

The Cayuga **SPARTAN**

CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

FALL 2022



Commencement Moves to Falcon Park
Foundation Celebrates 40 Years
New Scholarship Funds
Auburn Community Hospital
Sponsors Angel Fund

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A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

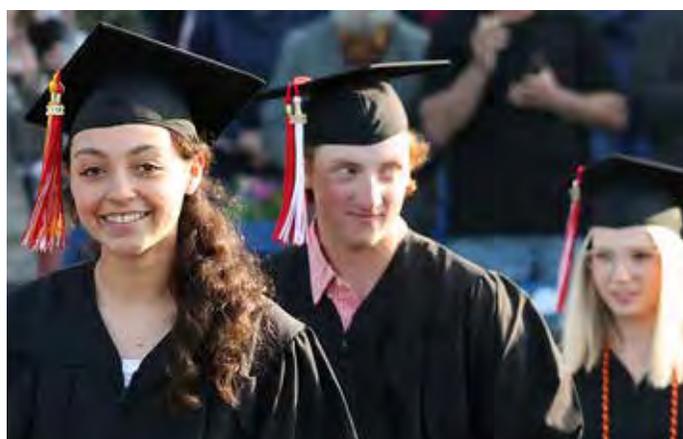
After the past two-plus years, this semester is what we've waited for. With each passing day, our campuses are returning to a pre-pandemic atmosphere. More students are back on-campus for in-person classes, activities are drawing students, and our entire campus community has a palpable sense of excitement. It's amazing to see.

As you'll read in this edition of *The Spartan*, it's been an incredible year for Cayuga. This year saw the ribbon cutting for our Advanced Manufacturing Institute at the Fulton Campus. This state-of-the-art facility is the product of several years' work by our College leadership and faculty, and we were greatly assisted by our fantastic partnerships with Huhtamaki, Novelis, and other manufacturing leaders in Central New York. By continuing to work with these partners and developing a forward-thinking curriculum, we can serve our students and our manufacturing industry for years to come.

Across the College, programs introduced over the past two years are thriving. Our Human Services program has surpassed all enrollment projections, with students learning from faculty in the classroom and working with community agencies in the field. At the Culinary Institute, our students are learning the skills needed to succeed in the hospitality industry. In athletics, we launched two new programs this fall, Esports and Clay Target, both of which gave students new opportunities to get involved. We're excited to see these new academic and athletic programs grow in the upcoming semesters.

Lastly, we welcomed several new members to our Board of Trustees, and they have already made a positive impact at our College. Attorney Angela Winfield, Cayuga County Legislator Tricia Kerr, and local author and entrepreneur Mark Coleman all joined our board since our last edition of *The Spartan*. They have each brought new ideas and perspectives to the challenges and opportunities awaiting Cayuga. Our new student trustee, Grace Wiseman, is passionate about Cayuga and committed to revitalizing opportunities for students to connect on-campus. We are fortunate to have them as trustees and leaders at our College.

The past several years have been fraught with unimaginable difficulties for all of us, but your continued support for Cayuga despite these traumas has been remarkable. Thank you for your belief in our College, our mission and our students. I wish you a happy, successful rest of 2022, and I look forward to sharing more news with you in 2023.



About the cover

Members of Cayuga Community College's Class of 2022 process to their seats at the start of the College's 2022 Commencement. The ceremony was the first commencement exercise the College has held at Falcon Park, with attendees enjoying a sunny day and the chance to see their graduate cross the stage on the field.

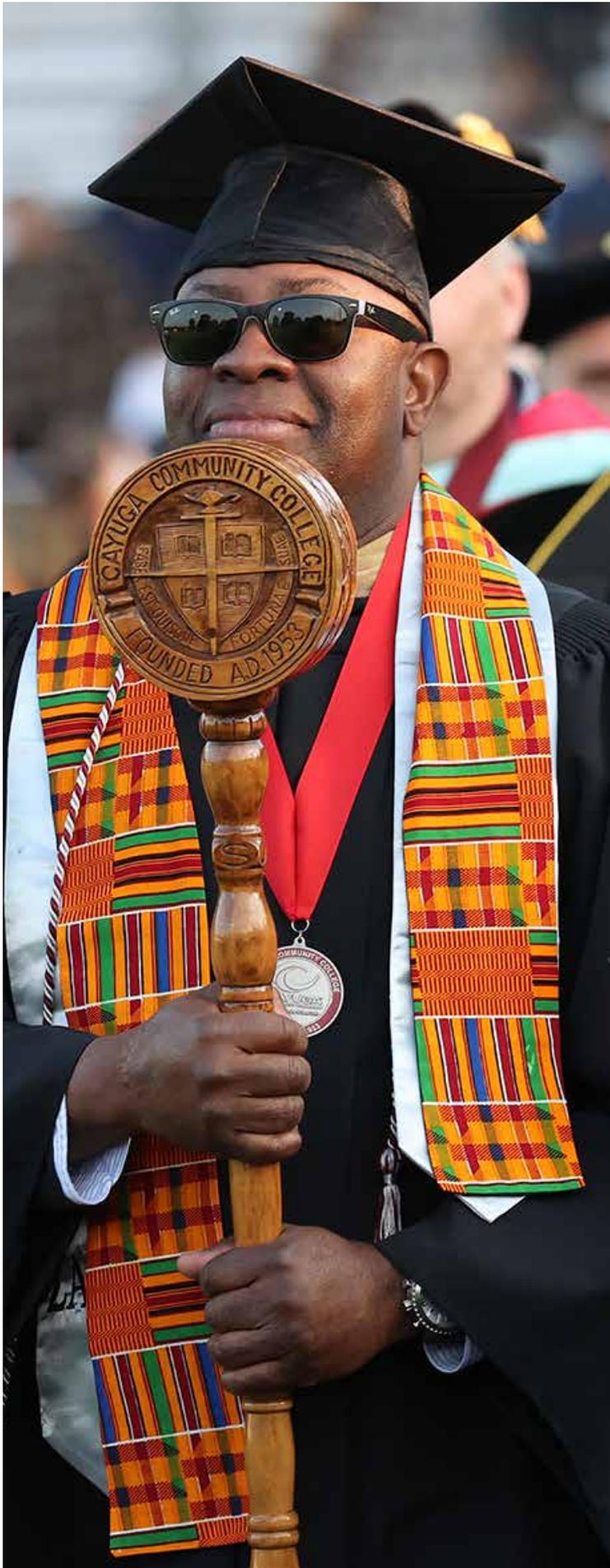
SPARTAN NEWS CONTRIBUTORS

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Contributors: **Ginny Kent '82**, Kia Larsen, Andrew Poole

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Cayuga Community College was thrilled to return to an in-person Commencement Ceremony on May 19th and hold it at Falcon Park for the first time. Over 125 students received their degrees in front of family, friends and our faculty and staff. President Durant told those graduating, “What other class has shown such strength in overcoming these dispiriting, traumatic years to reach this point? That is easy: None!” He told those in attendance, “Do not settle for anything less than the life you dreamed of. Achieving this will not come easy, nor will it materialize by chance. It will come by following the values you practiced and learned here at Cayuga, those of hard work, commitment and a generosity of spirit you showed your classmates and professors.”

