

The Cayuga **40** SPARTAN *extra*

CAYUGA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

DECEMBER 2022

FOUNDATION WELCOMES BACK STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF WITH “LUNCH ON US”



The last two academic years have been tough for all of us, especially our students, faculty and staff. The Board of the College Foundation wanted to welcome everyone back to our Auburn and Fulton campuses with a celebration of sorts, so they brought in food trucks to both campuses to

treat everyone to a meal, drink and dessert with the theme of “Lunch On Us”. Food trucks provided the opportunity for over 400 students, faculty and staff to break bread together, enjoying BBQ, burgers, sandwiches, donuts and Italian Ice.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE COLLEGE FOUNDATION

We are delighted to write you at the mid-point of our celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Cayuga County Community College Foundation.

We have included items in this *Spartan Extra* what we couldn't include, for space reasons, in our last *Spartan* or that have occurred since we last went to print, including this Fall's "Lunch On Us" food truck event on each of our campuses and projects funded by our donors such as NAMI and the Cayuga County Chapter of the Greater Syracuse Association of REALTOR's (on behalf of the past members of the Cayuga County Association of REALTORS) as well as our student PTK Honor Society inductees.

Just as importantly, we want to ask for your support at this critical time. 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 decreased and community colleges, nationally, have been especially hard hit. **We need your help to help maintain Cayuga as one of our community's most important assets. One way is to participate in our 40 for 40 Anniversary Campaign to raise \$40,000 this year, using the enclosed card and envelope.**

Regardless of the amount of your gift, your participation is critical to our success. A gift will demonstrate to our students that the Cayuga family and its alumni are committed to helping them launch their careers and/or continue their education. We want to thank you for your continued support. On behalf of the Foundation Board and Staff, we hope you have a great holiday season and that you have a prosperous and healthy 2023!

Warmest regards,

John Latanyshyn
Board President

Guy Thomas Cosentino
Executive Director



The Wasilenko's visited Cayuga's Nursing Program with College and Foundation staff.

NAMI CAYUGA COUNTY NURSING SCHOLARSHIP

Bart and Terri Wasilenko, co-presidents of the Cayuga County Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), worked with the College Foundation, NAMI's Board of Directors and the Director of Cayuga's Nursing Program, Prof. Mary Driscoll, to create an annual

scholarship of \$1,500 for nursing students to pursue careers in mental health. NAMI's donation to the Foundation for the scholarship fund honors Allan Miskell, a former NAMI Board President who was an advocate for mental health.

CAYUGA COUNTY REALTOR® ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS CAYUGA STUDENT EMERGENCY FUND, NEW SCHOLARSHIP



A generous donation was made by the Cayuga County Chapter of the Greater Syracuse Association of REALTOR's on behalf of the past members of the Cayuga County Association of REALTORS. That will support two key student-focused initiatives at Cayuga Community College and closed out the Foundation's Student Emergency Fund Challenge Grant created last Fall, surpassing the goal of the Foundation.

The \$40,000 gift from the REALTOR Association was divided between the Foundation's Student Emergency Fund Challenge Grant and the creation of a new scholarship, the Cayuga County Realtors Scholarship, established to support business students attending Cayuga.

Midge Fricano, Past President of Cayuga County Association of REALTORS and Lynnore Fetyko, Chief Executive Officer of Greater Syracuse Association of REALTORS, (pictured with Cayuga Community College President Dr. Brian Durant and Foundation Executive Director Guy Thomas Cosentino), worked on this scholarship donation with the College's Foundation. Ms. Fricano said "our members are focused on supporting local community initiatives for higher education programs that promote quality of life for future generations."

The Foundation's Challenge Grant was created to help students overcome difficulties to continue their studies.

Students are able to request support from the Student Emergency Fund through an application process that includes an evaluation of the request by College personnel for one-time expenses that might arise in food security, housing, medical or transportation issues that may prevent a student from continuing at Cayuga.

"We are so appreciative of the support of the Cayuga County Association of REALTOR® through the Greater Syracuse Association of REALTOR's ® for Cayuga and its students, both for those who want to get a degree, and those who might have an unanticipated emergency need," said the Foundation's Executive Director Guy Thomas Cosentino.

In recognition of the support of this generous gift the Cayuga Community College Board of Trustees agreed to name the entrance of the planned new Workforce Development Center. The College is undertaking a renovation of the former Cornell Cooperative Extension building on Grant Avenue in Auburn and will name the entrance the "Cayuga County REALTORS ® Welcome Center" when completed next year.

Aaron Lesch of Auburn, who is in his final year at Cayuga was the first recipient of the REALTOR® Scholarship. He told the Foundation that "After my time at CCC, I plan to pursue a bachelor's degree in agricultural business management. As the first recipient of the Cayuga County Realtors Association Scholarship, I am very grateful for this honor."

To be eligible for the Cayuga County REALTOR® Scholarship, students must be enrolled in either of Cayuga's Business Administration programs and attend college full-time. Preferences is given to students with a parent or grandparent who worked in real estate and to a student demonstrating financial need. The recipient is selected by the College's Business faculty.

PTK INDUCTION CEREMONY



Cayuga's Phi Theta Kappa Society held its Annual Induction Ceremony on our Auburn Campus with nearly three dozen in attendance. Over the past two years the College Foundation has helped underwrite the initiation fees for PTK inductees on both of our campuses. The Foundation is delighted to assist our students with the required initiation fees which allows them access to \$250 million in scholarships for transfer students who choose to continue their education beyond Cayuga. Just as importantly, the Foundation is happy to assist PTK whose members help our communities with community service projects, such as collection donations for the Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency.

THE CRAFT FAIR RETURNED TO CAYUGA



Pictured: Paige Seymour, **Emily Sbelgio '22** our Kid's Craft Fair Table Coordinator and Olivia Koffle.



Auburn vendor Anne Clapper, sells potholders to a customer.

During the first weekend of December, the 47th Annual Craft Fair returned to the Auburn Campus and was a roaring success. Thousands wandered the halls of our Main Campus and Spartan Hall seeking out deals and gifts. The Foundation organizes the Craft Fair on behalf of the College and was able to put on this great community event in 2022 with the assistance of our students, College staff

and vendors. Cayuga students, seen here, operated a Kid's Table for children to make ornaments while their families shopped. Others got to relax during the event by visiting either Dugan's Food Truck from Southern Cayuga County or Leo's Donuts from Aurelius who were on hand for the event.

The Cayuga **SPARTAN**
Cayuga Community College

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