

Alfred State

State University of New York College of Technology

Transitions

Spring 2018

NEWS FOR ALFRED STATE ALUMNI, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS



Pioneer
connections

Wow! MacKenzie is all new,
but still filled with memories.



TRANSITIONS

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GREETINGS

alumni, faculty, staff, & friends,

Throughout my time as your college president, I have found that Alfred State connections are everywhere.

In fact, I have had the privilege of connecting with many of our alumni in locations all over the United States, including California, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, and Washington, just to name a few.

At Alfred State, we're all about making important connections, especially for our students, whether it's with employers who are looking to fill positions, faculty members who can provide valuable guidance and instruction, or fellow students with whom they establish lifelong friendships.

The connection between Alfred State and our alumni is also a significant one. Just as we like to keep you informed about all of the exciting things going on at the college, we also like hearing about all of the amazing milestones and achievements in your lives.

The theme of this issue of Transitions is "Connections." In the following pages, you will read about several alumni who have made significant connections, including Scott Mesa, who forged a strong connection with the Kappa Sigma Epsilon fraternity; Marion McClellan, whose connection with an employer as a student led to a 35-year career with the federal government; and Leon Blondin, a CEO whose company has maintained a strong connection with Alfred State for more than a decade.

You will also read about alumnus Dave Andrews, whose connection with a group of fellow choir members led to friendships that endure to this day. Each year, he and his friends return to Alfred State during the Concert Choir Alumni Weekend to reminisce, laugh, and of course, sing.

Undoubtedly, each of you has been influenced by a connection with someone in your life, be it a parent, a friend, or perhaps even a professor from Alfred State. The connections we make as students are so important to shaping who we are and determining where our lives take us after graduation.

Of course, your connection to Alfred State doesn't end once you earn your degree. Our college forms a bond that we all share, one that connects all of us together. No matter where we go or what we do, we will always be connected to one another and Alfred State College because we will always be Pioneers.

Respectfully,

Dr. Skip Sullivan, President

99-Year-Young PIONEER



More than 75 years since earning her degree at Alfred State College, Marion McClellan still feels a strong connection to her alma mater. The memories are as clear as if it were only yesterday.

Her recollections include singing in the choir, making friends, taking excellent classes, and making a significant connection with an employer. It's easy to understand why she now holds a special place in her heart for the college even after so many years.

Marion, now 99, grew up in Buffalo and attended services at Lincoln Memorial Methodist Church. There she met a minister who would organize student trips to Alfred State College.

"A couple of his children attended Alfred State," Marion explained. "He was responsible for my visit to Alfred State, as well as my attending the college."

In 1939, Marion enrolled at ASC in the college's business program. ASC was quite different in those days, as classes took place on the Alfred University campus. Alfred State's main campus as it stands today did not exist.

Marion began working as soon as she graduated, embarking on a federal government career that would span three-and-a-half decades.

Just like today's students, however, Marion was taught by excellent professors who had a big impact on her future.

"My classes were interesting and they prepared me for graduation and moving into the workforce," she said.

While at ASC, Marion also had a positive experience outside of the classroom, as she made a number of friends and participated in the choir.

"That was great fun," she said. "I most enjoyed the choir when we traveled. Once, we even traveled to Buffalo to perform, which I loved because my family and friends were able to attend the concert."

Reflecting on her time at Alfred State, Marion noted that she felt as though she grew up a lot during her time at the college. As someone who realizes the value of making connections and getting the most out of a college experience, she offers this advice to current students:

"Take in all you can and learn as much as you can. It is so vital to your future."

Another significant moment in Marion's Alfred State experience came just prior to her graduation in 1941. One day, the Department of Housing and Urban Development sent a recruiter from Washington, DC, to the college to interview prospective graduates.

At that time, Marion interviewed and was offered a position with the department, which she accepted. She began working at the job as soon as she graduated, embarking on a federal government career that would span three-and-a-half decades.

During her time working for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Marion served as a relocation specialist, in which she was responsible for monitoring the moving of homes. Looking back on her 35-year career, Marion most enjoyed the interactions she had with so many people, as well as being able to travel a lot.

As it turns out, the connection with an employer she made at Alfred State College ended up being very beneficial not just professionally, but personally, as well. While working for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, Marion met her husband, Carl, who was also employed by the department.

Carl had grown up in Alabama and was a graduate of Talladaga College. He spent several years serving in the military prior to working for the federal government as a dental technician.

Shortly after marrying in 1950, the couple moved north to Hartford, CT. Marion continued to work for the department as a regional housing field officer, overseeing several areas within the state.