We are proud of our graduates and how they met the challenges of the last two years!



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2021 – 2022

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FROM THE FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

This year marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Cayuga County Community College Foundation. A small group of civic and philanthropic minded individuals, with the leadership of Daniel Labeille, who would become the Foundation's first Executive Director, created an organization with a small corpus (less than \$2,000) in 1982 that has grown to nearly \$17 million over the past four decades.

During the intervening years the Foundation has developed a strong and successful set of scholarships and Commencement Awards to help students to access the high-quality education that Cayuga provides, as well as assisting in several other areas. They have ranged from funding cultural events for our students and the community at large and capital projects to purchasing property on behalf of the College so that it could expand and purchasing much needed equipment for educational purposes. As times have changed, the Foundation has also changed, recently expanding our Presidential Scholarship Program to increase enrollment at Cayuga and providing additional aid through scholarships to our students.

This Fall we are kicking off our Annual Appeal, "40 For 40" focused on raising \$40,000 to assist the College in our 40th year, and we hope you can help us – you can read more about it on Page 16 of this edition of The Spartan.

We are delighted to welcome **Amanda Stankus '03** and Meghan Stapleton Steenburgh to the Foundation Board. They were unanimously elected to our Board this Spring. Ms. Stankus continues as the President of our Alumni Association and has been a long-time cheerleader for the College and our Alumni programs. She is joined by Ms. Stapleton Steenburgh, who has a deep appreciation for Cayuga, having a father who served on the Foundation Board and a mother who worked for decades at the College. You can read more about them across from this page.

The Foundation has seen many changes over the years and we are in the middle of a major change right now. After nearly five years with the Foundation, **Ginny Kent '82**, our Associate Director of Development and Director of Alumni Affairs, has decided to retire. While nearly half of her time here was during the pandemic, she always made it a point to keep our Alumni front and center in her work and making sure that every opportunity to help students with scholarships has been made available.

Anyone who knows Ginny Kent knows that her focus has always been people, and that interest has been a terrific asset to the Foundation. Even though she is retiring from her day-to-day work with us, she has also offered to help us after she leaves while continuing her work as an Auburn City Councilor.

We are happy to have Kia Larsen of Southern Cayuga County join our team. She brings a wealth of experience to the Foundation with a background in higher education at Wells College, the private sector and County government. One of her first projects for us is the upcoming 47th Annual Craft Fair at the Auburn Campus the first weekend of December.

We hope you are safe and well,

Guy Thomas Cosentino

Executive Director



Amanda Stankus, Esq.

Amanda Stankus, '03 was recently appointed to the Foundation Board of Directors for a three-year term, effective 2022-2023. She also serves as President of the Alumni Association.

Ms. Stankus is a 2003 magna cum laude graduate of Cayuga Community College. While enrolled at CCC, she graduated from Wells College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology.

In 2007, Ms. Stankus received her law degree from Oklahoma City University School of Law and is a licensed attorney in both Oklahoma and New York. Ms. Stankus practices general law, as well as providing legal counsel to indigent individuals through the Cayuga County



Assigned Counsel Program. She also serves as the Legal Clinic Attorney for Cayuga/Onondaga BOCES, guiding students through criminal cases.

In addition to the ACC/CCC Alumni Association Board, Ms. Stankus has served on several other boards including the Women's Republican Committee, the Community Preservation Committee, and the Cayuga County Red Cross. She has worked as office manager for Dr. Richard P. Stankus, with offices in

Auburn and Liverpool, since 2010. She lives in Auburn with her husband, Jamie Walters, and their daughter.

Meghan Stapleton Steenburgh

Meghan Stapleton Steenburgh was recently named to the Foundation Board of Directors for a three-year term, effective 2022-2023.

She spent her formative years growing up in Auburn, NY. She learned from the best at CCC, including Don Fama (Calculus), Harry Greer (Marine Biology), and Steve Keeler (Radio Broadcasting). Meghan holds an M.S. in Broadcast Journalism from the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University and a B.A. in Government from Georgetown University. She is currently a Juris Doctoral candidate and Merit Scholar at the Syracuse University College of Law.

Her current studies follow a career in broadcast journalism, private corporate communications work, state government, and national politics. Her foray into broadcast journalism began with Professor Keeler's class and led to the Master's degree. From there, she spent roughly a decade producing, reporting, and anchoring newscasts from Utica, NY, to Allentown, PA, and then Anchorage, AK. Though she earned a regional Emmy nomination for a post 9/11 piece and a regional Edward R. Murrow award for a tragic accident in the Gulf of Alaska, she is best known for getting run over by a reindeer (Blitzen) in North Pole, Alaska, as she prepared to report on Santa's upcoming travels around the world.



Her service to Cayuga Community College follows decades of a deeply rooted family commitment to the college. She carries on the tradition of service to the college among the Karpinski, Stapleton, and Steenburgh families. Both of her grandfathers served on various boards at the college

as well as her late father, T. David Stapleton, Jr. And her mother, Helene Karpinski Stapleton, served with distinction as Associate Professor and Coordinator of Disability Services. Notably, She and her siblings established a scholarship at CCC, in their parents' honor, to recognize the importance of education and the strong educational opportunities provided by the college for the community. Finally, her father-in-law, Thomas F. Steenburgh, a cherished member of the college community, served as a Professor and Academic Dean before his untimely death.

In addition to her work for the Foundation Board, her community involvement centers around the College of Law, including service as an Academic Success Fellow and Ambassador for the law school. She is also an active alum of Georgetown University and an invited member of the Cohen Group's Women in National Security.

Personally, she is an accomplished harpist and has competed in numerous mountain running and road running events. She lives in Virginia with her husband, Eric Steenburgh, and their four children.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUND SUPPORTING BUSINESS, CULINARY STUDENTS AT CAYUGA

A new scholarship fund established by a local family will support a student each year in Cayuga Community College's Business Administration and/or Culinary Arts programs.

Started by a generous donation from Auburn residents **Dan '76** and **Karol Soules**, the Heart and Soules Scholarship will be awarded annually, with primary consideration given to applicants in financial need.



Dan '76 and **Karol Soules** with Foundation Executive Director Guy Thomas Cosentino, Foundation President John Latanyshyn, Board of Trustees President **Anthony Franceschelli '78** and Foundation Board Vice President Dr. Dennis Golladay.

