confidence in her ability to be successful online. Fargas said "I had a very negative attitude toward online, and thought it could not be possible, but I was completely proven wrong. I had the best experience." A working mother of three children, ages 12, 7 and 2, Fargas graduated with honors in May. "If it wasn't for online, I could not have been as successful. It is difficult to maintain a household and a job, so the flexibility, doing your work when it's convenient for you, is what I liked best," she said. "The Internet Academy enabled me to learn more than in a classroom. It was the perfect opportunity." Fargas is currently working full-time as a residence counselor at Upstate Cerebral Palsy and plans to pursue a bachelor's degree online starting in the fall.



JOSHUA KAMPE, '09 AAS, Criminal Justice

Joshua Kampe, Plymouth, NY, has been on the HCCC campus only twice--once to pick up his cap and gown for graduation and a second time to accept his degree at the 2009 Commencement. Kampe said he found the Internet Academy to be amazing. After a tragic auto accident that left him with a traumatic brain injury, Kampe enrolled in and painstakingly completed his college degree one class at a time. Taking classes online was not only a convenience for Kampe, as he found it easier to sleep during the day and work on his schoolwork at night, but it was also a necessity given his schedule of medical appointments and inability to travel to campus. Despite the many obstacles that Kampe endured, he enjoyed the program, particularly the opportunities to share experiences and ideas with others. "I really enjoyed it, and got so much more out of it than listening to lectures in a classroom," said Kampe. Support services including tutoring (particularly for English papers, he admits) helped Kampe be successful. He is particularly proud to have been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2004 semester. Kampe plans to continue his higher education online through Franklin University. "My advice to others is to take your time. Slow and steady wins the race," said Kampe.

Chancellor's Award Winners



Three Herkimer County Community College faculty members are recipients of the prestigious SUNY Chancellor's Award. The three received medallions and honorariums provided by the Herkimer County College Foundation at the College's recent commencement.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH CYNTHIA GABRIEL WAS AWARDED THE SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING.

Gabriel, an HCCC alumna, brings a commitment to excel to the classroom. She has taught a wide variety of classes in her ten plus years at HCCC. She helped create new and innovative programs such as women's studies. Gabriel was also a grant writer to start a new "teacher to teacher" program. Gabriel serves as president of the HCCC Alumni Association, and volunteers for the Herkimer County College Foundation as well as many community groups.

PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL SCIENCE MARY JO KELLEY RECEIVED THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FACULTY SERVICE.

Mary Jo Kelley served on the presidential search committee and was chairperson of the College's Middle States Accreditation committee. Kelley advises the Honors Program and stands out as a leader among the faculty. Her service and dedication to students, and contributions in the classroom are exceptional. She volunteers for community organizations and is a parent advocate for disabled children. She is a leader in the classroom, in the institution and in the community.

ADMISSIONS ASSISTANT CLARE BURTH RECEIVED THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.

Burth, admissions assistant for the past 23 years and an HCCC alumna, is known and respected across the state for her knowledge of admissions and her professional commitment. She has served as president of the SUNY College Admissions Professionals organization. Burth has responsibility for 10 core counties, which are the backbone of the College's applicant pool. She has a tremendous amount of admissions experience and vision.

KELCY NEWMAN '09, NEWPORT, NY WAS AMONG 238 STUDENTS FROM 63 SUNY CAMPUSES TO RECEIVE THE 2009 CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE.



The Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence recognizes students who have best demonstrated, and been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement.

Newman was recognized at a ceremony in Albany, where she received a framed certificate and medallion, which is traditionally worn at commencement. She is a member of Phi Theta Kappa international honor society, a student ambassador, and captain of the men's and women's swimming and diving team at HCCC. Active in the community, Newman is a member of the Iliion Civic Band, the Newport Revitalization Committee, and volunteers at the cancer survivor picnic. A Radio-TV Broadcasting major, she graduated in May with high honors and plans to continue her education at Ithaca College.

Murray Inaugurated as HCCC's Third President



Dr. Ann Marie Murray was inaugurated as the third president of Herkimer County Community College on Friday, April 17, 2009. She was appointed by the SUNY Board of Trustees in June 2008 and began work as President in August.

The inauguration began with a procession of faculty, administrators, emeriti, guests, trustees and delegates from other colleges and universities, through the Robert McLaughlin College Center to the Sarkus-Busch Theater, where the ceremony was held.