In 1977, Marion retired from the department and went to work for her husband's real estate business for 15 years. During this time, she earned some notable achievements, including graduating from the Connecticut Realtors Institute in 1979, and receiving an Urban League Guild award for outstanding service in 1983.

After retiring from the real estate business, Marion and Carl moved to Bradenton, FL, in 1992. Eventually, the couple moved into a retirement community there called "Westminster Communities of Bradenton," where they lived together for several years. They were later joined by her sister, Mame, who passed away in 2017 at the age of 105.

In 2011, after 61 years of marriage, Carl passed away. Marion continues to live in Bradenton, and to this day is grateful for all that her Alfred State experience brought her: great friends, an excellent education, and an important connection with an employer that resulted in a long and rewarding career, as well as meeting her eventual husband.

In 2017, Marion was excited to learn that her alma mater would be hosting an alumni event right in Bradenton, not far from where she lived. It was the first alumni event she had been able to attend in years.

"I had a wonderful time," she said. "I was treated beautifully and enjoyed reconnecting with the college and learning about how things have changed."



Marion, fourth from the left, in the 1941 Glee Club.

The *song*
of *Friendship*



Meaningful connections happen in many forms at Alfred State College, whether it's engaging with potential employers at a career fair, speaking with a faculty or staff member who gives helpful advice, or making friendships that last a lifetime.

For Dave Andrews, some of the most important connections he made as a student at Alfred State were with several members of the ASC concert choir. They became his friends, his family, and his support system throughout his time at the college.

To this day, even though they live many miles apart, Dave and his friends continue to stay in touch, and they still make it a point to return to Alfred once a year to reconnect with one another and to sing the sweet song of friendship.

Pictured above l-r: Andy Robertaccio, Tim Fox, Dave Andrews

In 1993, Dave, then a resident of Cassadaga, was accepted into the mechanical engineering technology program at Alfred State. While obviously delighted, Dave admitted he was more excited about trying out for the college's concert choir.

With a long history of choir participation, starting at age 5, it seemed natural for Dave to audition for the choir. It provided, as he said, "a familiar anchor to latch onto as I made my first foray into independence from home."

"I'd gone to tryouts up at Orvis Auditorium and, nervous as I was, notes a-wavering, was quickly invited to join the choir, mostly on the strength of my humor and obvious desire to be included," he said. "I was thrilled."

While scribbling notes in an English class the next week, Dave was approached by a fellow choir member. With a broad smile, he invited Dave to a "git-together" with other choir members in his MacKenzie dorm room that Friday night.

"Little did I know this was my initiation into what would become an enduring, seven-member, 25-year-and-counting friendship, and all thanks to the little concert choir that could," he said.

Before long, Dave joined this small band of choir members and friends, each with a distinct nickname: Tim Fox ("Foxy"), who had invited him to MacKenzie; Andy Robertaccio ("Nature Boy"); Tim Abbott ("Jungle Boy"); Jason Augustine ("Auggie"); Wasyl Mychajluk ("Yummy"); and Jay Bischananey ("Bunyons").

"They became my world at school," explained Dave, aka "Mr. Clean."

The friends' memories together are numerous, from casual weekend hangouts to cross-country road trips (often to Phish concerts). They traveled together, broke bread together, lived together, got into shenanigans together, and harmonized together, in more ways than one. From this, a deep bond formed between the men, one that continues to endure to this day.

One of the friends' favorite activities was to camp at the nearby state forests, particularly Phillips Creek. There, the group would sing and laugh, always strengthening their brotherhood.



"They became the brothers, the compadres, the co-conspirators who'd been absent from my life until then, and who served as the family I'd been craving since my parents' divorce 14 years prior," Dave said.



It was clear that Dave's deep connections to his choir brothers completely changed his experience at Alfred State, particularly evident when he began to refer to campus as "home" only a few weeks into his second semester.

After graduating from Alfred State in 1996, Dave earned his bachelor's degree in English at SUNY Fredonia, intending to pursue a career in automotive journalism, and later received his Master of Education degree from the University of Delaware.

With a love of the outdoors, Dave was eventually drawn to Denver, CO, where he currently resides. Over the years, he has held a variety of different jobs, eventually joining the local clinical team of a national health insurance company, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield, eight years ago. He is still employed at Anthem, and is now a clinical team lead for the company's behavioral health and employee assistance program.

Shortly after joining the company, Dave was married in the mountains overlooking Estes Park, CO, with his choir brothers present. He and his wife, Christina, now have two sons, Oskar (age 5) and Edison (age 7).

Through it all, the choir brothers have been there to support each other in times of need and to celebrate together in times of joy.

"I'm certainly aware how lucky I am having had this band of brothers in my corner all these years," Dave said.