HEART AND SOULES DEFINING GLORY BY SERVING

As proud members of the greater Auburn community, the Soules have worked tirelessly to support community-minded agencies. Dan Soules has spent almost five decades as a leader in Auburn's business community. His work as a residential and commercial developer included building numerous restaurants, medical, golf, pharmaceutical and office projects.

An avid supporter of education, Karol Soules started her career as a high school math teacher who eventually spent nine years on the Auburn Enlarged City School District's Board of Education, including three as president. She was an Odyssey of the Mind coach for 13 years and served as a board member on the Auburn Education Foundation.

Dan Soules was a key supporter during the period that the Culinary Institute was established. His team led the development of the space at 161 Genesee Street in Auburn and he lent decades of experience in business and development to the project.

***Dan & Karol Soules
Life Philosophy:
"True success can be defined by meeting your life's ambition. Recognizing one has arrived by combining family, career, and community within your actions in your mind; not dictated by that of others and realizing that reaching the pinnacle of success is controlled by only you. Knowing the journey of perceived success has kept you grounded, now you have controlled your destiny".***

Welcoming the first class in 2021, Cayuga's Culinary Arts Program combines classroom instruction and hands-on training to master food preparation, presentation, and menu design. Students practice their skills in the state-of-the-art Culinary Institute and must complete internships to prepare for the next step in their career and earn a Degree.

"The civic commitment and leadership of the Soules has been a tremendous asset to Central New York and their dedication to education has been shown by their time, as well as their philanthropic efforts and support. The Heart and Soules Scholarship Fund is a fitting legacy from a dedicated couple," said Foundation Executive Director Guy Thomas Cosentino.

The scholarship was made available, for the first time, for the Fall 2022 semester. The recipient, Jonathan Dickquist, said "I am grateful for receiving the Heart and Soules scholarship. It has helped me tremendously concerning my finances and college, allowing me more time to focus on my education and future. Thank you for this opportunity."



AUBURN COMMUNITY HOSPITAL SPONSORS ANGEL FUND

Photo courtesy of Auburn Community Hospital.



Pictured from left are Cayuga Board Chair and Auburn Community Hospital (ACH) Board Chair Tony Franceschelli; Cayuga Community College Foundation Executive Director Guy Cosentino; Sarah Lormand, ACH Director of Emergency Care Unit/Urgent Care Clinics, Critical Care Unit and Staff Development; ACH Vice President of Nursing Amber Sitterly; ACH Vice President of Quality Management Adeline Gunger; Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services Tammy Sunderlin; ACH President & CEO Scott Berlocchi; and Cayuga Community College President and ACH Board member Dr. Brian Durant.

A new fund sponsored by Auburn Community Hospital (ACH) provides financial support for students in the Nursing Program at both Cayuga Community College campuses. The money is used to help nursing students meet expenses associated with the Nursing Program that are not covered by traditional scholarships.

The Hospital donated \$7,500 to establish the Angel Fund in 2022.

“Auburn Community Hospital’s commitment to our nursing students is extremely generous,” said Guy Thomas Cosentino, the Executive Director of the Cayuga Community College Foundation. “By creating the Angel Fund, they are assisting our students who have been hit with ever-increasing gas prices and other expenses. This fund helps defray students’ costs to go to and from

their clinicals at Auburn Community Hospital or in Syracuse. Auburn Community Hospital is a vital part of our community and their support to help our nursing candidates focus on their studies and what they need to graduate says much about how great a partner they are. The hospital’s additional help with our Pinning Ceremony will create lasting memories for our nursing graduates and their families.”

“The College’s Nursing Program is exceptional, and ACH has been the beneficiary of numerous nurses who have graduated from this program. Our goal is to continue building our relationship with nursing students from Cayuga and to have a position waiting for them when they graduate. We believe that these nursing students understand the value of being able to care for their friends and families at a community hospital that provides numerous opportunities for nurses to build a career locally. We hope this fund helps nursing students with their expenses and allows them to focus on being amazing nurses,” stated Scott A. Berlocchi, President and CEO, Auburn Community Hospital.

“Students in our Nursing Program are unwavering in their dedication to earning a degree and being an integral member of our health care community, but there are times when financial situations arise that create challenges for students,” said Cayuga Nursing Director Mary Driscoll.

“This fund alleviates some concerns and helps students remain focused on their goals. On behalf of our program and students, we appreciate the support of the Auburn Community Hospital.”

Faculty in the College’s Nursing Program recommend recipients for the Angel Fund, coordinating these efforts with the College Foundation. Funding is available to any student enrolled in the Nursing Program.

Auburn Community Hospital is the sole provider of acute and general hospital services in Cayuga County and its neighboring counties. The Hospital serves a population of 80,000, and emphasizes high-quality patient care and communication, promoting wellness through education, and commitment to excellence of service.



CAYUGA OPENS ADVANCED MANUFACTURING INSTITUTE ON FULTON CAMPUS

Cayuga Community College formally opened its Fulton Advanced Manufacturing Institute (AMI) on May 5th, celebrating a new facility geared toward supporting the current and future workforce as well as regional employers.

to provide them the experience they need for their career,” said Cayuga President Dr. Brian Durant. “Thank you to our community partners, who saw the promise of the AMI and worked with us to see this project through to its completion.”

joining forces with each other, and with Cayuga Community College, to help provide a level of training to students that will enable them to step into the workforce as strong contributors,” Novelis and Huhtamaki leaders said in a joint statement. “By developing a skilled workforce and providing quality jobs, we can create a brighter future for our entire community. We look forward to seeing all that the students will accomplish!”

Located adjacent to the College’s primary building on the Fulton Campus, the AMI is a 7,800 square foot facility that features industrial power and networking to support training units in pneumatics, hydraulics, motors, piping and industry-grade programmable logic controls stations, and a classroom for instruction.

Available space contiguous to the AMI also presents an opportunity for future development as Cayuga’s manufacturing programs expand. The College already offers several certificate programs that will utilize the facility, and with local industry support is actively researching establishing new degrees to address the skills trades.

Programs available through the AMI will feature flexible, diverse curriculums designed to offer students excellent instruction and training to start their careers. A broad range of stackable certifications and credentials combining workshops, credit and non-credit opportunities and apprenticeships will be available.

To further support manufacturing programs at Cayuga, Huhtamaki sponsored a new scholarship available to up to five students enrolling in a degree, certificate or microcredential in

Continued on page 19



New York Assembly Minority Leader Will Barclay, second from left, visited the AMI over the summer to discuss manufacturing in Central New York. Joining him were Novelis’ Director of Human Resources in Automotive Operations, Andrew Quinn; Cayuga Vice President of Workforce Development and Partnerships Dr. Keiko Kimura; Cayuga instructor Jeff Marier; and Huhtamaki Plant Manager Mark Southwick.