George F. Aney, Esq, served as Convener for the inauguration. Donald J. Snyder, Chairman of HCCC's Board of Trustees, delivered the welcome, followed by the National Anthem performed by the Mohawk Valley Choral Society. The invocation was delivered by Reverend Mark Cunningham, St. Francis De Sales Church, Herkimer; while Rabbi Ellen Brandwein, Temple Beth Joseph, Herkimer delivered the benediction.

Greetings and congratulatory remarks were offered by Congressman Michael A. Arcuri, Assemblyman Marc W. Butler, and Raymond Smith, Chairman of the Herkimer County Legislature. Robert Brenchley, President of the Herkimer County College Foundation, spoke on behalf of the Foundation; student trustee Yolanda Liu spoke on behalf of the student body; Professor of Social Science William Pelz represented the faculty; Timothy Dunn '00, Vice President of the HCCC Alumni Association, brought greetings from the alumni; and Dr. Dehlylly Porras, Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs, Raritan Valley Community College, a friend and former colleague of Dr. Murray, brought greetings.

Dr. Dennis Golladay, SUNY Vice Chancellor for Community Colleges, delivered remarks on behalf of the State University of New York and conducted the investiture. President Murray said "It is an honor to be entrusted with this institution, and I thank you for this opportunity that brings us all together today to celebrate Herkimer County Community College. I accept the mantle to lead this institution with enthusiasm and great joy."

- HCCC President Ann Marie Murray, Ph.D.

"It is an honor to be entrusted with this institution, and I thank you for this opportunity that brings us all together today to celebrate Herkimer County Community College. I accept the mantle to lead this institution with enthusiasm and great joy."



Murray's inaugural speech focused on themes of excellence, leadership, hope and optimism.

Murray was formerly vice president for academic affairs at Broome Community College. She also spent many years at Hudson Valley Community College where she held several academic dean positions, and taught mathematics for 19 years, moving up in rank from adjunct to full professor. She received her B.A. from Mount Saint Mary College, and several degrees from the University of Albany including an M.A., M.S., Certificate of Advanced Study and Ph.D.

Murray succeeds Dr. Ronald F. Williams, who retired in 2008 following 22 years of service. HCCC's founding president was Robert McLaughlin, who served from 1966-1986.

Originally from Poughkeepsie, NY, Murray and her husband John share five grown children and reside in the village of Herkimer.



City Boy Makes Good in the Country



Barry Lewis '80, Radio-TV Broadcasting

When Barry Lewis came across his old grade school report cards recently, he noted a common thread. The teachers' comments repeatedly said "Barry is a great storyteller, but he talks too much. If he would only pay more attention...." While he may not have had the best grades, Lewis put a lot of effort into what he was interested in—a career in communications, which eventually landed him a job as a newspaper editor, award-winning humor columnist and most recently, author.

Lewis is a regional newspaper editor and author of a new book, "From Brooklyn to Bucolic, the life of columnist Barry Lewis" from Royal Fireworks Press. It is a collection of some of his award-winning columns in the Times Herald-Record that for nearly a decade have made readers laugh, cry and will now embarrass his family forever. Lewis shares the growing pains of a Baby Boomer from entering the world of netless bathing suits to receiving obscene phone calls from his college son's pants.

Born in 1960, Lewis grew up in Brooklyn and spent every summer in the Catskills, where his father was an entertainer and his mom worked on her mahjong game. When he was 17, they moved to Sullivan County and he later worked as a waiter and busboy in area hotels.

A 1980 grad of HCCC's Radio-TV Broadcasting program, Lewis chose Herkimer based on the recommendation of his Liberty High School guidance counselor. "We made the three-hour trip in my Gremlin, which had no weight in the back, so I put cement blocks in the back to weigh it down in the snow. I never thought that if I stopped fast, I'd decapitate myself," Lewis said.

