

# alumni MAGAZINE

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## Jamestown Campus Alumni Board of Directors

- Judy Beckerink, *Class of 1969*
- Jeffrey Camp, *Class of 1984*
- Ann Cappalino, *Class of 1991*
- Arlene Christopherson, treasurer, *Class of 1965*
- Gail Coyle, *Class of 1986*
- Carole Garrison, *Class of 1993*
- Julie Hull, *Class of 1980*
- Linda O. Manno, *Class of 1969*
- Nicholas Manno, vice chairperson, *Class of 1976*
- Madeline Morganti, *Class of 1971*
- Leasen Oste, chairperson, *Class of 2000*
- Elizabeth Petiprin, *Classes of 1973 and 1982*
- Pat Phillips, *Class of 1963*
- Steve Riczker, *Class of 1982*
- Delana Rupp, *Class of 1991*
- Catherine "Katie" Smith, *Class of 1971*
- Matt Smith, *Class of 1976*
- Dennis Webster, *Class of 1974*

### ex-officio members:

- Gregory Fish, Director, JCC Faculty Student Association *Class of 1973*
- Elizabeth Booth, Director, *Alumni Affairs*

## Cattaraugus County Campus Alumni Board of Directors

- Anne Carlson, *Class of 1996*
- Tracie Clayton, *Class of 1994*
- Lori Jordan, *Class of 2003*
- Marjorie Litterer, vice chairperson, *Class of 1998*
- Kathy Loncosky, *Class of 2005*
- Tammy Skroback, *Class of 1984*
- Lorraine Smith, *Class of 1995*
- Larry Penman, *Class of 2004*
- Meme Yanetsko, chairperson, *Class of 1988*

### ex-officio members:

- Elizabeth Booth, Director, *Alumni Affairs*

## Communiversity at JCC Makes Bachelor's Degree Options Available to Alumni

Chances are that when you were a JCC student, either you or one of your classmates made a comment about wishing to stay at JCC to earn a bachelor's degree. Through a new collaborative effort involving JCC and five other colleges, that wish can now come true. JCC's commitment to connecting students to their goals was underscored late last summer as the "Communiversity at Jamestown Community College" was unveiled.

JCC President Gregory T. DeCinque described the Communiversity as "an alliance of regional colleges and universities making select associate, bachelor's, and master's degrees accessible to individuals in Chautauqua and Cattaraugus counties while providing the caring environment and individualized attention that has been a hallmark of JCC for over 60 years."

Joining JCC in the Communiversity are Alfred State College, Edinboro University, Empire State College, Houghton College's PACE Program, and Medaille College.

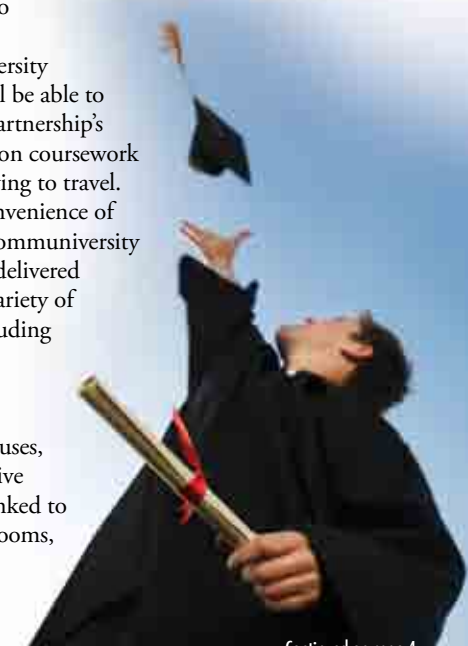
Dr. DeCinque explained that JCC takes pride in noting that associate degree attainment in its service area stands at 10% of the population, while that figure is 8% in New York state and 6% nationally. "However, bachelor's degree attainment is just 11% in JCC's primary service area, while it stands at 18% both in New York and nationally. Similarly, the percentage of JCC's service area residents who hold graduate degrees is just 9% while it is 14% in New York state and 10% nationally.

"Many of our prospective students are beyond traditional college age, working part-time, and taking care of family, and therefore cannot afford the luxury of going away to college to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree. Because the area is both economically distressed and somewhat geographically isolated, our residents face two barriers to higher education access: affordability and travel. The Communiversity at JCC levels the playing field so that students in southwestern New York

and northwestern Pennsylvania have opportunities for education, training, and higher-paying jobs."

Describing how the Communiversity will operate, Marilyn A. Zagora, JCC's vice president/dean of academic affairs, explained that JCC has created transfer articulation agreements with each of the five partner institutions. "Articulation agreements form the foundation of the Communiversity," Dr. Zagora said. "They define what credits earned at JCC can be transferred to our partners' upper division programs and applied toward higher degrees. Our Communiversity partners will allow JCC graduates to transfer well beyond the traditional 60-credit hour associate degree and in most cases will permit students to transfer as much as five semesters of full-time JCC experience. This can yield significant savings for students who follow a Communiversity pathway."

According to Dr. Zagora, Communiversity students will be able to access the partnership's upper division coursework without having to travel. "For the convenience of students, Communiversity courses are delivered through a variety of models including traditional classroom settings on JCC's campuses, live interactive television linked to JCC's classrooms, and online courses via the web.



Continued on page 4

“JCC instilled in me a disciplined work ethic that has gotten me where I am today.”

Leah Yerpe, '05

Recalling earning her A.S. in fine art from JCC

HAS JCC BEEN A POSITIVE INFLUENCE IN YOUR LIFE? PLEASE CONSIDER A GIFT TO THE ANNUAL FUND AND HELP US CONTINUE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR STUDENTS. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT THE JCC FOUNDATION AT 800.388.8557 OR TO MAKE A GIFT ONLINE, VISIT [WWW.JCCFOUNDATION.COM](http://WWW.JCCFOUNDATION.COM) AND CLICK ON "MAKE A GIFT."





## Dear Graduate,

This is shaping up to be an exciting year at JCC. Our enrollment continues to increase, the residence halls reached full occupancy, the new science building is in the final phase of construction, and the number of Unified Student Assistance (USA) scholars welcomed to campus continues to grow. One of the reasons outstanding students are choosing JCC is access to rigorous academic challenges such as those provided through our honors program. Not only are more students making JCC their choice for their higher education experience, but more students from the top 20 percent of their graduating class or who are eligible for the honors program are making this election.

We recently announced the establishment of the Communiversities at JCC. Communiversities makes bachelor's and master's level work available to our graduates and others through several programs in a variety of modes. You can read more about this new venture in this issue of the newsletter.

Last year marked the college's 60th anniversary, and we took the opportunity to look back at our 60 years of success. The culmination of the anniversary year was celebrated with the JCC Foundation annual recognition event, during which the John D. Hamilton Board Chair Service Award was presented to those

who served as board of trustees chairs. Many of them were present that evening, including the Honorable Sam Alessi, Lucy Alpaugh, Miles Lasser, Charles Price, Lillian Ney, Sam Price, Jim Griffin, and Lance Spicer. Several other former board chairs were represented by family members. A tremendous video was produced to showcase recollections of JCC's history through the eyes of these special community leaders.

I'm thankful to all who have contributed to our many successes during the past year and over the past 60 years. I look forward to the accomplishments we will enjoy in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Gregory T. DeCinque  
President



| Ann Dahl Luce, circa 1952 |

## Memories from JCC's first graduating class

by Ann Dahl Luce '52

a teacher but knew that I couldn't swing the Fredonia State tuition plus living expenses. I had decided to delay college until I could earn enough funds to attend, but then learned that Fredonia State had agreed to cooperate with JCC in scheduling courses and would accept all JCC credits earned! I could live at home, earn an associate degree, still finish my degree in education in a total of four years, and become the first two-year JCC transfer student to Fredonia State. I was ecstatic!