Situated on the College’s Fulton Campus, the AMI is designed to support students seeking a degree or certificate, as well as members of the workforce who are looking for short-term training to advance their career or learn a new skill. Credit and non-credit classes started in the AMI in the spring of 2022, with a full semester of classes starting in the fall.

“The Advanced Manufacturing Institute will play a pivotal role in preparing the current and future workforce to continue the proud manufacturing tradition in Oswego County and Central New York. At the institute, students will enjoy exceptional instruction and hands-on learning designed

“Our Advanced Manufacturing Institute is a unique facility that will support students and the workforce but also employers looking for skilled employees who are ready to contribute on their first day,” said Dr. Keiko Kimura, Cayuga’s Vice President of Workforce Development and Partnerships. “We’re confident students and those seeking short-term training will find the AMI an invaluable resource as they take the next step in their education or career.”

“Strong partnerships are key to growing and developing the next generation of manufacturing innovators right here in Central New York. Novelis and Huhtamaki are committed to

Kaeleigh Sciria
Cayuga Presidential Scholar
December 2021 Graduate

"I appreciate the efforts (the college) is making to keep everyone safe during the Covid-19 pandemic. All the professors and staff at the college have been nothing but wonderful and helpful. Thank you all!"



2020 – 2021 FISCAL YEAR DONOR LIST*

**We have made every attempt to list donor information accurately. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you please contact us at alumni@cayuga-cc.edu with any corrections. The 2021-2022 Donor List will appear in the 2022 Annual Report and the 2023 Spring Spartan.*

**Presidents' Circle,
 Laureate – \$25,000 and above**

Edward Dean '63
 DE French Foundation
 Stanley Metcalf Foundation

**Presidents' Circle,
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Dixon G. & Mary L. Blodgett Charitable Trust
 Columbian Foundation, Inc.
 Sharon Detzer '86
 Estate of Arthur H. Foresman
 Fulton Savings Bank
 Harry W. and Dorothy T. George Charitable Trust
 Dr. Karpinski Sr. Foundation
 The Jacobs Press

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Patricia Callahan
 Guy and Crystal Cosentino
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 Dr. Brian Durant

**Patricia T. Finkle '65 and
 Ms. Willie Testa**

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 John and Nancy Karpinski

**Douglas Kinney '80
 Richard and Barbara Knaul '63
 Edwin Lewis '78**

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 Margaret and Edith Morin '94
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 Mary Shamon

**Eric and Meghan Steenburgh
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 Myrna Sullivan**

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 Sarah Drennen '03/ Benevity Community Impact
 Cayuga County Office of Tourism
 Elmer Cherry
 Daniel Cuddy '82

D. Diane and Dennis Eldred
 GE Foundation
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 Margot Hood-Rodgers
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**Larry McEver '69
 Kevin and Miriam Moynihan
 Mary Mullane**

Prof. Sheila Myers
 Marie Nellenback
 Martin Nodzo '64

Shannon Patrie
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 James '66 and Daria '66 Shaw
 Robert L. '71 and Kathleen M. '67 (Petz) Steigerwald

**Verizon Foundation
 Mark Weslowski**

Associate – \$250 to \$499
 Auburn Police Union Local 195
 Richard Babiarz

**Dorothy Benedict '67
 Blackbaud Giving Fund
 Marian Brown, Trustee Chair
 Cayuga County Medical Society**

**Thomas Corcoran '73
 Kevin Daly '70**
 (Continued on page 14)

ACC/CCC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



L-R: Jason Wally Meyers '16, Robert Smith '77, Timothy Rice '77, Nicholas Valenti '66, Lisa Chelenza '92, Thomas White '92, Gerard Martin '67. Missing: Alisha Dymond Burnett '09

The ACC/CCC Alumni Association and Cayuga County Community College Foundation was able, for the first time in three years, to present its annual awards to alumni who have made a difference in their communities, professions and the lives of others.

Seven of our eight award winners were present at Prison City North for a reception where their nominators were able to present the nominees for the classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022. Over 90 people attended the reception and while it was humid and rained a bit, it did not dampen the spirit of the attendees.

Three graduates of Auburn Community College/Cayuga Community College were named Alumni Association Award recipients for 2022, **Alisha Dymond Burnett '09**, **Jason “Wally” Meyers '16** and **Nicholas Valenti '66**.

Alumni Board President and mistress of ceremonies **Amanda Stankus '03** introduced each of the presenters who spoke about those they nominated.

The common theme for the event was how Cayuga made a difference in each of the lives of the award winners. In their remarks they told how, in some cases, they did not have an idea of what they wanted to do when they came to Cayuga. Sometimes it was just interacting with other students and being at Cayuga that provided the inspiration, but more often than not, it was a specific member of the Cayuga Faculty who made all the difference in their career paths and gave them direction. Their remarks were often met with laughter and tears.

Award winner Meyers, the most recent graduate of those who were

recognized, asked a question that had a profound impact on all in attendance: “If you knew you were to die tomorrow, what would you want people to know about you”. These award winners will easily be remembered for their good works.

“We are delighted to recognize our newest nominees as they join the ranks of dozens of other Cayuga Alumni who have made a difference in our community and the nation,” said Guy Thomas Cosentino, Executive Director of the Cayuga County Community College Foundation. “We appreciate the time and effort put in by their nominators who identified their accomplishments and who know the value of a Cayuga Community College education.”

CELEBRATES ANNUAL AWARDS

Established in 1993, Alumni Awards are presented annually to Auburn/Cayuga graduates who have made outstanding contributions in vocational or artistic achievement, volunteer or public service, or assistance to the College.

The CCC Alumni Association is proud to add these individuals to the roster of Alumni Award recipients, recognized on a plaque in the Dr. Joseph F. Karpinski Rotunda on the Auburn Campus.

ALISHA DYMOND BURNETT '09

Alisha Dymond Burnett graduated from Cayuga Community College in 2009 with an associate's degree in Nursing and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Excelsior College and certification as an EMT and paramedic. She holds three national advanced certifications (CFRN, CCRN and TCRN) and is the Chair of her flight program's Quality Management and Performance Improvement Program. She has worked in critical care as a registered nurse for 12 years. Her specialties include Surgical Trauma ICU, Burn ICU, and flight medicine. She is Chief Flight Nurse of



Tampa General Hospital's Aeromed 2 base, currently flying as a flight nurse/paramedic transporting critically injured patients from scenes, as well as ICU patients from hospital to hospital. She has maintained contact with Cayuga's Nursing program, sharing her accomplishments and encouraging nursing students. "Alisha demonstrates her love for nursing at Cayuga and continues to make our Nursing program proud," said her nominator, Professor **Edie Smith '92** of Cayuga's Nursing program.