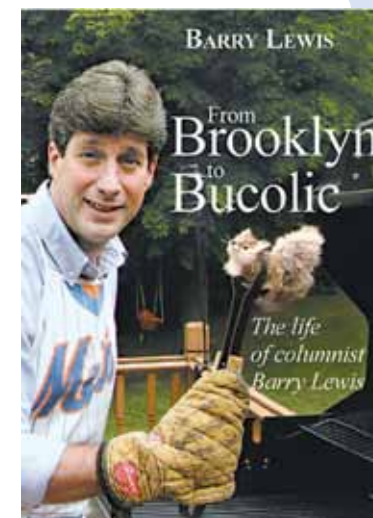
"There is no question that my two years at HCCC provided me with a solid academic and social foundation needed to succeed in the field of communications," Lewis said. "I also had the best time and made lifelong friends." While earning his degree, Lewis was co-editor with the former Mary Ann Fallon (now Associate Professor Mary Ann Carroll) on the Pacesetter, was program director at WHCR and earned 10 cents per inch of copy at the Herkimer Evening Telegram. "I covered HCCC

basketball for them, traveling with the team and Coach Jack Alofs. While covering the away games, I would get a free steak dinner with the team at Ponderosa...it was the good life!"

Lewis recalls Professor David Champoux as someone "who really allowed you to grow. He had a great sense of humor and he was always pressing you beyond the fundamentals...it made us better students. We took our major seriously," Lewis said. He fondly remembers the great camaraderie on Radio-TV Club trips to New York City, where students would see the taping of a tv show, take in a Broadway play and a Yankee game. His career aspirations were to be a sports reporter or play-by-play announcer, but after an internship at WCBS Newsradio 88 while earning his B.A. in communications at Marist College in Poughkeepsie, he moved on to a career as a newspaper reporter and editor.

Lewis worked as an editor at various daily newspapers in New York and Connecticut and was hired in 1999 as a regional editor for the Times Herald-Record that serves the Hudson Valley and Catskills. He lives in the dry town of Neversink (where you can find plenty of basement bars!) with his wife of 27 years, Bonnie and their three sons, Sean 24, and 21-year-old twins Daniel and Dustin, who are all attending college in New York State.

For the last nine years he has written a weekly column about the trials and tribulations of a one-time city lad who moves to the country. His humorous glimpse of family life will have your sides splitting with laughter. This year, Lewis received the New York State Newspaper Publishers Association



Excerpt from Barry Lewis' new book: "From Brooklyn to Bucolic, the life of columnist Barry Lewis"

(reprinted with permission from the author)

PARENTS KNOW COOKIE DOUGH IS A TOUGH SELL

"Say Bob, how about some cookie dough?"

"Cookie dough?"

"Sure, cookie dough. How about a three-pound pail of sugar cookie dough?"

"Gee Barry, that sounds like an awful lot of cookie dough."

"Bob, can you really have too much cookie dough? I mean, you've got the holidays coming up, weekends by the fire. Halloween."

"Yeah, but..."

"Right, it's the perfect treat for those little ghosts and goblins. And what better way to give them pep to go house after house after house than a handful of some fresh homemade sugar cookies, straight from your own three-pound supply of cookie dough?"

"Barry, are you selling this stuff?"

"Not for me. For my son. And I'm not really selling. More like helping out the high school band. You know, instruments, music. It's the cost of sending your kids to school."

"But Barry, didn't they just raise your taxes to cover that higher cost of sending your kids to school?"

"You know Bob, that's what I thought. But I guess it's not enough. Especially since they keep building. New auditorium. New cafeteria. New classrooms."

"But Barry, wasn't there a separate building project to pay for that construction?"

"Bob, what's a parent to do? So, how about those cookies?"

"That's a lot of sugar, Barry, isn't it?"

"Right you are, Bob. What was I thinking? For the same price, I'll order you three pounds of healthy oatmeal raisin cookie dough. You'll be the envy of the block."

To read the rest of the "cookie dough" column and other trials and tribulations of Barry's life, you can order his new book online at www.barrycolumns.com

Distinguished Column Writing Award. The award is based on the size of the newspaper (the Times Herald-Record has a circulation of 100,000) and Lewis was competing against writers from major dailies including the Albany Times Union.

HCCC Associate Professor of Radio-TV Broadcasting Mary Ann Carroll said "Of course, I can't think of Barry without breaking into a smile. He's always been a funny person and a talented writer. If I could see him anytime soon, I'd have to give him a giant hug and congratulate him -- mostly because I suppose Bonnie and his boys must be up for sainthood!"

His family, neighbors, friends and his own mishaps have provided fodder for his column. "Is there a line you don't cross, yes, and you know it when you get there," Lewis said. "I try to make my writing flow, as if we were sitting in a bar and I was telling you a story. Writing is easy, editing is hard." Lewis said his kids have been great sports about his using their lives as subject matter for his column. "In my house the boys get up and say 'off the record' instead of 'good morning'!