While the friends have still been able to hold "git-togethers" every so often now that they have graduated, the responsibilities of their respective lives have sometimes kept them from reuniting in full force on a regular basis. Thankfully, however, Alfred State's annual Concert Choir Alumni Weekend that takes place at the end of each April has helped bring the entire group together every year for the past couple of decades.

Although Dave lives out in Colorado, it does not prevent him from making the trek back to Alfred for the Concert Choir Alumni Weekend. Before the alumni events even commence, though, Dave and his companions return to their long-

time camping spot at Phillips Creek State Forest. It is a time filled with laughter, reminiscing, and of course, music.

While he loves the Alumni Weekend, Dave is even more thrilled by "the thought of performing around the campfire one more time with my six choir brothers, loudly belting out barbershop tunes, each song seasoned with friendship, memories, gains, losses, and a little whiskey."

With a growing number of responsibilities to their families and careers, Dave and his friends find it increasingly challenging to get out to western New York for that weekend, but the pull is strong and they continue to make it work.

"We still need the chance to touch — even if lightly, distantly — that life at Alfred State from 25 years ago that's still somehow paying dividends: so much joy, so much perspective, so much love. We want to ensure it's still out there," Dave explained. "Thankfully, each year, it still is."



ASC CONNECTIONS PROVE VALUABLE FOR ALUM



As someone who works for an investment management company that oversees billions of dollars' worth of assets, Scott Mesa recognizes value when he sees it. That's why he readily acknowledges that the connections he made as a student at Alfred State College have proven to be worth far beyond any dollar amount.

Scott, a Brooklyn native, initially enrolled in ASC's business management program in 2006. However, through an important connection he made with a professor, Scott ended up making a significant change in his career path.

"Thomas Stolberg was my academic adviser, and I always found his conversations to be helpful," Scott said. "He had a financial planning practice and had mentioned the (financial planning) program on different occasions. It sounded very interesting and he did a good job setting expectations. I would say that was a turning point in my life and in my career. For the first time, I had an idea of what I wanted to do. I'm not a financial adviser, however, that experience set the table for my future and career aspirations."

Through the financial planning program, Scott enjoyed learning about wealth management and capital markets, the different case studies his classes performed, as well as the real-world education he received.

"All the lessons really clicked for me," he said. "(The program) gave me a good foundation to embark on my career."

Another important connection Scott made as a student at Alfred State College was with the Kappa Sigma Epsilon (KSE) fraternity, membership into which, he noted, is a lifelong experience. The fraternity, he said, changed his life.

"Giving up is the easy way out, and my experience with Kappa Sigma Epsilon really reinforced that point for me," he said. "In addition, we learned that you get out of life what you're willing to put in. Said another way, there aren't any handouts, and you have to work hard to succeed. By becoming a KSE brother, you earn your letters. By working hard and going above and beyond, you earn the respect of your brothers."

One way in which Scott went above and beyond as a KSE brother was through his instrumental role in helping to create the KSE Annual Student Achievement Leadership Award.

Establishing the award, he said, was another way of showing the college and other students KSE's principles and values, adding that, "We're not just here to have fun, which is what many people assume when they hear you're in a fraternity. We're here to learn and develop leadership skills to help us succeed in the real world."

Additionally, Scott also helped reactivate the KSE scholarship fund, which awards scholarships to active members of KSE who meet certain standards to help offset the costs of books and school-related items. Scott also eventually became president of the fraternity, during which time he was awarded "Brother of the Year."

Today, Scott is the owner of the KSE house at 23 Sayles St. in Alfred. Looking back, he credits people such as Health and Wellness Services Counselor Jeanine Rose with helping to ensure the fraternity's continued success. He also acknowledges that the fraternity is one of the biggest connections he made at Alfred State.

"Those bonds I formed are lifelong," he said. "I can honestly say, those gentlemen are my best friends and my brothers."

Of course, another significant connection Scott made at ASC was with a fellow Alfred State student named Holly Walters. The two are now married and live in Ladera Ranch, CA, with their daughter, Lola Rose, who was born in December 2016.

"I believe the turning point in my life happened at ASC," he said. "It's where

everything started coming together, and also where I met my better half, Holly. Those were some of the best years of my life."

After graduating with a financial planning degree in 2011, Scott interned at Merrill Lynch in New York City, and purchased real estate in New York State that he continues to manage today. In March 2013, he was hired as a client service associate at City National Rochdale (CNR), an investment management firm specializing in intelligently personalized portfolio management for high-net-worth individuals, families, and foundations. Thanks in part to his Alfred State education, Scott quickly passed the security license exams and ended up earning his CFP (certified financial planner) designation shortly after.