All that remained was to come up with \$75 first semester tuition in addition to book money. I had worked all summer as a dental assistant to Dr. V.R. Wagner, Jr., saved what I could, but didn't quite make it. Daddy, bless him, made up the shortfall. I found a part-time job in the claims department at the Empire State Mutual Life Insurance Company. They allowed me to work mornings so that I might attend classes afternoons and evenings. As I was to find out later, this was pretty much everyone's story. We were all serious students, but finances were tight. What an opportunity JCC was providing!

September 11, 1950 dawned, and I was so excited. At 17, I was about to embark on a college career at the newly begun JCC. Orientation was held that morning in the YWCA auditorium. Program selection, testing, and registration followed, and at last it was time.

I think my realization that we were participating in history began with an individual formal invitation to the charter presentation ceremony sent to each student. The ceremony was held in the Jamestown

High School auditorium on the evening of September 19, 1950. In addition to New York's governor, the Honorable Thomas E. Dewey, and State University dignitaries, local notables participated as well. Among them were Rabbi Sidney I. Goldstein, Rev. William Henderson, Mayor Samuel A. Stroth, Sidney T. Hewes, and Monsignor Patrick F. Tobin.

At about the same time, much to my delight, I was notified that I was the recipient of the \$150 Nichols scholarship, which covered tuition for my entire freshman year!

On the first day of classes, as I bounded up the stairs to the third floor of Jamestown High School, I passed a very tiny woman who was holding the railing, ascending each step very slowly, not leaving the last step until both feet were squarely planted on it, then going on to the next. She stopped frequently to catch her breath, waving on all who caught up to her. With her short-cropped hair, tailored dark suit with a white blouse overlapping the lapels, sensible tie-shoes with white anklets, she was to become a familiar sight to me. I came to know and admire this lady, biology professor Bernice Giebner.

Recalling Miss Giebner is to recall her bio lab world, most notably its frogs, preserved just for us in pungent formaldehyde. Miss G's manner was brusque, combined with a wry humor. None of us realized that as we departed for JCC's "Allegany Weekend" we had seen Miss Giebner for the last time. Her health, always precarious, had failed. Bless you, Miss Giebner.

Twenty young hopeful faces from the past gaze at me from a Jamestown Post-Journal clipping in my JCC scrapbook on a yellowed page entitled "Graduation Pictures." The year is 1952, and we were the first graduates to complete a two-year course in a New York state community college.

Two very special years had brought me to this place at this point in time. After graduating from Jamestown High School in 1950, I wanted to become

# class of 1952

Having no car, getting home on the north side after late night classes (one ended at 11 p.m.) was always challenging. Sometimes I walked, but many times I caught a ride with other students. If I had the 10-cent fare, I'd take a city bus. When broke, some of us begged a penny from 10 friends, and came up with enough to take the bus. Now and then I came home in a large farm machinery truck belonging to R.B. Luce and Son driven by none other than the "Son's" son, Dick Luce, or "Scotty" as he became known. He became the love of my life; five years later, we were married, and still are. My dad marveled at the assortment of vehicles that dropped me off. I guess the ultimate was when I arrived home on the back of Bob Endersen's motorcycle. My amused dad just shook his head and said, "What's next? A camel?"

Nearly all liberal arts classes were located on the third floor of the high school, as were the JCC offices. One of the classrooms became the student lounge and was filled with elegant Jamestown Lounge furniture. We spent lots of time lolling around on those leather couches and chairs discussing how we might energize the social life to bring the diversified student body together at this new college.

Lacking a college building, our plans led us far and wide: the YWCA, Hillside Park, Scottish Rite Temple, Hotel Governor Fenton, Unitarian Church auditorium, Spencer's Barn, and even Allegany State Park. We initiated a Dance Club, bowling, and in the second year, basketball. We planned square dances, formal dances, open dances, parties for every holiday – even Sadie Hawkins Day. Among the most memorable was the Christmas formal dance with Stew Snyder's band at the Hotel Governor Fenton, the first June Prom, as well as what we called the Allegany Weekend with lots of skiing and partying, but no sleep. At that time the administration building at the state park had two dormitories: one for guys and one for gals. We rented them, but few actually slept.

Another hangout was Winnie and Jerry's, a little restaurant near the high school on Second Street. Most of us had little money to spend, so we'd buy a hot dog and perhaps some pop for supper, sit there for the better part of an hour, stretching out the food and engaging in lots of socializing. Winnie understood, and never tried to hurry us. If our seats weren't needed for other customers, we'd study there, too. A few other old haunts were Kay's (now the House of Petillo), and for some, the Rendezvous.

That second year, things really began to take off socially with the arrival of new students. George Vishnia, Joanie Harrington, Tony Tripi, Mary Michos, Joe Blaze, Dottie Hamilton, and so many more joined forces with Barbara Bluckhorn, Sally Nelson, Eleanor Sundell, Jody Turnell, Howie Lind and the rest of us to put JCC on the map. Valerie Graves won a JCC logo contest with her design of the lamp of knowledge. Under the direction of librarian Mary Whitney and editors Ray Gavert, Lee Bull, Vern Benson, Bob

Lombardo, Chuck Peterson, Mary Michos, Roy Nederberg, and George Vishnia, we produced the JCC Student Album 1952. We tried to create a college song, but what we came up with just didn't fly. Thumbing through that old album makes me wish I could see all of those people once more.

It didn't take long to begin to appreciate the caliber of my instructors, most of whom were from the Alfred University Extension program. They knew their stuff and expected great things from us. Our classes were very small and lent themselves to lively discussions.

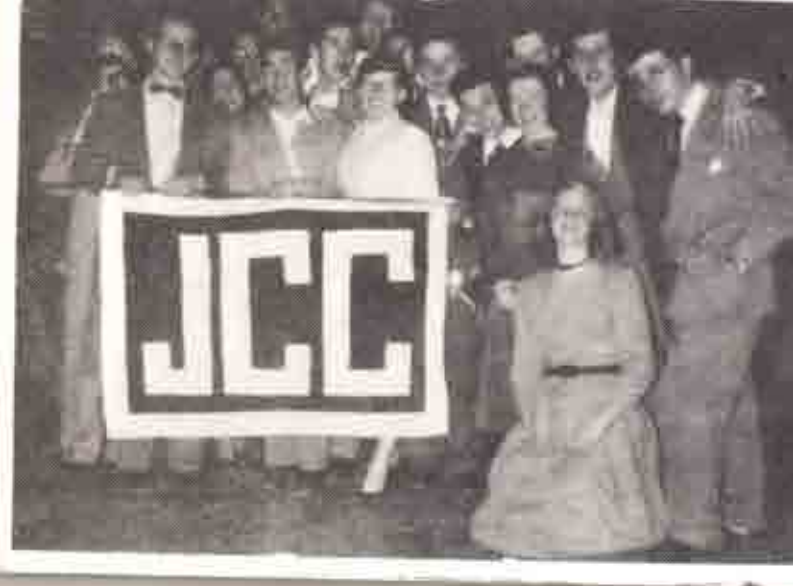
I especially loved the world literature course taught by Emma Coughlin Nih, who stretched our minds beyond the written word and shared a tiny window to her life – one of escape from Communist China, a Chinese Nationalist husband imprisoned there, and their brilliant daughter. I have often wondered if she ever saw her husband again.