"The column is just fun. You don't realize the lives you've touched until people stop you on the street, send emails and let you know how much a certain column meant to them."

Lewis also speaks before many community and education groups, and in January was the keynote speaker at Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh for Parents' Weekend, discussing how to communicate with your college child.

He believes with the state of the economy, college kids today need to think outside the box. "I wanted to be an announcer, but I was realistic. I knew I didn't have the voice, and writing was my strength. I was impressed with what HCCC had to offer. A lot of what you get out of college is what you put into it." Lewis has certainly done well with his HCCC degree.

Herkimer Lacrosse Alumni and Legendary Coach Inducted into Hall of Fame



Former Herkimer County Community College lacrosse coach Paul Wehrum and former Generals players Fredrick Douglas Opie '83 and Butch Marino '85 were recently inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Men's Lacrosse Coaches Hall of Fame. On Friday, May 8 they were honored at a banquet with 350 people in attendance. The event was part of the NJCAA Men's Lacrosse Championship weekend hosted by HCCC.

Marino led HCCC to its first Region III championship and NJCAA Final Four appearances in 1984 and 1985. A midfielder from West Genesee High School, Marino earned All-American honors both seasons at Herkimer. He continued playing lacrosse at the University of Delaware where he was named first team all East Coast Conference in 1986 and 1987. Marino played club and professional lacrosse and for many years. In 1994, he was a member of world champion Team USA earning a gold medal. Marino said the banquet was a very special occasion and provided him an opportunity to rekindle old friendships. "I am honored to be inducted into the Hall of Fame with this class, especially with Coach Wehrum and Fred Opie." Currently a resident of Baltimore, Maryland, Marino is President of Innovative Health Strategies, LLC, a health care consulting company specializing in mergers and acquisitions.

Opie was an All-American defenseman for HCCC in 1982 and 1983, and went on to Syracuse University, playing in the 1984 and 1985 Division I national championship games. He also has won club championships with Long Island and Maryland Lacrosse Clubs and a World Championship with the Men's National Lacrosse Team in Perth Australia (1990). Currently he is faculty advisor for the Marist College Red Foxes men's lacrosse team and serves on the board of US Lacrosse. A graduate of Croton-Harmon High School in Westchester County, NY, Opie is an Associate Professor of History and Director of the African Program at Marist College, Poughkeepsie.

Wehrum began his lacrosse career as a crease attackman at Freeport High School on Long Island. At State University of New York College at Cortland, Wehrum was a three-time All-American attackman. He played for and captained the North squad in the 1972 North/South Collegiate All-Star game and received first-team SUNY Conference honors in 1970-72. Wehrum was assistant coach at Cortland in 1973, the year the team won the Division III NCAA Championship. He was an assistant coach at Lynbrook High School and Nassau Community College before moving on to Herkimer.

Wehrum coached the Herkimer Generals lacrosse team for 24 years, leading the Generals to 21 consecutive Region III championships and eight NJCAA national championships (1988-89, '92-96, 2003). He was inducted in the National Lacrosse Hall of Fame in 1999, the only junior college coach to ever receive this honor. Wehrum was named NJCAA Coach of the Year six times, and in 2003, he started the women's lacrosse program at HCCC. He served as president of the NJCAA Lacrosse Coaches Association for over ten years. Currently, Wehrum is head men's lacrosse coach at Union College where he led the team to break the record for the most wins in the program's history. Wehrum is extremely proud of the achievements of his former lacrosse players. "Many young men came to Herkimer as marginal students and left with degrees, scholarships to four-year colleges and universities, then went on to have successful careers and families," said Wehrum. The academic and career successes of Herkimer alumni are far more important to Wehrum than the athletic achievements. "Teaching and coaching at Herkimer was the most rewarding job I have had."



Coach 'Razz' Named Coach of the Year

HCCC baseball coach Jason Rathbun (known as Coach 'Razz') was named Coach of the Year for Region III and the Mountain Valley Conference. In five seasons, Rathbun has produced 145 career victories averaging over 29 wins per season. His 2006 team achieved Academic All-American status and made the school's first World Series appearance. In 2007, Herkimer made the World Series for the second season in a row where they went on to finish third in the national tournament held in Tyler, Texas. In 2008, Herkimer made a fourth straight trip to the Regional Final Four and received Academic All American Honors for a team GPA over 3.00. The 2009 team won the Mountain Valley Conference title and finished second in Region III.