On the seventh anniversary of her Cayuga graduation, Ms. Burnett posted on Cayuga's Nurses Facebook page: "... I certainly never imagined seven years ago I would fly to scenes and hospitals in the back of a helicopter for a living, but that's where my education and career path has taken me. I will be forever grateful for the amazing instructors at (Cayuga)."

JASON "WALLY" MEYERS '16

Jason "Wally" Meyers earned an associate's degree from Cayuga Community College in Criminal Justice/ Corrections in 2016. He also holds a bachelor's degree in Human Services from Empire College and a Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership from Waldorf University. He is a Community Outreach Coordinator for Cayuga County Mental Health, and serves as a coordinator and consultant for Peer Integration for Recovery. In his role with Cayuga County he is part of the support team for the HEALing Communities Study to fight opioid overdose deaths in Cayuga County.



"I credit my teenage daughters, Lola and Layla, for keeping me grounded and giving me purpose," said Mr. Meyers.

Mr. Meyers was nominated for an Alumni Award by Dr. **Jeremy Blowers '93**, Associate Professor and Wellness Coordinator at CCC. "If there was ever a success story here at Cayuga, this gentleman is it," said Professor Blowers, a 2019 Alumni Award recipient. "Coming from a challenging past, he had to overcome obstacles that impeded his goals ... and he found the strength that not only helped him survive, but to thrive. He is an instrumental force in our community, helping to guide people to substance abuse recovery." Mr. Meyers often gives back to the College by sharing his story with students at Cayuga, as well as with school and community groups throughout Cayuga County.

NICHOLAS VALENTI '66

Nicholas Valenti graduated from Auburn Community College in 1966 with an Associate in Applied Science in Accounting and continued his education at Niagara University. Prior to that, he served our country as a Marine during the Vietnam War. Since 1979, Mr. Valenti has been involved in local veterans organizations and is currently serving his 10th year as the New York State Central District Director for the Vietnam Veterans of America. He has served as the American Legion Post commander and the

VVA 704 Chapter president. Mr. Valenti frequently represents Cayuga County at regional and national Vietnam veteran events.

Mr. Valenti assisted in bringing The Wall That Heals to Cayuga County and in helping make the Cayuga County Vietnam Veterans Memorial a reality.



Continued on page 19

The Foundation was delighted to be able to hold its Annual Presidents' Circle Dinner this July at the Pavilion at Emerson Park to thank supporters of the Foundation that include those who donate at the Presidents' Circle Level (\$1,000) or above/beyond, as well as our local philanthropic community, who have long

supported the work of the College, its students and faculty. The Foundation invited several students, and their guests, who have benefited from the support of donors with scholarships and Commencement Awards to attend the event and be presented by Board President John Latanyshyn with a gift from the Foundation.



The Foundation was pleased to be joined by Lisa Green, who had served as a Foundation Board Member for three terms and as Treasurer, as its guest to present a framed embossed resolution thanking her for her service by President Latanyshyn and Immediate Past President Kelley Gridley.

The Foundation uses student art every year for the cover of the invitations and the Dinner Program. At the bottom center of this spread, Emily Sbelgio '22 is with Alumni Director Ginny Kent '82 and Foundation Executive Director Guy Thomas Cosentino at the dinner, displaying her art work.



Isaac Holden
Cayuga Presidential Scholar
Class of 2023

“Thank you for selecting me to be a recipient of a Cayuga Presidential Scholarship for the Fall Semester of 2021. This has made my future career goals a greater possibility. This has also lifted the financial burden from me and my family and will make my college experience even better.”



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(Continued from page 9)

Associate – \$250 to \$499

Dr. Cathy Dotterer
Gary Douglass '72
 Richard and Beverly Finnerty
 Prof. Brenda Forrest
 Dr. Phillip Gioia
Edward '72 and Paige Herring
 Stephanie Hutchinson, Trustee & Hon. David Thurston
 Prof. Steven Keeler
Jim '76 and Ginny '82 Kent
 Stephen and Theresa Kline
John '66 and Suzanne '66 Klink
Gary Kolodziejczyk Sr. '77
 Erik and Patricia Larsen
Donald and Joanne Lawler '58
Gary Marco '70
Prof. Dawn Matijas-Czolowski '96
Michele McMahon '94
James Miskell '66
Anthony Oughterson '89
Patricia Steenburgh '82
 L. Michael Treadwell
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 Anonymous
John Achramowicz '73
 Nicole Adsitt

Sally Bailey
 Prof. Abu and Sheerin Badruddin
 Roberta and Paul Bellnier
 Benevity Community Impact Group
 Kathleen Button and Martin Wisniewski
 Marion Camardo
 Dr. Ron Cantor and Alexandra Bennett
Rocco Carbone '68
Carolyn Castiglione '68
Timothy Coville '80
Tom '72 and Sherry Cuff
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Joanne Dabulewicz '83
 Thomas Daly
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 Margaret Fulton
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 Margaret & Patrick Golden
 Georgena and Roger Gunn
 David Higgins
Gerald L. Hogan '61
Holy Family High School Class of '55
 Sheila Ward Dyer
 Marylyn Ianiri
 John and Mary Latanyshyn
 John Lupien

Susan Mackey '73
 Vickie Condie MacTavish
Michael Mancini '68
Joseph '58 and Joanne '68 Mitchell
Maria '86 and Stephen '86 Moriarity
Robert Padula '83
Barry Pickard '58
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 Prof. Bill and Linda Prosser
Victoria '84 and Robert Quimby
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Scott Shaft '19
 Shannon Stapleton
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 Kevin Thomas and Sharon Collican
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Rosalie Ward '76
 Prof. Christie Waters
Carlton West '59
 Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey West
 Janet Whyland
Carolyn Wood '57
Joseph Zeoli '71
 Prof. Eric Zizza

Cali Rodriguez
 Recipient of Nataline Dulles Seymour Memorial Scholarship
 Class of 2022

“I wanted to say thank you from the bottom of my heart for nominating me for the Nataline Dulles Seymour Memorial Scholarship. I can’t say thank you enough for believing in me and being supportive throughout the last year.”



2020 – 2021 FISCAL YEAR DONOR LIST*

**We have made every attempt to list donor information accurately. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that you please contact us at alumni@cayuga-cc.edu with any corrections. The 2021-2022 Donor List will appear in the 2022 Annual Report and the 2023 Spring Spartan.*

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- Sara Taber Buhl
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- Jo Ann Brennan
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- Andrew Pinchak '78
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- Laura Rowley
- Luke Rybarczyk '69
- Thomas Scanlon '76
- Pamela Schneider Breck '72
- Rebecca Sellen '00
- Jerome Sliss '64
- Cynthia Seamans
- Justin Thomas '80

Scott Wheat
 Recipient, Harry W. & Dorothy J. George Scholarship
 Class of 2022

“The Harry W. & Dorothy J. George Scholarship has allowed me to pursue my goal of becoming a RN. It allows me to focus on my studies without financial worry. I am grateful for this opportunity and am glad I chose Cayuga.”