Who could ever forget Ruth Hunt, math professor extraordinaire who loved her subject and taught it as if mastering spherical trigonometry were akin to mastering the ABCs? We all succeeded because she offered review before and after her classes to make sure we got it.

Somehow young Bertha Spooner pushed and pulled our little class through two years of Spanish. I had studied two years of French, so usually ended up translating from Spanish to French to English and vice versa – very slowly, indeed. She was so patient. We read a mystery written in Spanish entitled "Noche Oscura en Lima" and when we were called upon to read aloud, I swear she had to stifle a few laughs.

Upon first impression, Dr. Rhea Kay Boardman was an imposing figure, but was certainly among the most interesting of our instructors. She added interesting real life stories of her own to her teaching of psychology. Also very memorable was Mary Whitney. Over her desk in her tiny library was an enormous sign that read SILENCE. Mrs. Whitney dearly loved to talk. It was tough to study there, but very entertaining if you had a little extra time.

Among the younger and definitely classier instructors was English professor Lillian Congdon. It was her chore to sharpen our skills as writers and help us fill in any empty cracks in our language education. Lillian gave me a "B" on my first composition assignment. It was a sobering realization that my work needed improvement and wasn't an "A". For that I thank her still: I have been striving for an "A" ever since. Actually, after not having seen her for 50 years, we had the pleasure of spending some afternoons with Lillian in the past few years. She was still class, young-minded, and lots of fun.



[Jamestown Community College Yearbook Photo, 1952]

Cooper Milner was a pleasant history instructor with a fine wry humor, which he cleverly inserted into his lectures at points the student could never anticipate, thereby commanding undivided attention. His class didn't start until 9 p.m. so maximum effort was required to keep focused.

Young Bob Kochersberger was a big favorite with faculty and students alike, a fine instructor, and a tremendous JCC booster. Pete Brase was another excellent instructor. I was not in either of their classes.

Dean William Schlifke was always available to students to discuss any ideas or problems we had concerning the college. When Fredrick de Wolf Bolman became JCC's president, he was ready and willing to hear from us too.

All of these people were so supportive. The students, faculty, administration, and support staff were like a big family trying its best to make it all come together to become a true "community" college. What we lacked in terms of the physical plant we more than compensated for with hard work and enthusiasm.

Although most of transferred to other colleges, most of us look back on those days at JCC as special ones. I wouldn't trade those days for anything!

[Class of 1952 Jamestown Community College students]



The Community model allows students to save both travel time and money," she said.

Through the Community model, students will follow the admissions, enrollment, and financial aid processes of the various partner colleges. Start dates for Community programs will vary by college, but are anticipated to be either at the beginning of the spring semester in January or at dates later in this fall semester.

## Community Bachelor's Degree Opportunities Include:

- ▶ **Alfred State College** offering a Bachelor of Business Administration in technology management online with up to 78 transferable JCC credit hours,
- ▶ **Edinboro University** offering a Bachelor of Arts in criminal justice online and through interactive television with up to 90 transferable JCC credit hours,
- ▶ **Empire State College** offering bachelor's degrees in 11 different areas online and in-person with up to 80 transferable JCC credits,
- ▶ **Houghton College's Program for Accelerating College Education (PACE)** offering a Bachelor of Science in management with up to 87 transferable JCC credits, and
- ▶ **Medaille College** offering a Bachelor of Business Administration in information systems online with up to 68 transferable JCC credits.

In addition, the Community allows JCC students to pursue Alfred State's Associate in Applied Science degree in court and realtime reporting with up to 37 transferable JCC credits.

Dr. Zagora noted that, in response to community needs, JCC will consider welcoming additional college

and university partners to the Community in the future, including those providing master's degree pathways.

Commenting on the partnership, Alfred State President John M. Anderson said, "Alfred State College embraces the Community concept and is fully committed to playing its part in delivering the wonderful academic opportunities designed therein. The initiative is visionary and timely, and creates a vehicle by which place bound students can efficiently pursue advanced academic degrees. JCC is to be commended for its leadership in creating this powerful collaboration."

Jeremy D. Brown, president of Edinboro University said, "As stewards of the public's trust and monetary investment, it is imperative that we continue to find creative ways to provide excellent educational opportunities through partnerships and collaborations. The Community at Jamestown Community College is the embodiment of that goal."

"SUNY Empire State College is delighted to be a partner in the JCC Community," said ESC President Alan Davis. "We have had a long and productive relationship with JCC that connects JCC graduates to continued studies with Empire State. Our current Pathways Transfer Program and the new Community will strengthen this relationship. We look forward to working with JCC graduates who seek to pursue SUNY bachelor's degrees at Empire State College. I congratulate President DeCinque and wish the faculty and staff of JCC continued success."

Commenting on the Community, Shirley A. Mullen, president of Houghton College, said, "A key challenge for much of rural America is finding effective ways to provide opportunities for ongoing education and for raising skill levels, especially in times of economic turbulence. This region of New York is no exception. That is why Houghton College is pleased to partner with other members of the Community to deliver high quality educational opportunities for residents of the Southern Tier."

“Medaille is excited to partner with JCC in its Community initiative.”

Medaille's President Richard T. Jurasek

"Our work together, especially in a distance learning format, will provide opportunities for the large number of associate degree holders in the Chautauqua County/Cattaraugus County area to fulfill their dream of earning a bachelor's degree. This partnership also helps Medaille achieve its strategic objective of developing a 'portable Medaille,' which includes on ground, online, and video-enabled programs that serve learners wherever they are. JCC is an ambitious institution with an impeccable commitment to its stakeholders' needs, and we are proud to be part of this mission and dedication."

Dr. Zagora explained that JCC's Centers for Continuing Education are facilitating the Community referral process at both the Jamestown and Cattaraugus County campuses.



Prospective Community students are encouraged to get detailed information about the programs offered by calling, or by visiting the website:

**716.338.1005** Jamestown  
**716.376.7506** Olean  
[www.sunyjcc.edu/community](http://www.sunyjcc.edu/community)

## Mystery at the Big Italian Wedding Plays to Sold-Out Crowd

JCC's Jamestown Campus Alumni Association presented Mystery at the Big Italian Wedding, the 23rd original mystery, on January 28 and 29, 2011. Over 300 guests enjoyed an evening of laughs and entertainment while trying to decide "who done it." This annual event raises thousands of dollars each year to support scholarships and special projects at JCC.



# Faculty Profile:

## Nystrom's Passion For Natural World Shines Through

David Emke '01

From the moment she dissected a cow eye in class at Jamestown High School, Rebecca (Becky) Carlson Nystrom '75 knew biology was the field for her.

"I was in awe of how beautiful and complex that eyeball was," she said, "and was enthralled with everything biological and ecological."

Mrs. Nystrom, now in her 28th year teaching biology at JCC, says her love of the science was matched with a love for the college when she was a student there. The personal attention, caring environment, and knowledgeable instructors inspired her, she said. But it was when she moved on to pursue her bachelor's degree at SUNY Buffalo that she truly realized the value of receiving an associate degree at JCC.

"I probably didn't appreciate the quality of education I received when I was a student," she said. "When I transferred to UB, a large SUNY school that's very competitive in biology, I anticipated being at some disadvantage because I came from this little community college – but I soon found that I was actually better prepared than the majority of my UB classmates who had been at the university all along."

Mrs. Nystrom graduated magna cum laude with her B.A. in biology at SUNY Buffalo and an M.S. in biology from SUNY Fredonia. She started teaching at JCC as an adjunct in chemistry, and began teaching full-time in biology in 1983.