Men's Tennis Player Wins Regional Championship

Freshman tennis player Corey Zoutman (Goshen, NY) won a Regional Championship in the first flight defeating the first flight player from Broome Community College. The scores were 0-6, 6-3 and 6-3. Zoutman went on to compete in the men's national tennis championship tournament in Plano, Texas where he won in his first round. Herkimer finished third at Regionals behind Onondaga Community College and Broome Community College.



All-American, All-Region and All-Conference Selections

Baseball

Nate Sanzo – 1st Team All Region/1st Team All Conference
 Andy Eggleston – 1st Team All Region/ 1st Team All Conference
 Amar Lewis - 1st Team All Region/1st Team All Conference
 Kris Barone – 1st Team All Conference
 Al Ferenti – 2nd Team All Region
 Chris Massar - 2nd Team All Region

Men's Lacrosse

JP Finn – 1st Team All American/1st Team All Region
 Doug Hoch – 1st Team All American/1st Team All Region
 Dan Solazzo – 2nd Team All American/2nd Team All Region
 Matt Daigle – 2nd Team All Region
 Andy Jamieson – All Conference
 Jeff Seager – All Conference
 Tom Szevein – All Conference
 Wayne Best – All Conference

Track & Field

Jen Lighthall – All Region
 Chantal Salamone – 2nd Team All-American /All Region

Women's Lacrosse

Lauren Pescetti – All Region
 Melissa Cleeton – 2nd Team All Region
 Melissa Tundo – 2nd Team All Region

Softball

Courtney Roberts – 2nd Team All Region
 Amber Swanston – 2nd Team All Region/1st Team All Conference
 Misty Mathias – 1st Team All Conference
 Chelsea Fancett – 1st Team All Conference
 Katelyn Vaneron – 2nd Team All Conference

Men's Tennis

Corey Zoutman – 1st Team All Region

Spring 2009 Athletic Awards



Men's soccer player **Lee Martins** (Bridgeport, CT), a senior, was named Male Athlete of the Year. Martins was named National Junior College Player of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA). He was also named Region III Player of the Year and selected as a first team All-American. He recorded 24 goals and had 16 assists for 64 points which placed him second in the nation for points.

Female track and field runner **Chantal Salamone** (Little Falls, NY) was named Female Athlete of the Year. Salamone, a senior, was a member of the 2008 women's track and field national championship team. She was also a national champion in the 100 meter hurdles, and named an All-American in 2008 and 2009.

Andrew Jamieson (Hagersville, Ontario) was awarded the Pop Walsh Award, an annual award given to the male student-athlete who displays the highest level of sportsmanship, dedication and commitment to his team and the athletic program. Jamieson was a freshman lacrosse player and has been named a captain for the 2010 season.

Christina Digristina (Utica) received the Nancy Fabozzi Award, given to the female student-athlete who displays the highest level of sportsmanship, dedication and commitment to her team and the College's athletic program. A senior, Digristina was a two-sport athlete competing in soccer and lacrosse.

The Male Scholar Athlete Award was earned by senior **Nick Bloom** (Chittenango). Senior swimmer **Kelcy Newman** (Newport, NY) received the Female Scholar Athlete Award. These awards are given to the athlete with the highest GPA and a minimum of 45 credit hours earned.

Three Athletes Receive SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award

Three HCCC students received the 2008-09 SUNY Chancellor's Scholar Athlete Award, the highest award given to a student-athlete in the State University, recognizing a combination of outstanding academic excellence and superior athletic achievement. The recipients are Courtney Roberts (West Winfield), women's soccer and women's softball; Chantal Salamone (Little Falls), women's track and field; and Kurt Vowell (Palmyra), men's track and field. "These students are role models for other students here at Herkimer and throughout the state. I am very proud of their academic success and the significant contributions they have made to the College and community," said Director of Athletics Donald Dutcher. To be considered for this award, student-athletes had to be nominated by their athletic directors. Nominees then had their academic credentials and athletic accomplishments reviewed by athletic directors from across the State University system. Recipients of this award have an average GPA of 3.66.