THE COLLEGE FOUNDATION TURNS 40

Dear Friends and Supporters of Cayuga Community College:

This is a pivotal time for Cayuga Community College and higher education. Based on changing demographics and the impact of the pandemic, student enrollment has dropped and community colleges, nationally, have been especially hard-hit. We need your help to help maintain Cayuga, your alma mater, as one of our community's most important assets.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the founding of the Cayuga County Community College Foundation. Since 1982, with an initial corpus of \$1,572, we have been able to grow the endowment to nearly \$17 million, thanks to our alumni donors and our philanthropic community. Over the last four decades the Foundation has been able to support, with millions of dollars, capital projects, cultural events, funds to assist our faculty and, most importantly, scholarships and awards for our students.

In just the last year, thanks to our generous donors, we were able to create a second Challenge Grant to fund the Student Emergency Fund. Together we exceeded our goal and completed the challenge ahead of schedule. We kickstarted the effort to bring air conditioning to Spartan Hall and upgrade the HVAC system in Norman F. Bourke Memorial Library that will be done in the next year, as well as the funding of several Summer Faculty Fellowships. We welcomed the Fall 2022 Semester on both campuses by celebrating our students, faculty and staff with a food truck event.

As our 2022-2023 Academic Year gets underway, we are kicking off our Annual Appeal for this year, and seek your help with our “40 For 40 Campaign,” with a goal of raising \$40,000 this year to commemorate the Foundation’s 40 years of service to the College community.

Your gift is important and will be recognized with a written acknowledgment and inclusion in our annual list of donors in The Spartan and our Annual Report posted online.

Your participation on any level is critical to the success of this campaign. *Even a modest gift will demonstrate to our students that the Cayuga family and its alumni are committed to helping them launch their careers and continue their education.*

Thank you for your continued support.

**ACC/CCC
ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION**

**2021– 2022
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DIRECTORS**

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FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Our Alumni Association was quieter over the past year as events and trips continued to be “on hold” during the pandemic. However, as activities began to return to normal, we were thrilled to be able to recognize and celebrate our recent ACC/CCC Alumni Award recipients at a well-attended reception at Prison City North this past June. Be sure to read about these remarkable individuals in this edition of the Spartan. It’s not too early to begin thinking about candidates for the 2023 nominations for this award. Visit our website for details. The nominations will be due in late winter.

We are also pleased to announce that this year’s recipient of the ACC/CCC Alumni Commencement Award was Kyle Weisman of Auburn, and the ACC/CCC Alumni Scholarship winner for 2022-2023 is Colby Becker of Phoenix, New York.

We always appreciate hearing from you, our Alumni, so please continue to update us with news for Spartan’s Class Notes when you send in your donation.

Finally, I want to thank Ginny Kent, as she retires as our Director of Alumni Affairs, she was not only an asset to the Alumni Board, but a true friend to all of those who served on the Board over the last five years.

AMI story continued from page 8

manufacturing. The scholarships were available to students starting in the Fall 2022 semester. Students from the Fulton, Hannibal, Mexico and Phoenix school districts, and the Center for Instruction, Technology & Innovation, are eligible to apply. Eligible students need to attend the Fulton Campus.

The AMI on the Fulton Campus is the latest capital project supporting students and the surrounding community completed at Cayuga. In 2019 the



Cayuga instructor Jeff Marier, right, discusses the new AMI with two attendees at the ribbon cutting in May.

College opened its new Childcare Center and in 2021 the College opened its Culinary Institute, both of which are located in Auburn.

The College has also started construction on a Workforce Development Center in the City of Auburn, which when completed will situate career and community support agencies in the former Cornell Cooperative Extension Center on Grant Avenue in Auburn.

NICHOLAS VALENTI '66 *(Continued from page 11)*

His nominator and frequent collaborator, **Dr. Linda Townsend '74**, said “Mr. Valenti’s community service and life’s work are a testament to the core values and sense of community that are part of Cayuga Community College’s traditions that are instilled within our graduates.” Mr. Valenti was recently selected by New York State Senator John Mannion to represent the 50th Senate District as a New York State Veteran’s Hall of Fame honoree.

Dr. Linda A. Townsend '74 Honored with Community Service Award

Dr. Linda A. Townsend '74, of Auburn, was recently honored with a SUNY Oswego Alumni Award, winning the Community Service Award



for her work in leadership and service. Prior to earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Public Justice from SUNY Oswego, she received two associate degrees in Liberal Arts and Humanities, and in Criminal Justice from Cayuga. Dr. Townsend earned a Juris Doctorate from Syracuse University College of Law.

Throughout her career, Dr. Townsend has cultivated the development of leadership skills of her students and fellow community members. She has inspired decades of middle and high school grade students in Port Byron,

correctional facility inmates and Cayuga County high school and SUNY Oswego students as an articulate and passionate teacher of history, political science, psychology and the law. "I have had a blessed life that was sown by my ACC/CCC educational experiences and academic challenges," said Dr. Townsend. "ACC/CCC is the 'Educational Diamond' in the Finger Lakes that is often overlooked because it is in our backyard."

In honoring her, SUNY Oswego recognized Dr. Townsend's dedication to public service, leading her students by her personal examples of kindness and generosity of spirit. She has won numerous awards and honors, including the Purple Heart Recognition Certificate, New York State Women of Distinction Award, Daughters of the American Revolution Community Service Award, Patrick DeVoe Courage Award, Auburn Education Foundation Alumni Hall of Distinction Award, WCNY Women Who Make A Difference Award, Auburn/Cayuga

Community College Distinguished Alumni Award and many others. Dr. Townsend has fostered connections between community youth and military and elected officials, and served on the Cayuga County Legislature. In 1985, she became the first woman to serve as Chairperson of the Cayuga County Legislature.

In 2017, she petitioned for the traveling Wall That Heals, a 250-foot replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., and was successful in securing the mobile education center site at her school in Port Byron.

Dr. Townsend has given back to Cayuga Community College over the years, serving on the ACC/CCC Alumni Association Board of Directors for many years. Largely through her efforts, the Wreaths Across America Mobile Education Exhibit visited the Auburn Campus in August of 2021.

"Dr. Townsend has worked tirelessly on behalf of our Veterans. She is also a champion for local history and the arts, especially through her work with our youth," said Ginny Kent, Director of Alumni Affairs, "Cayuga County is richer because of her efforts."