Many professors at the college guided and encouraged her along the way, including Ray Johnson, Andy Kibler, Bill Cotter, Bob Kochersberger, and R. Theodore "Ted" Smith. She said she was hired to replace Smith after the much-beloved professor moved into an administrative position, and she was certain she could never fill his legendary shoes.

"Ted took me under his wing and taught me much about teaching my subject matter with energy, enthusiasm, and the love of lifelong learning," Ms. Nystrom said.

Likewise, Andy Kibler inspired and encouraged her, and became a cherished friend, colleague, and collaborator in course offerings such as the Tropical Biology Seminar.

Since those early beginnings, Mrs. Nystrom has shared her passion for biology and the living realm through an array of courses, including biology, botany, tropical biology, environmental ethics, and honors offerings, along with community presentations, natural history articles, and local field trips exploring wetlands, wildflowers, and other natural wonders. The numerous excursions she has led to Costa Rica and Panama have helped students experience the special ecology, culture, and beauty of rainforests, coral reefs, and sea turtle habitats.

In addition to serving as biology coordinator for the Jamestown Campus life sciences department, Mrs. Nystrom serves on the college's sustainability committee, is actively involved in JCC's Tree Campus USA program, has helped lead the college's efforts to create a greenhouse gas inventory and climate action plan, and is past president and member of the JCC Faculty Association executive committee.

Within the community she serves as founding and current board member and past president of the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, promoting the protection of the area's waterways, wetlands, and other natural places through conservation and education.

Early in her career, Mrs. Nystrom and a small group of environmental students chartered the JCC's Earth Awareness Environmental Club, initiating the college's paper-recycling program and the establishment of JCC's first Earthfest in 1990, a community-wide Earth Day festival which continues annually to raise environmental awareness, appreciation, and celebration of earth's gifts. While serving as the club's advisor for more than 15 years, Mrs. Nystrom and her students worked not only to improve environmental awareness and action on campus and within the larger community, but also raised thousands of dollars supporting habitat preservation, environmental conservation, and compassionate living through organizations such as the Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, Jamestown Audubon Society, Chautauqua County Humane Society and the Nature Conservancy. She has received numerous awards and honors in education, including the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching, the Roger Tory Peterson Institute's Blanche Hornbeck Award for Excellence in Nature Education, the YWCA's Women of Achievement Award in Education, and the JCC Alumni in Education Award.

Fully involved in the design and planning of JCC's new LEED Silver certified science center, and anxiously awaiting its opening, Mrs. Nystrom said the new building will demonstrate energy efficiency and sustainable design.

"The building will be beautiful inside and out, showcasing innovative green technology, environmentally friendly design, and flexible teaching-learning space, and will be very much 'alive,' interactive and educational in every sense," she said. "A native wetland meadow behind the building will be restored, while the roof will support solar panels and a living 'green roof' providing wildflower habitat, thermal insulation, storm water erosion control, and a lovely new outdoor classroom for our botany students and others."

Mrs. Nystrom said that as a biologist, educator, and conservationist, she feels great responsibility in cultivating greater scientific understanding and deeper appreciation for the natural world, through which better environmental stewardship and more sustainable living may emerge. It is through her students she remains energized and inspired.

"I have been blessed with a career in which I teach what I love, and am so grateful for the privilege of sharing the 'journey of learning' alongside my students as they seek to make their way," she said. "My message continues to be that life is truly precious, and as we better understand and appreciate the complexity, beauty, and inter-connectedness of its gifts, may we seek to better care for our world and each other."

Mrs. Nystrom lives in Jamestown with her husband, Steve. Together, they enjoy traveling, hiking, roller-blading, gardening, reading, music, and their houseful of pets and plants. Their daughter, Melissa, lives in southern Oregon where - like her mother - she is a biology teacher.



Photo by Jim Riggs, courtesy of the Post Journal.

## Lady Jayhawks Annual Alumni Game

Twenty five former Lady Jayhawks returned to campus for this year's alumni women's basketball game, held on Saturday, January 15. The two teams, the Old Lady Jayhawks and the Older Lady Jayhawks, along with family and friends, enjoyed a light lunch after the game, courtesy of the Jamestown Alumni Association.

In front from left are Kari Barmore, Danielle Troutman, Sierra Finch, Katie Landy, Elizabeth Bongiovanni, Beth Hogan Beaver, Kayla Crosby, Emily Deuink, and Brianna Colburn. In the back are Coach Martin, Amanda Rice, Amanda Trisket Kolstee, Marcy Dankovich, Katie Lemon, Chelsey Cummings, Amanda Ordines, Rebecca Zimmerman, Tiffany Holthouse, Danielle Reynolds, Ivy Neal Krenzer, Rachel Ottaway, Danielle Lincoln, Meaghan Rowland, Jen Martin Anderson, Alicia Gordon, Bryelle Cortright and Coach Wells.

# class NOTES

**Joan V. Cusimano Lindquist '60** visited Jamestown in November 2010 to discuss and sign copies of her book *The Lost Neighborhood Collection*. The book contains essays and articles about the Italian-American community in Jamestown that was demolished during urban renewal in the late 1960s and early 1970s. Mrs. Lindquist resides in Jackson, NJ.

**William Bellavia '64** published his newest book, *Rural Dentist*, an autobiographical look at his life in Medina, NY while he and his family were involved in his dental practice. This is Dr. Bellavia's fourth published book. He received his degree from the State University at Buffalo Dental School, and practiced dentistry from 1968 until his retirement in 2001.

**Barry "Bob" Roth '65** has published his third book, *College Success: Advice for Parents of High School and College Students*. Known as The College & Career Success Coach, Bob also writes articles for college career services offices, campus newspapers, parent associations, and employment websites. A former campus recruiter, he has also served as an adjunct at Marist College.

**Randall S. Peterson '72** retired from the Jamestown Board of Public Utilities, where he served as deputy general manager. He was employed by the organization for 38 years.

**Scott Newhouse '88** has been appointed director of golf at the Twin Eagles Club in Naples, FL. He was previously employed as the director of golf at Naples National Golf Club, and he has hosted two U.S. Open qualifying events.

**Tim Piazza '89** was named president of Blackstone-NEY Ultrasonics in January 2011. He will be responsible for all operations at the Jamestown location. He most recently held the position of manager of research and development technology with the aeroengine division of SKF in Jamestown.

**Nathan Naetzker '93** had his artwork featured in an exhibition in JCC's Weeks Gallery. After graduating from JCC, he received a BFA in painting from Buffalo State College and an MFA in painting from the New York Academy of Art.

**Andrea Dimaio '95** was honored with the YWCA Jamestown Women of Achievement Award for 2010. The award is given to women who are leaders, mentors, and role models who willingly share their skills with others in the community.

**Stacy L. Heinrich '04** and **Jeffrey L. Chase '96** were married on July 23, 2010 in Ennis, MT. She is employed by Pine Valley Central School. He is a registered nurse and unit manager at Heritage Park Rehab and Skilled Nursing. The couple lives in Conewango Valley, NY.

**Tiffany Wakeley '00** was honored with the YWCA Jamestown Women of Achievement Award for 2010. The award is given to women who are leaders, mentors, and role models who willingly share their skills with others in the community.

**Anne C. Zdrojewski '00** has received national board certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She teaches literacy in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools system in North Carolina. After receiving her associate's degree at JCC, she received both bachelor's and master's degrees in education from SUNY Fredonia.

**Kathleen VanStray '01** was named Employee of the Month for January 2011 by her employer, Cassadaga Job Corps Academy. She is a reading instructor in the academy's career development department, where she has been employed for three years.