HCCC Basketball Alum Honored

Former HCCC women's basketball player Michele Davis '95, New Hartford, was inducted into Notre Dame Junior-Senior High School's Brother More Sports Hall of Fame at a banquet held on May 28. At HCCC, Davis was a two-time All-American and two-time Region III Player of the Year. She went on to play two NCAA Division II seasons at University at Albany. She is a women's basketball coach at Utica College where she has a 136-99 record, including two league titles and the school's first trip to the NCAA tournament since 1985.



Alumni Soccer Game

The seventh annual Herkimer Generals Alumni Soccer Game was held at HCCC's Wehrum Stadium on Saturday, May 30. Former players returned to HCCC from throughout New York State and Georgia, Massachusetts, Maine and France. "It is always great to get the Herkimer soccer family back together again," said men's soccer coach Pepe Aragon. "I love to see players from all of the different classes reminisce about the good old days." Front row from left: Chris Douglass '01, Casey Bartlett '07, Jim Vanderbeck '91, Pete Bojlevski '92, Frank Barbuto '93, Leo Santos '07, Damion Bennett '01 and Mike Capes '02. Back row from left: Don Dutcher '90 (HCCC Athletics Director), Julien Fruitier '00, Ryan Brooks '09, Rick Mussi '95, Dave Persons '91, Mike Fornino, Corey Smith '90, Pepe Aragon '91 (HCCC Men's Soccer Coach), Kevin Mellon '01, Mike Murphy '03, Richie Francis '02, Jason Palkovic '04 (HCCC Men's Soccer Assistant Coach), Andy Davis '00 and Jason Doi '06. Not pictured are: Petersone Jerome, John Rutherford (HCCC Assistant Coach 1999-2003) and David Jalowiec '75.

Baseball and Softball Teams Capture Mountain Valley Conference Championships

The 2009 Herkimer Generals baseball team won the Mountain Valley Conference title and finished the regular season fourth in the nation with a 33-10 overall record. They fell short of their goal to play in the JUCO World Series this year, but went out fighting as they fell in the Region III championship game to Niagara County Community College 10-2.

The softball team also captured the Mountain Valley Conference championship this year. The team finished the season with an overall record of 19-12 and a Conference record of 13-1.

FOUNDATION ANNUAL RAFFLE

Proceeds to benefit the works of the Herkimer County College Foundation, Inc., including student scholarships



Grand Prize
2009 Harley-Davidson
Road King Classic
or \$12,500 CASH

Tickets are \$10.
Only 5,000 tickets
available for sale.

Tickets will be sold until the time of the drawing, to be held at the HCCC Independence Day Celebration July 2, 2009

For more information call:
Herkimer County College Foundation
315-866-0300 ext. 8459

CLASS OF 1976

Nancy Gibbs Worsinger, Rocky Mount, NC graduated from SUNY Geneseo in 1978 and Ellis Hospital School of Medical Technology in Schenectady in 1979. She lived in Philadelphia, PA from 1979-1985 where she met and married Richard Worsinger.

Worsinger earned her M.S. in medical technology from the Medical College of PA in 1987. The couple moved to Moorestown, NJ then relocated to Rocky Mount, NC in 2001. They have two children, a son at Eastern Carolina University and a daughter at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Worsinger has held a variety of positions during her career, including point of care coordinator at Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia; training specialist at DuPont Medical, Delaware and laboratory manager at Tarboro Clinic, North Carolina. She recently accepted a position as lead instructor of allied health at Nash Community College in Rocky Mount, where her HCCC diploma hangs proudly on her office wall!

CLASS OF 1980

Sharon Tricarico Grafmuller, Whitesboro, NY married Paul Grafmuller ('79) in 1982. They have two children, Matthew (23) and Alexa (20). They host a reunion weekend

every summer. This year it will be held August 14-16, 2009 as Paul celebrates his 50th birthday. Please contact the Grafmullers if you knew them at HCCC and would like to take part in the festivities: shatrigra@verizon.net.

Maria Rodriguez McCarthy, Hyde Park, NY earned a B.S. from SUNY New Paltz in 1981. She is employed by Ulster County BOCES as food service director. McCarthy said, "I have many enjoyable memories of HCCC. I especially remember my professors, Mr. Smith and Mr. Mason."

Tina Swears DeMarsh, Hartford, NY is owner of North Country Tours and Saratoga Sightseeing. She is in her 21st year of business. www.northcountrytours.com.