1958

Patricia Myr, "I retired in January of 2021 after 20 years working for the University of Pennsylvania in the Home Care Division. Now I'm enjoying retirement – and celebrating my granddaughter graduating from Drexel University School of Design – Magna Cum Laude – in June of 2022."

1961

Patricia Dinsmore Walter, "I'm enjoying retirement and keeping busy with volunteer activities and enjoying my family."

1962

Bill Keough, "It's been 60 years since I graduated from 'ACC'! A special time in my life! Proud to say that our 2 sons, their wives and my 4 grandkids

are all going to be graduates of the University of Michigan or Michigan State University. I've been retired since 2006. My wife, Donna, died in 2018."

Nancy Prosser, "Seven grandsons – one granddaughter. Keeping us busy – and young?!"



Betty Putnam Short, "I'm enjoying my adult grandchildren. My granddaughter and her husband just bought my old house. Fun to see how they decorate it!"

1964

D. Ronald Whipple, "We have 8 grandchildren; son Steve is a Golf Superintendent at West Point Military Academy (16 years); son Tim is Assistant Superintendent for Business

at Harrison Central school and son Eric is an Elementary Principal at Cobleskill-Richmondville Central School. We've been blessed!"

1966

Vincent Busce, "I survived 9 days in the hospital with COVID. Still enjoying sunshine in Florida – riding my Harley and playing golf."

Steward McKeown, "I graduated from ACC in 1966. It was a great experience – I went on to the University of Miami for my BA degree and American University for an MBA. Glad to see the continued success of CCC!"

Mitchell Ross, "Living the Dream" in retirement. We split our time between our New York residence and a second home on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. We have 10 beautiful grandchildren."

Class Notes

1968

Susan (Rice) Reed is still happily retired! She's planning a trip to Italy in the near future.

1969

Joanne (Carley) Shernesky and fellow ACC student, Jim Shernesky celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in August of 2021, and report they are now both retired.

1971

Thomas Gangem, "Happily retired. I taught 6th grade for Liverpool Central Schools for 33 years. Currently I tutor students in math and I enjoy that a lot. I've been happily married for 42 years to the love of my life, Julie."

1972

Janet (Holdrege) Cole, shares that she is currently working at Auburn Community Hospital. Her husband, Jeffrey (2008) has retired from New York State Electric & Gas.

Richard Patchen, "I've retired from teaching after 33 plus years at Wayne - Finger Lakes BOCES."

1973

Thomas J. Corcoran is retiring this Fall as Director of Human Resources at Cayuga Community College. He's served in this position for the last seven years. President Brian Durant said of his service, "As a proud alum of Cayuga, Tom has always been dedicated to our students and our mission, and he kept those priorities in mind each day at our College. We are sad to see him leave, but on behalf of everyone at Cayuga, we wish him an enjoyable retirement and thank him for his years of service and dedication."



1974

Peter R. Crouse, "I'm President of Green Thumb Environmental Beautification Inc., which provides employment to low income senior citizens through state funding."

1974

Irving Smith, Sr., shares that he's retired from the United State Army, First Sergeant (1SG).

1975

Ed Galka shares that he's retired after a career that included 10 years with Johnston Paper and 30 years with Mustad. His wife, **Mary Beth (Ganey) Galka '79** has retired after 30 years with the Weedsport School District.

Robert and Kathryn (Capacci) Peterson report that they are both happily retired now with long careers behind them. "Bob, in the grocery business; going from produce worker to managerial field specialist. Kitty worked in business secretarial field, and after raising their family, returned to the workforce and politics until retirement. Enjoying our two daughters, their families and our grandchildren. Thanks CCC (ACC in our time) for a wonderful start! A shout out to our niece, current Cayuga student Elizabeth Capacci!"

1976

Judith Waynai, "I am enjoying my life as a retired secretary by spending much time with my two daughters and two granddaughters. I have also enjoyed being a volunteer at a local hospital. I fully utilized my degree in Secretarial Science by working as a Secretary in various offices dating back to 1976, including working as secretary to the Dean of Admissions at the University of Rochester School of Medicine."

1979

Jeff L. Rokow, "I'm retiring after 37 years of practicing law!"

Scott Stenberg, shares that he recently retired from Cornell Health at Cornell University.

1980

Justin Thomas and his wife are enjoying life these days as recent retirees.

1981

Marianne Bertini, shared that she works at the New York State Department of Education.

1983

Barbara J. Murphy retired from Auburn Memorial Hospital. She shares that she spent her retirement years (13) as Costume Designer for Wells College Drama Department. She's moved to Lewiston, New York to be closer to her family.

Nancy Smith, "I retired in 2018 from Holy Family Church where I was the Faith Formation Coordinator. My fifth grandchild was born last year."

1985

Robert A. Martin shares that he's currently Director of Management and Budget, and CFO for the New York State National Guard. He's been there 21 years, and has over 29 years in New York State's public sector. "I noticed in the last Spartan that **Gerard Martin '76** has won the 2021 Alumni Award. He was my Auburn High School 12th grade history teacher and a huge inspiration to be in public service!"

1986

Maria (Franzone) Moriarity retired in June after 31½ years with the Auburn Enlarged City School District, teaching mathematics. She was a Math Tutor while at Cayuga.

1989

Valerie Kenyon Gaffney shares that she retired in 2018 after 25 years with the Washington Post. She lives in Woodbridge, Virginia where she is a Master Gardener, and active in Garden Clubs and the Native Plant Society. She is active in an "Over 50 Lifelong Learning" group and President of the VA Bluebird Society. She lives with her cat, Eleanor Rigby.



Class Notes

1995

Brian B. Chappell, “I own and operate Aurelius Restoration Condition Services, LLC, which restores early lighting devices to their original condition.”



2008

Terry Wilbur was recognized by the Oswego County Legislature in December 2021 for his hard work on behalf of Oswego County residents. At the age of 21, Wilbur became the youngest legislator elected in Oswego County. For the last dozen years, he had served the 21st district, the last two years as Majority Leader. Mr. Wilbur received a Criminal Justice – Police degree from



Cayuga and was an active Board Member of the ACC/CCC Alumni Association for many years. He now serves as Oswego County Clerk.

2012

Jacquelyn (Phillips) Jones, “My journey into higher education after a decade-long sabbatical was prompted by the abrupt end to my sales and event planning career caused by the devastation of Covid-19. Starting over is terrifying, but it is also deeply rewarding. In May, I graduated Summa Cum Laude from SUNY Oswego with a Bachelor of Science in Adolescent Education and a Bachelor of Arts in English. This accomplishment was built on the educational foundation that Cayuga Community College granted me in 2012 and my lifelong passion for literacy. After a whirlwind of interviews during June, I enthusiastically accepted a position at Southern Cayuga Jr. High School as the new 7th-grade English teacher. This season has not only brought me new professional advancements but personal changes too.