60s

70s

80s

90s

2000s

**Stacey Newton '02** is engaged to marry Paul Gordon. Stacey is employed by the New York State Teachers Retirement System. A September 2010 wedding is planned.

**Sarah M. Gundstrom '05** and Mark E. Ewig were married on June 26, 2010. She is employed by Capital Region BOCES. The couple lives in Schenectady, NY.

**Ashley N. Edstrom '08** married TJ Patrick Williamson on July 16, 2010. She attends SUNY Fredonia where she is working toward a degree in early childhood education. The couple resides in Fredonia.

**Olufemi Lawrence '08** attended Officer Candidate School with the US Navy and has been commissioned as an ensign. He is now in Pensacola, FL for flight school, and is working toward his goal of becoming a fighter pilot.

2000s

## Are Employers and Job Seekers Connecting?

### Not really...

By Rita Freeborough, M.Ed  
Employment Development Specialist  
Jamestown Community College, Jamestown Campus

Employers prefer to advertise openings internally and by contacting colleges, training facilities, and one-stop career centers such as Chautauqua Works and the Pennsylvania CareerLink. Majority of job seekers look for occupations by using the newspaper want ads and the web.

Advertising job openings in the newspaper is the employer's least favorite method. It costs employers time and money to place ads plus they do not want to receive 'hundreds' of resumes. In regards to websites, employers sometime do not remember to remove job announcements from company sites once the jobs are filled. For national websites, the Department of Labor estimated 3% individuals get jobs from Monster.com, 1% from HotJobs.com, and 4% from CareerBuilders.com.

### MAKE THE CONNECTION!

#### Say 'Yes' to Job Opportunities

It appears that most job seekers turn down offers because the job is not good enough or quite what he/she wanted. Saying 'yes' leads to new experiences and once employed, the workers get first bid on openings advertised internally.

#### 'Net' the 'Work'

Network is the best job search method to tap the hidden job market. The concept of network is exchanging ideas, making contacts, and meeting people. Employers prefer to do business with individuals they know. An example: Michael, age 42 and married with children, was a consultant for a home building business. The company had to lay off workers and Michael was one. He began to network with people he knew. He talked with a fellow church member who was aware of two openings in home building. The result: Michael was hired as a home construction expert by an advertising firm.

#### Creative Job Search

If the job search methods are not working, it's time to extend the search in areas that have not been previously considered. Take creative risks in the search. Explore areas such as the chamber of commerce, business expos, career fairs, volunteer, special events, and professional groups. The more diverse the methods, the better the chances of finding employment.

#### College Job Placement Office

Employers contact college placement offices almost daily. It is recommended that alumni establish rapport with these offices. Meet with our employment development specialists!

#### Jamestown Campus:

Mrs. Rita Freeborough  
716.338.1066  
RitaFreeborough@mail.sunyjc.edu

#### Olean Campus:

Mrs. Anna Bush  
716.376.7508  
AnnaBush@mail.sunyjc.edu

# JCC's Entrepreneurship Certificate Earns State Approval

Both the New York State Education Department and the State University of New York have granted approval for JCC to offer a new 30-credit hour certificate in entrepreneurship.

"We're excited about this certificate program which provides students an opportunity to develop entrepreneurial skills with an understanding of accounting, marketing, business law, and management as they relate to business ownership," said Jeanne Johnston, assistant dean of business and social sciences at JCC. "Through electives, the student will have the opportunity to explore various areas of business and add a more in-depth level of skill to be used in becoming a successful entrepreneur."

"All students should be prepared for the career world with an entrepreneurial mindset," Ms. Johnston said. "Health care majors might find themselves choosing independent home health as an option. Education majors could open up their own child care centers, and mechanical technology students might consider opening up their own machine shops. The possibilities are endless when you view the world as an entrepreneur."

Entrepreneurship Finance, to be offered during the upcoming spring semester, examines basic accounting practices and tax issues with an emphasis on applications for business ownership. Topics include the purpose, design, and use of various financial documents; costs

## "A pathway to small business ownership and success now passes through Jamestown Community College."

According to Ms. Johnston, in addition to core courses covering business law, operations, finance, and business operations, students also have a chance to explore such topics as retail management, franchise operations, and family-owned business. An entrepreneurship internship is also available.

"A unique feature of the certificate is that it can be completed entirely online or through a combination of online and campus-based courses," Ms. Johnston said. "JCC's program is the only entrepreneurship certificate program available through the SUNY Learning Network, the statewide system's web-based course delivery platform."

The new certificate program was developed in cooperation with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) at JCC with support from the Appalachian Regional Commission.

"The advancement of technology evens the competitive environment for many new businesses in rural areas," said Irene Dobies, SBDC director. "Offering more challenging entrepreneurship courses will help our local business owners survive and take advantage of the opportunities in today's environment. By owning their own businesses, they're taking charge of their futures. We're excited about providing the educational components that can lead students to small business success."

While affiliated with JCC's business curriculum, JCC's entrepreneurship courses can be valuable electives for all students, according to Ms. Johnston.



and inventory control; the creation and use of financial statements; tax liability and consequences; forms of revenue, costs, depreciation, and investments; daily operations and tax planning. Planning and managing assets, budgeting and control, debt versus equity financing, managing short- and long-term funds, capital budgeting techniques, and cost of capital to the firm are also explored. Students will be required to complete a segment of a business plan as it relates to the course.

For additional information on JCC's new entrepreneurship certificate, call 716.338.1000 or 376.7500 or visit [www.sunyjcc.edu/entrepreneurship](http://www.sunyjcc.edu/entrepreneurship).

## Join Jamestown Community College's Recruitment Team

Do you live in the Buffalo, Rochester, Pittsburgh, or Syracuse area? JCC's recruitment team is looking for alumni willing to represent the college at regional college fairs and other events.

**If you're willing to play this important role for your alma mater, contact Nelson Garifi, JCC's executive director of marketing and academic initiatives, via e-mail at [nelsongarifi@mail.sunyjcc.edu](mailto:nelsongarifi@mail.sunyjcc.edu).**

# Alumni Reunite in Jamestown

by Ann Dahl Luce '52

Early in August 2010, a small but special group of JCC alumni met at Friendly's in Jamestown for breakfast. All had attended JCC on the third floor of Jamestown High School in the early 1950s.

JCC traces its inception to fall 1950, and the graduating class of 1952 was the first one to complete a two-year course of study in a New York state community college.

Three of the 20 members of that class attended the breakfast: Barbara Bluckhorn Lane of Jamestown, Eleanor Sundell Pinder from Florida, and Ann Dahl Luce of Randolph, NY. Other JCCer's who attended the breakfast were George Vishnia of Rochester Hills, MI, Joan Harrington Ericson of Lakewood, NY, and Mary Michos Riolo and Frank and Vince Mallare of Jamestown. Greetings were sent from J. Bard Anderson of Parkville, MD, Devre Tom McCann and Sally Nelson Black of Jamestown, and Tony Tripi of Cambria, CA.

A great deal of reminiscing took place as participants recalled the efforts made by all to make JCC a "real" college – even though classes were held afternoons and evenings until 11 p.m. on the third floor of the high school. Dance Club, Allegany Weekend, square dances at Spencer's Barn, formal dances at Hotel Governor Fenton, and bowling all brought back fond memories.

Most students held part-time and some full-time jobs to attend JCC. Tuition was \$75 per semester, used books were the order of the day, and many students lived at home.

During the breakfast, instructors' names flew about: Bob Kochersberger, Lillian Congdon, Bernice Giebner, Peter Brase, Bertha Spooner, Cooper Milner, and Rhea Kay Boardman. Pictures were shared, tales told, and "The Student Album – JCC 1952" was a popular item.