CLASS OF 1981

Raymond Johnson, Eatontown, NJ earned an M.S. in telecommunications systems management from Capitol College in May 1999. He is a security engineer for Qinetiq, N.A. in Fort Monmouth, NJ.

Joseph E. Mead, Utica, NY earned a B.S. from SUNYIT in 1983 and an M.S. from Albany Medical Center in 1993.

CLASS OF 1983

Michele Sebring, Hernando, FL is employed with Children's Home Society of Florida Family Team Coaching Program as

a program counselor. She enjoys her work, assisting families with learning skills that will help them be healthy and safe from child abuse and neglect.

CLASS OF 1987

Penny Aney Haggerty, Herkimer, NY is vice president of nursing services at Mohawk Valley Nursing Home in Ilion, NY.

CLASS OF 1990

George Hoskey, College Park, MD and his wife Curry welcomed their first child, Isaac Wasyl Hoskey on November 5, 2008. They live outside Washington, D.C. with their son, three dogs and two cats. Hoskey is a history and psychology instructor at Fairmount Heights High School in Prince George's County, MD, where he is also the volleyball coach.

CLASS OF 1991

Joseph Crisino, Mohawk, NY welcomed a second child, daughter Marissa on December 29, 2008. She joins her older brother Anthony, age 3.

Mary Muzzy Porter, Fort Collins, CO runs an agency foster home.

CLASS OF 1992

Michael Dudish, Charlotte, NC is working as a quality control administrator at Lions Services.

CLASS OF 1995

Daniela Giacomelli, Baldwinsville, NY and Chris VanGour ('94) welcomed their second son, Marco Van Gour on August 6, 2008.

CLASS OF 1996

Martin Benedict, Webster, FL married in 2002. He has been employed by the Walmart Distribution Center in Brooksville, FL for the past 10 years.

CLASS OF 1997

Tyler Donaldson, Asheville, NC has a daughter, Harper Louise Donaldson, born August 9, 2008. Donaldson is online media director for Darby Communications, a boutique PR firm for the outdoor industry.

CLASS OF 1998

Michael Wright, North Syracuse, NY received a B.S. in criminal justice from SUC at Brockport in 2000. He is a probation officer in Madison County. He and his wife have a daughter, Katie.

CLASS OF 1999

Brian Pluff, Lincoln, ME continued his education in human resource management, and is employed as a construction manager for Barr and Barr Builders. He said "the only reason I had a chance at this job was my Herkimer education in construction technology." His first project with the firm was the Syracuse University Life Science complex and the Colgate University Science Center. His current project is building a cancer care center in Maine. You can see Pluff's work at www.bpcnumber2.com.

Mindy Malagisi Zubal, Canajoharie, NY married in August 2008. The couple has two sons, three years old and three months old.

CLASS OF 2000

Julien Fruitier, Cogolin, Var, France and his wife Stephanie had their second daughter, Gaby Marie Beth on February 17, 2009.

CLASS OF 2001

Kevin Mellon, North Bridgton, ME attended SUC at Potsdam where he played soccer in 2001 and 2002, was the leading scorer and team captain, and assistant men's soccer coach in 2003. He graduated from Potsdam in 2004. He was previously employed by North Country Community College as athletic facilities manager, assistant and then head women's soccer coach. Mellon was selected to the Empire State Games Adirondack Region from 2005-2007. In June 2008 he was hired by Bridgton Academy as head men's soccer coach, dorm parent and teacher. It is the only all male one-year postgraduate prep school in the country.

Brent Ruge, Easton, PA is teaching health and physical education at Town of Clinton Middle School in Clinton, NJ. He is working on his master's in education, plays soccer and coaches boys basketball, girls volleyball, golf and boys lacrosse.

CLASS OF 2002

Kimberly Gravelle, Norfolk, NY is a worker's compensation paralegal at Lekki Hill Fischer & Dupney in Canton.

CLASS OF 2004

Kimberly Dunne, Utica, NY is a communications specialist at the Girl Scouts—Foothills Council. She handles media relations, updates the website and writes a newsletter and annual report. Dunne also works part-time at Lite 98.7 WLZW Utica-Rome as a DJ.

Matthew Bowman, Mt. Pleasant, SC is a ticket sales executive with South Carolina Stingrays, a professional hockey team and ECHL affiliate of the Washington Capitals. He is married to Alison Brockway Bowman ('04).