On the absolute hottest Tuesday in July, Josh and I exchanged wedding

vows during an intimate ceremony that made our family of three official. We tied the knot on the very same spot, under the same arch as my parents and grandparents had done for their weddings.”



2014 – 2015

Gillian Sears '15 and **Natalie (Krone) Indelicato '14** reunite at the College's Job Fair in April 2022 on the Auburn campus. Ms. Sears is now the Assistant Visitor Experience Manager at NYS Equal Rights Heritage Center, and Ms. Indelicato is the Administrative Assistant in Student Engagement.



2020

Brianna Augello, “I’m working at Kinney Drug Store and taking civil service tests.”

In Remembrance

Douglas Brill

A familiar face on the Auburn campus, Douglas Brill, passed away unexpectedly on July 16th, 2022. He was 60 years old.

Mr. Brill was a 1991 graduate of Cayuga Community College with an AAS in Telecommunications Technology. He had been the Telcom Department's Chief Engineer since 2005. In addition to making sure all the equipment worked, he provided significant roles as a mentor, teacher, life coach and “father figure” to hundreds of Telcom students over the years.

As a Telcom alum, Mr. Brill was able to connect with students and be a vital member of the overall instruction team of Telcom Cayuga. “Doug was a great engineer and an



even better person. He was a dear friend and mentor to students and colleagues in the Telcom Department, SOMA and the college,” said Professor Steve Keeler, Director of Media and Telecom at Cayuga. “During his career at Cayuga, he had a huge impact on the Telcom Department and on the lives of so many students. He will be sorely missed.”

Mr. Brill is survived by his wife, Cathy; five children: David (Kristina), Teddy, Gregory, Natasha (Andrew), and Anthony (Mandy); two grandchildren: Hailey and Caden; father Robert L. Brill, Sr.; siblings: James (Margo) Brill, Sharon (Robert) Babcock, Robert, Jr. (Mary) Brill, Harold (Kelly); as well as a large extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his mother, Minnie and sister, Susan.

A private Celebration of Life was held at Auburn Public Theater in August for close family and friends. “Besides Professor Keeler, **Shaun Secaur '10**, **Jeff Szczesniak '01** and **Ed Vivenzio '16** all spoke at the remembrance.”

Dr. Arthur H. Foresman, MD

Arthur H. Foresman, M.D. of Auburn, died on December 8th, 2020 at the age of 87. Dr. Foresman was a Director of the Cayuga County Community College Foundation beginning in the late 1990's, and serving through 2004.



Dr. Foresman was a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College, and Temple University Medical School. He was a member of Phi Kappa Tau Fraternity and Phi Chi Medical Society and AOA, the Medical Honor Society. In 1965, he started his dermatology practice in Auburn, joined by his daughter Pamela L. Foresman, M.D. in 1993. Dr. Foresman retired in 2002.

In addition to his service to the Foundation, Dr. Foresman was president of the Cayuga County Medical Society,

Cayuga County Boards of Health and Mental Health, Board Member for the Neighborhood House, the YMCA, Cayuga County Arts Council, a deacon and elder of Westminster Presbyterian Church, and a member of the Kiwanis Club. Dr. Foresman was predeceased by his wife of 64 years, Joanne Philbrook Foresman and his son, William H. Foresman, M.D. He is survived by three children, Jeffrey S., Pamela L. Foresman Brundage (Brian), and Robert M. (Ludmila); and by 10 grandchildren.

The Foresman Family have supported Cayuga Community College for many years, and established the Foresman Family Scholarship in 2006. This provides an annual scholarship to an incoming freshman.

“Dr. Foresman and his family have been strong supporters of Cayuga and its students. Both he and his wife, Joanne, were great cheerleaders for the College and for our community,” said Guy Cosentino, Executive Director of the College Foundation.

Rick Emanuel

Rick Emanuel of Elmira, died unexpectedly on April 15th, 2021 at his home. He was 55 years old.

Mr. Emanuel was publisher of The Citizen, Auburn's hometown newspaper, from 1998 through 2008 and returned in 2013 to serve as interim publisher. He also worked as publisher at the Post-Star in Glens Falls and the Star-Gazette in his hometown of Elmira. At the time of his passing, he was senior director of sales for Gannett/USA Today Network.



While in Auburn, as in the other communities he lived, Mr. Emanuel was an active volunteer and a champion of several initiatives. “I spent time working on community projects not because I was told to but because I always wanted to better the place where my children were growing up and

my family lived,” Emanuel wrote in a 2016 column he contributed for The Citizen's 200th anniversary.

Mr. Emanuel served on several local Cayuga County boards including the United Way of Cayuga County, Matthew House, where he was a founding member, the Cayuga County Chamber of Commerce, Auburn Memorial Hospital, as well as serving as a founding member of the Blueprint Group, a local revitalization initiative that formed in 2006.

Mr. Emanuel served as President of the Cayuga Community College Foundation in 2010. “He was always pushing Auburn and Cayuga County to do better,” said Guy Cosentino, Executive Director. “He was just a compassionate soul.”

Mr. Emanuel is survived by Kelly Turk Emanuel; daughter, Alexandra Ruggiero with husband, Nicholas; son, Eric Emanuel and grandchildren Luca and Nico Ruggiero.

In Memoriam – Cayuga Faculty and Staff

Jane Kiernan, 78, of Pultneyville, NY died unexpectedly on February 5th, 2022. Dr. Kiernan was a respected member of the Nursing Faculty at Cayuga and served as Coordinator of the Nursing Lab prior to her retirement.

Ralph Murray, 59, of Wolcott, NY died on October 2, 2021. He graduated from Cayuga in 1988 with an AAS in Accounting and served many years as an adjunct at Cayuga's Fulton Campus.

Daniel Colella, 75, of Auburn, died on March 19, 2021. He was retired from the Auburn Police Department after over 20 years of service and later, worked for several years at Cayuga Community College in the Office of Public Safety. Mr. Colella's daughter, Erica N. Colella, is an Assistant Professor of Occupational Therapy on Cayuga's Fulton Campus.

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Cayuga Community College

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47TH CCC ANNUAL HOLIDAY FESTIVAL CRAFT FAIR IS ON FOR 2022!



Cayuga Community College is pleased to announce that, after a two-year delay due to the pandemic, the long-running Holiday Craft Fair will once again be held this year on Saturday, December 3rd from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and on Sunday, December 4th from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm, at our Auburn Campus.

The Fair is free and open to the public.

Vendors are invited to register for a booth. You may register online at <https://www.cayuga-cc.edu/craft-fair/> or contact craftfairinfo@cayuga-cc.edu or 315-294-8587 to request information and registration materials electronically or by mail. Be sure to leave contact information in your message.