All agreed: "This should not be our last gathering!"

## Michael Moots Named Executive Director of JCC Foundation

One of the area's most experienced fund-raisers has put his talents to work for JCC. Michael Moots of Jamestown has been appointed executive director of the JCC Foundation. Moots assumed his new post February 1.

"I am very excited for the community, as well as JCC, to have Mike with us," said Hadley A. Weinberg, president of the JCC Foundation's board of directors, who announced the appointment. "He has relationships throughout the area and beyond that will allow us to enhance the mission of the foundation and college."

In his new role, Moots is responsible for planning, organizing, and directing comprehensive annual fund-raising campaigns for all sectors of the JCC community as well as for pursuing fund-raising strategies, such as planned giving, that enhance the long-term financial health of the foundation. He will oversee donor recognition and the distribution of foundation funds through student scholarships, faculty grants, and other means, to advance the quality of the college's academic programs.

"There's no doubt that Mike's expertise will help position JCC's philanthropic base for the future," said JCC President Gregory T. DeCinque. "Mike shares the commitment to excellence that has made JCC the region's premier provider of higher education for 60 years."

Moots comes to JCC from the United Way of Southern Chautauqua County, where he has been executive director since 1990. His accomplishments with the United Way include directing a \$1.3 million annual campaign, raising \$775,000 for a new operating endowment, increasing operating reserves, and establishing a two-year fund distribution cycle.

Reflecting on his new post, Moots said, "The purpose of the JCC Foundation is to support the important work of the college. This includes the development of scholarships to assist eligible students with their college expenses. I am very excited about the opportunity to become one part of the college's effort to provide affordable education of the highest quality for its students, especially during these challenging economic times for many working families."

Prior to relocating to Jamestown, Moots was employed by the United Way in Youngstown and Canton, OH. He also served as a personnel director, director of planning and operations, and program consultant in Ohio and was a teacher for the Peace Corps in Micronesia. Moots earned a bachelor's degree in psychology at Notre Dame University and a master's degree in social development at the University of Chicago.

Active in community service, Moots is a member of the Rotary Club of Jamestown, chairman of the Chautauqua County Emergency Food and Shelter Program local board, member of the JCC board of trustees, and member and past officer of the Jamestown Elks Lodge #263.

He served previously as a member of the boards of directors of the United Way of New York State, the Southern Chautauqua County Federal Credit Union, and the Jamestown Area Youth Soccer Organization and as chairman of the Chautauqua County Task Force on Alcohol and Substance Abuse. He has also served as a field educator for the State University of New York at Buffalo's graduate school of social work and as an adjunct faculty member at JCC.

## Former JCC Board Chairpersons Honored for Their Contributions

The current and former chairpersons of the Jamestown Community College board of trustees received the John D. Hamilton Board Service Chair Award during the JCC Foundation's annual dinner on October 28.

In recognizing the recipients, JCC President Gregory T. DeCinque said, "They have often been the ones to see that the president remained steadfastly committed to and focused on the mission of the college and prodded him along or propped him up as dictated by the situation."

The award celebrated both the college's 60th year anniversary and the leadership of 14 individuals who have helped guide the college over its history. The award was named after Hamilton, who served on the board from 1954-1963 and was chairperson from 1957-1963.

Past board of trustees chairs also included Sidney T. Hewes, one of the college's founders, served as its first chairperson from 1950-1956; Howard A. Johnston, chairperson from 1956-1957; Charles H. Price, chairperson from 1964-1968; Simon Goldman, chairperson from 1968-1972; R. Quintus Anderson, chairperson from 1972-1977; Lucy Alpaugh, chairperson from 1977-1979; Samuel C. Alessi, chairperson from 1979-1988; Miles L. Lasser, chairperson from 1988-1990; Je'Anne G. Bargar, chairperson from 1990-1994; Lillian V. Ney, chairperson from 1994-1998; Samuel P. Price Jr., chairperson from 1998-2003; James P. Griffin, chairperson from 2003-2007. The current board chairperson, Lance S. Spicer, began serving as chairperson in 2007.

The award was presented to the individuals, or their family members, by Dr. DeCinque and John Garfoot, JCC vice president and dean of administration and JCC Foundation executive director.

In his remarks, JCC Foundation president Hadley Weinberg spotlighted the efforts of foundation board members, staff, and volunteers on their collaboration with college leaders to assist with funding priorities and the needs of the college.

"The foundation continues to create opportunities for our students and the communities we serve," said Weinberg. "We are nearing completion of our new, state-of-the-art science facility on our Jamestown campus. It will be one of the first LEED Silver certified buildings in the area and will



position JCC as a center of excellence in the sciences and a leader in environmental stewardship, sustainability, and green design for years to come."

Weinberg also noted that in spite of the downturn in the economy, the JCC Foundation raised over \$1,450,000 during the last fiscal year.

A priority for the foundation, emphasized Weinberg, is to continue to build the Unified Student Assistance Endowed Scholarship. The program guarantees that the most talented students in JCC's service area are able to start their college careers at JCC.

Starting in 1979, JCC and the community made a commitment to pay the cost of full tuition at JCC for Regents diploma students graduating in the top 20 percent of their high school classes. To date, \$5,250,000 has been awarded in USA scholarships to over 2,700 students.

The JCC Foundation is a private, non-profit organization formed in 1983 to manage contributions made on behalf of JCC and to allocate the funds to JCC programs or events which are not included in the college's operating expense budget. JCC Foundation funds are used to support scholarships, faculty development, cultural events, acquisition of instructional resources, and special programs for students, faculty, and the community.

Front: Charles H. Price, Samuel P. Price, Jr., Lucy J. Alpaugh, Samuel C. Alessi, Lillian V. Ney, and Robert Bargar, accepting the award on behalf of his wife, Je'Anne G. Bargar. Standing: Lance S. Spicer, Miles L. Lasser, James P. Griffin, Michael Goldman, accepting the award on behalf of his father, Simon Goldman, and Alison Churchill, accepting on behalf of her mother, Je'Anne G. Bargar. (Absent from photo: Robert and Hope Hamilton Pettegrew, accepting on behalf of her father, John D. Hamilton.)



## Cummins Foundation Donates To JCC's Science Center

The Cummins Foundation has given \$50,000 over a three-year period toward the purchase of educational equipment for Jamestown Community College's new science center.

The Cummins gift will provide several compound and dissecting microscopes, as well as a global warming and greenhouse effect lab kit, for the science center. The 26,762 square foot facility, which is scheduled for completion in January 2011 on the Jamestown Campus, will house JCC's biology, biotechnology, chemistry, and geology programs.

"We are very pleased to support JCC in the construction of its new science building," said Dave Porter, plant manager of Cummins' Jamestown Engine Plant (JEP). "We have worked with JCC on a number of initiatives over the years and consider JCC an essential partner in the community."

The \$12 million Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified building will provide quality science education to area students and help provide future employment opportunities in emerging high-tech fields, according to JCC President Gregory T. DeCinque.

"Because science and technical education is essential for our country to be globally competitive, JCC is upgrading its science facilities, laboratories, and equipment so our students' first college level science experiences build a solid foundation for their future studies and work," said Dr. DeCinque.

The facility will also be a resource for the community by providing science training and sustainability education for area primary and secondary students and their teachers, and serving as a visual showcase of science, green technology, and sustainability.

**"We see JCC as an important partner in education initiatives not only for our employees but for the entire community."**

Ken Sensenbaugher, JEP human resources director

Porter and Sensenbaugher were joined by other Cummins officials, including JEP Community Involvement leader Angie Peck and JEP

Community Involvement team members

Doug Sandmeyer and

Tom Swanson, in presenting the gift to JCC during a tour of the science center.