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:

Robert J. White, 59, Herkimer, NY, Class of 1975, passed away March 17, 2009 in Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester following a long illness. He was a proud U.S. Navy veteran, serving from 1968-1972. White was last employed as a toll collector for the New York State Thruway.

James Davis, 65, New Hartford, NY, Class of 1976, died December 9, 2008 at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica. He was most recently employed by the Shenandoah Golf Course at the Turning Stone Resort and Casino.

Cynthia (Epstein) Katz, Herkimer, NY, Class of 1984, passed away suddenly and peacefully on February 24, 2009. Her obituary read "graduating from Herkimer County Community College at age 54 was a source of pride." She was a teacher aide in the Herkimer School District.

Kim Scott Torbitt, 54, Clinton, NY, Class of 1988, died unexpectedly at St. Elizabeth Medical Center, Utica on November 21, 2008. He was employed by the Mohawk Valley Hospital in Ilion as a computer technician before moving to Clinton.

Ralph Clark Witt IV, 32, Utica, NY, Class of 1998, passed away after a long illness on May 24, 2009 at Bassett Healthcare Center in Cooperstown, NY. He was a legal specialist for Legal Works in Clinton, NY.

ALUMNI UPDATE

RETURN FORM TO: Alumni Association, HCCF, 100 Reservoir Road, Herkimer, NY 13350 or casaleva@herkimer.edu

NAME: _____ CLASS OF: _____
LAST FIRST MAIDEN

ADDRESS _____

COUNTY _____

PHONE _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

EMAIL _____

UPDATE INFORMATION _____

ALUMNI DUES

I would like to join the Alumni Association. My \$25 check (payable to HCCC Alumni Association) is enclosed for a one-year membership; \$250 for a lifetime membership.



Herkimer County Community College invites
Students, Parents, Families,
Alumni and the Community to attend



Fall Fest 2009

October 3

11 a.m.

5K Run and Family Fun Walk

12-4 p.m.

Motorcycle, Antique Tractor and Classic Car
Show in the College Center parking lot

4 p.m.

Movie Matinee

Transformers—Revenge of the Fallen
RMCC 247

Hayrides, Music, Games,
Food and Much More!

For more information and a complete schedule,
visit our website:
www.herkimer.edu/fallfest
or contact the Student Activities Office
(315) 866-0300 x 8286

Give Back or Pay It Forward

(Which ever way you choose to look at it, giving to
Herkimer is a sound investment for the future.)

The value of a gift to Herkimer is immeasurable. For many students, Herkimer County Community College presents the only affordable option to begin their college careers. Last year, over \$120,000 was awarded in scholarships to HCCC students. Your gift will provide the means to award more scholarships addressing the College's mission of offering access to quality, affordable lifelong learning opportunities.

When making the important decision of how and when to make your gift, there are many choices available to you for structuring a donation in a manner that will allow for the maximum impact both for your benefit and for the College. Gifts can be made to address important issues that are a priority to the College today or can be arranged to have a lasting impact in years to come.

Give **Today** through:

- Cash Gifts
- Gifts of Property
- Gifts of Personal Property

or

Give **Tomorrow** through:

- Your Will
- Gifts of Insurance
- Deferred Gifts

For more information regarding planned giving, please
contact the Foundation Office at 315-866-0300 ext. 8459.

Our students thank you.

ROBERT H. WOOD

Great Artists
SERIES

presents:

STRADIVARI QUARTET

Please join us on

Friday, October 23, 2009 at 8:00 pm

for the next concert in the Robert H. Wood Great Artists Series.

Tickets \$10, HCCC students free with valid ID

Call (315) 866-0300, ext. 8700 for reserved seating



Alumni Association
Herkimer County College Foundation
100 Reservoir Road
Herkimer, NY 13350

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Upcoming HCCC Events

Independence Day Celebration

July 2, 2009
HCCC Campus

Fall Fest 2009

October 3, 2009
Begins at 11 a.m.
HCCC Campus

Robert H. Wood

Great Artists Series Concert
Stradivari Quartet
October 23, 2009 8pm
Robert McLaughlin College Center

College Open House

October 24, 2009 9am-2pm
Robert McLaughlin College Center

33rd Herkimer County Arts & Crafts Fair

November 14 & 15, 2009
Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm
Robert McLaughlin College Center