## Longtime Chemistry Instructor Offers Scholarship For Top Students

David Emke '01

As a way to give back to a college that he says has been "a wonderful provider" to him and his family for more than 40 years, Charles Brininger decided to leave an endowment to Jamestown Community College in his will.

Then, he had a better idea.

"The more I started thinking about it, I said, 'You know, that's kind of stupid - why should I wait until I'm dead to give the college the money?'" Brininger said. "This way, I might even be able to make the award myself, in person."

Brininger, who retired from JCC as a full-time chemistry instructor in 2003 but continues to teach part-time, has partnered with the JCC Foundation to offer a \$10,000 endowed tuition scholarship to top freshman chemistry students who plan to continue at the college for their sophomore years.

In his years of teaching, Brininger said that he had seen numerous students receive scholarships from the college after their freshman years only to transfer away immediately - something he did not want to occur with his award, hence the criteria.

"It always struck me as wrong, and I didn't want to see that happen," he said. "This is going to be awarded over two semesters - one at the beginning of their sophomore year and one after one semester

of that year - so that there is kind of a guarantee built in with it that they will still be with us, taking good hardcore science courses, particularly organic chemistry."

Brininger said the award that has been given in the past to top chemistry students has been rather small - a free Chemical Rubber Company handbook and \$50. He has always believed they deserved much more.

"This is an opportunity to give them a little better incentive to work hard, because I consider freshman chemistry a very difficult starting course," he said, adding that the award will be based on academic performance rather than need. "They have to learn a lot of things, and they have to recall a great deal - it's very broad in its scope."

Brininger, who began teaching at JCC in 1969 after attending graduate school at the University of Michigan, taught freshman chemistry for more than 30 years in addition to teaching "every other chemistry course JCC ever offered," he said. In those years of teaching, he worked with thousands of students - many of whom he remains in contact with today.

His current physician, dentist, optometrist, pharmacist and several other professional acquaintances are all former students of his, Brininger said. The fact that so many chemistry students from JCC have gone on to professional careers locally is one more reason he wants to make sure the best of the best continue at the college for their second year.

"I thought it was an important opportunity to give back to the community with this scholarship, keeping a hometown person here for yet another year and helping them go on and become a professional," he said. "There are many who have gone on to become doctors, pharmacists, and even chemistry professors."

In fact, Brininger said he has felt as though he has been "spoiled" over the course of his career, receiving some of the very best students the college had to offer. To even enroll in college chemistry, Brininger said, students needed to pass a pre-screening process by meeting minimal verbal and quantitative exam scores.

While today's education system receives a lot of negative press, Brininger said, it is his opinion that the top students with whom he has the privilege of sharing the classroom remain impressive - and deserving of reward.

"The good students of today are as good as the good students were of yesterday. They are still top-notch, very good students," he said. "The bulk of the students may not be as focused. ... There are a tremendous amount of distractions today that we didn't have then. But good students still know how to knuckle-down and get themselves educated and do what they have to do to be successful in the classes."

Brininger began teaching at JCC one year after the Arts and Sciences Center opened, and he hopes to continue teaching part-time in the college's new science building, scheduled to open in 2011.

"I think that'll be a good link for this scholarship, to be linked up with the first year that's open," he said. "It'll be exciting to be in yet another new building, seeing a whole new crop of students struggling and succeeding."

alumni MAGAZINE is a publication of Jamestown Community College.

### ADDRESS LETTERS TO:

Office of Alumni Affairs, Jamestown Community College, 525 Falconer Street, Jamestown, NY 14702.

EMAIL: [alumni@mail.sunyjc.edu](mailto:alumni@mail.sunyjc.edu)

ALUMNI MAGAZINE ON THE WEB: [www.sunyjc.edu/alumni](http://www.sunyjc.edu/alumni)

We actively solicit story ideas and personal updates for our Class Notes section from our alumni. Please contact Elizabeth Booth, Director, Alumni Affairs, [elizabethbooth@mail.sunyjc.edu](mailto:elizabethbooth@mail.sunyjc.edu), or by phone, 716.338.1056. [www.sunyjc.edu](http://www.sunyjc.edu)

## Foundation Board Welcomes Three New Members

John Petruzzi, Dominic Rogers, and Ward "Skip" Wilday have been appointed to the JCC Foundation board of directors.

**John Petruzzi** is the owner of the Petruzzi Insurance Agency, with offices in New York and Pennsylvania. He is a licensed NYS insurance instructor, and has taught insurance licensing courses at JCC's Cattaraugus County Campus. He volunteers as a coach for youth sports at the YMCA, along with Little League and flag football. He earned a bachelor's degree along with a professional golf management designation at Ferris State University.

**Dominic Rogers** is the director of information technology at CUTCO Corporation in Olean. He is a JCC alumnus and earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford, and is currently pursuing a master's degree at St. Bonaventure University.

**Skip Wilday** is senior vice president of investments at Smith Barney, Inc. in Olean. He serves on the board of directors for the Olean YMCA, Cuba Lake Yacht Club and Holimont Ski Resort, and is a former member of the Olean General Hospital Foundation's board of directors.

## Planning Underway for Golf Tournaments

Spring is almost here and many college and foundation employees, along with volunteers from the community, have been busy preparing for the two annual golf tournaments to be held in May.

The JCC Foundation golf tournaments provide critical support to the college's athletic programs, with over 80% of the proceeds directly supporting scholarships for student athletes. Proceeds from these events also support the purchase of uniforms and equipment.

This year, the Jamestown Campus golf tournament will be held at the Chautauqua Golf Club on Saturday, May 14. The Cattaraugus County Campus tournament will be held at the Bartlett Country Club on Wednesday, May 25.

Volunteers provide critical support for these events, and many opportunities are available for students, staff, alumni and community members to help make the tournaments a success. Sponsors are needed to ensure another successful year of fundraising for athletics. Those who are interested to learn more about sponsorships or volunteer opportunities should contact the Foundation office at 716.338.1010 or [foundation@mail.sunyjcc.edu](mailto:foundation@mail.sunyjcc.edu)

## Manley Trust Provides JCC With Technology Upgrade

Jamestown Community College's Cattaraugus County Campus received a grant from the F.T. and Anna C. Manley Memorial Trust to upgrade security technology in JCC's Library and Liberal Arts Center.

The \$15,000 grant was used to purchase and install vandal dome cameras, hardware, controllers, and the necessary software to make the building as secure as possible for students, faculty, staff, and community members.

The recent grant represents the third gift to JCC from the Manley Memorial Trust and the second used for technology upgrades on JCC's Cattaraugus County Campus. In 2007 a gift of \$40,000 was used to fund wireless Internet access throughout the campus while \$22,000 was given in 2001 toward the campus capital campaign.

**Visit the Jamestown Community College Alumni Facebook page at [Facebook.com/JCCAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/JCCAlumni)**



## Enjoy the Benefits of Membership in Your Alumni Association!

### Green Card Member—\$20 per year

(Cattaraugus County Campus and Jamestown Campus)

- Alumni social events
- Discounted membership to the Olean Family YMCA
- Subscription to The Communicator (JCC's bi-weekly newsletter)
- Continue as an active member of the JCC community

### Gold Card Member—\$230 per year

(Jamestown Campus)

- All benefits listed above plus the following:
- Eligible for Alumni Scholarship and "Members Only" Continuing Education Scholarship
- Eligibility to join the Southern Chautauqua Federal Credit Union at JCC
- Select membership benefits at the Roger Tory Peterson Institute
- Eligibility for tuition waivers through Houghton College's PACE program
- Free or reduced admission to campus cultural events (movies, plays, concerts, lectures, etc.)
- Free or reduced admission to campus athletic events
- Discounts on movies at the Reg Lenna Civic Center and plays at the Lucille Ball Little Theatre
- Free participation in JCC's Total Fitness program, Jamestown Campus, which includes: Swimming and Diving Pools • Life Fitness Center • Racquetball Court Weight Room • Track • Gymnasium

### Family Gold Membership—\$370 per year

(Jamestown Campus)

A "Family Gold Membership" includes all the benefits listed above PLUS a family membership with the Total Fitness program! This gives your family members (spouse and children under 21) access to the recreation facilities.

Questions?  
Call 716.665.1056 or e-mail: [alumni@mail.sunyjcc.edu](mailto:alumni@mail.sunyjcc.edu)

**Please return completed application on the right with payment to:**  
Jamestown Community College Alumni Association  
525 Falconer St., P.O. Box 20, Jamestown, NY 14702-0020

### Jamestown Community College Alumni Association Application Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Last name while student \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (00/00/00) \_\_\_\_\_ (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone# \_\_\_\_\_

Year graduated (JCC) \_\_\_\_\_ Degree earned \_\_\_\_\_ Campus \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Please check the appropriate option(s) below:

- My "Green Card" Membership dues are enclosed - \$20 (Jamestown and Cattaraugus County Campuses)
- My "Gold Card" Membership dues are enclosed - \$230 (Jamestown Campus only)
- Add family recreation benefits to my "Gold Card" Membership. I'm enclosing \$370. List family members' names and birthdates (spouse and children under age 21) below. (Jamestown Campus only)  Donation to the Alumni Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Payment information:**  Enclosed is my check made payable to JCC Alumni Association.

**Please charge my:**  Visa  MC  Am/Ex  Discover

Credit Card# \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*For family Gold Membership only:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (00/00/00) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (00/00/00) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (00/00/00) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (00/00/00) \_\_\_\_\_

# Alumni Profile: Leah Yerpe

David Emke '01

Leah Yerpe '05 already knew firsthand that JCC offered a high quality of education. Her father, Dale Yerpe, is a longtime English professor at the college and as she grew up, Ms. Yerpe was a witness to the dedication he gave to the college.

"I saw how much genuine care he has for the education and success of his students," she said. "So I knew if my dad was any indication of the quality of faculty at JCC, it must be a good school. And I was not disappointed."

While earning an A.S. in fine art from JCC, Ms. Yerpe says the faculty at the school provided her with the support and courage to pursue the career path she truly wanted. At the same time, she said, they were forthright with her about the challenges she would face as an emerging artist.

"They instilled in me a disciplined work ethic that has gotten me where I am today," Ms. Yerpe said. "My original plan was to earn a BFA in illustration after transferring from JCC. This was so I could have an actual money-making career after graduation. I will always be grateful to the fine arts faculty at JCC for talking me out of this."

Illustration would have been a compromise for her, she said, as painting was always her dream. Thanks to the encouragement she received at JCC, Ms. Yerpe transferred to SUNY Fredonia and earned a BFA in painting/drawing. From there, she enrolled at the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, from which she graduated in 2009 with an MFA in painting.

She said that because the arts program at her high school was very small, she likely would not have been able to achieve the heights she did in her education without her two years at JCC.

"Attending an arts college immediately out of high school would have been difficult to impossible," she said. "JCC gave me an opportunity to develop an arts portfolio that allowed me to be accepted into the painting program at Fredonia."

Ms. Yerpe's artistic talents returned to JCC in November and December with an exhibition at the college's Cattaraugus County Campus, "Lost in Space: The Ambiguities of Life and Art." The works in the exhibition feature drawings and paintings rendered in classical Greek style, with figures floating across the canvas as though they have escaped the bonds of gravity.

While she has always enjoyed drawing and creating works of art, Ms. Yerpe said she never had an "aha" moment where she realized she wanted to be an artist. Instead, she said her skills just continued to develop naturally until they became an indelible part of her.

"I wanted to be better, so I practiced and studied and slowly developed my skills," she said. "It's a continual process - I suppose once I'm fully satisfied with my abilities, I won't need to make art anymore."

Though Ms. Yerpe said art-making is a very private and personal field, involving letting one's guard down and expressing intimate thoughts and emotions, one of the most rewarding aspects of the field for an artist is the display of work for people to see. In addition to her recent show at JCC, Ms. Yerpe has had her work exhibited at numerous galleries in Brooklyn and Manhattan, as well as in Erie, PA, at SUNY Fredonia, and in Westfield, NY, among other locations.



Despite all her successes, Ms. Yerpe said she still has a long way to go in the art world. Right now, she is assisting another artist in the production of sculptures as a second job.

"I look forward to the day I do not need a second - or third - job to supplement the income my artwork generates," she said. "To get there, I need long-term representation by one or more galleries that can sell my work. For now I'm focused on building my portfolio and establishing a network of curators and gallery owners who are familiar with my work."

She said it can be tough to come home to her tiny Brooklyn apartment after a long day and concentrate on her own artwork. However, she is remaining focused upon her passion.

"The job in the sculpture studio may be my primary source of income, but my primary job is always producing my own pieces," she said. "Prioritizing is key."

Because she has not gotten discouraged, her talents continue to grow - as does her number of exhibitions. She said that other fledgling artists must understand that success isn't going to come without hard work and an investment of time.

"Realize there are hundreds of other artists competing with you, and the demand for artwork is relatively small," she said. "You will face a lot of rejection in the beginning, but be persistent - too many young artists get discouraged and give up too soon."





525 Falconer Street | P.O. Box 20 | Jamestown, NY 14702-0020

*Parents: If you are receiving this publication on behalf of your son/daughter who no longer resides at your address, please provide the alumni office with his/her current contact information, 716.338.1056 or alumni@mail.sunyjcc.edu.*

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# alumni MAGAZINE CALENDAR

JAMESTOWN COMMUNITY COLLEGE • WINTER 2011

Find out more about these and other upcoming events at [www.sunyjcc.edu/calendar](http://www.sunyjcc.edu/calendar)

## APRIL 23

JCC Jazz Fest featuring the Bobby Militello Quartet. Concert begins at 8 p.m.

*Tickets available at the door or through JCC's box office, 716.338.1187.*



## MAY 14

22nd Annual George Bataitis Open Golf Tournament 8:30 a.m. shotgun start, Chautauqua Golf Club. The event is a fundraiser for JCC athletics scholarships. *Call 716.338.1010 to register.*

## MAY 20

Commencement - Cattaraugus County Campus 7 p.m., Olean Family YMCA/JCC Physical Education Center.

## MAY 21

Commencement - Jamestown Campus 10 a.m., Physical Education Complex, Jamestown Campus.

## MAY 23

Summer Session I begins. Visit [www.sunyjcc.edu](http://www.sunyjcc.edu) for course listings

## MAY 25

19th Annual JCC Scholarship Classic Golf Tournament 1 p.m. shotgun start, Bartlett Country Club. The event is a fundraiser for JCC athletics scholarships. *Call 716.376.7529 to register.*

## JUNE 5-10

National Junior College Athletic Association Division 3 Men's Golf Championship, Chautauqua Golf Club. Featuring teams and individual qualifiers from nearly 40 two-year colleges and sponsored by JCC. *Call 716.338.1180 for information.*

## JULY 5

Summer Session II begins. Visit [www.sunyjcc.edu](http://www.sunyjcc.edu) for course listings