Scott continued to work his way up at CNR and is now a portfolio analyst at the company. In this role, he supports a senior portfolio manager and handles most of the trading and reporting/analytics for his book of clients. Together, they manage just under \$2 billion in assets, while the firm as a whole manages around \$35 billion in assets.

Additionally in this role, Scott provides trade support and reporting/analytics for the Institutional Large Cap Mutual Fund, which currently has more than \$200 million in assets. Part of his responsibilities include speaking to and meeting with clients/financial advisers and reviewing their portfolios, in addition to providing high-level overviews of the economy.

"I enjoy managing people's money and helping them achieve their goals, which includes but is not limited to generating income, preserving capital, or growing their assets," he said. "I also enjoy learning about capital markets and our economy. It's a very fast-paced environment, but I perform well under pressure, which is another highlight from my experience in KSE."

Whether it was a professor and a program that helped shape his career path, joining the KSE fraternity, or meeting the future Mrs. Mesa, the connections Scott made at Alfred State are priceless and have served him well in life.

"Building your network can be a huge benefit to one's career and personal development," he said. "We all have our strengths and weaknesses, and when you surround yourself with like-minded individuals, you end up learning a lot from them."

Quoting a relevant line from one of his favorite movies, "A Bronx Tale," Scott noted, "The saddest thing in life is wasted talent, and the choices that you make will shape your life forever."



Scott on the beach with his daughter, Lola.

ALUM'S SOLID FOUNDATION

Built at Alfred State



Civil Engineering students continue to gain internships and employment with Balfour Beatty.

Leon Blondin knows first-hand what a strong foundation Alfred State College can provide for students' futures.

Long before becoming the chief executive officer of Balfour Beatty's US Buildings business, Leon was a bright, young Alfred State student himself looking to carve out his own path in the construction business. Today, having built an impressive 31-year career in the industry, Leon is thankful for his Alfred State education, and is doing his part to ensure that ASC students build strong foundations of their very own.

In 1984, Leon enrolled in the college's construction engineering technology program. He enjoyed the blend of classwork and field experience that gave him a well-rounded education and prepared him for the workforce.

"Coming out of the program, I felt like I had real-world experience that was directly applicable to what I was going to do in my field," he said. "I felt like I was in a really good spot."

A couple of other aspects he found most appealing about studying at Alfred State were the small class sizes and the connections that students could make with one another, as well as their professors.

"I felt like I had somewhat of a personal connection with several of my professors," he said. "You could talk to them about career choices or things of that nature."

One particular teacher Leon made a connection with was Dr. John Joyce, a professor in the Civil Engineering Department, who encouraged him to meet with employers who were coming to campus to interview students. Although Leon had initially intended to enroll in a four-year program after graduating from Alfred State, he obliged, and ended up receiving a job offer.

"The rest is history," he said.

After graduating in 1986, Leon began his career working at a testing lab at Professional Service Industries, feeling fully prepared for his job thanks to his Alfred State education. During this time, he made connections with several general contractors, one of which he ended up working for named H.A. Lott.

For seven years, Leon worked at the Texas-based company, performing mostly field work, along with some estimating.

"I'm hugely competitive as a person, and when I got to work in estimating, I basically got to come in and compete against other general contractors to win projects, and I really found out I had a passion for it and thrive in that environment," he said. "So, after six years or so in the business, I switched from operations to new business acquisition."

In 1995, Leon went to work at one of the largest general contractors in the country, Clark Construction. He held a number of positions at the company, from senior estimator to chief estimator to vice president of estimating, working on some of the largest projects in the US.

While at Clark, Leon was responsible for all estimating functions for major national construction projects across the nation. He directed teams of five to 15 estimators on projects ranging from \$20 million to \$500 million. Leon also provided overall management of the entire estimating staff, including hiring, training, budgeting, performance reviews, and departmental administration.

In 2001, Leon joined a company named Centex Construction, which would eventually become Balfour Beatty, an industry-leading international provider of general contracting,

at-risk construction management, and design-build services for public and private sector clients.

Throughout his time at Balfour Beatty, Leon has held several high positions, including chief estimator, vice president, senior vice president, and division president of the National/Federal group. In this last position, Leon was responsible for the tracking, strategy, and processes necessary to acquire federal projects on a nationwide basis.

Now, as the CEO of Balfour Beatty's US Buildings business, Leon is responsible for the direction and strategy of the company's vertical construction unit that operates in 18 offices across the country, spanning from the Mid-Atlantic down through the Southeast, across the Southwest, and up through California and the Pacific Northwest. His office is located in the Washington, DC, metro area.

Throughout his career, Leon has pursued projects in more than 30 states and successfully acquired more than \$10 billion in new work. His extensive resume includes noteworthy projects such as the Capitol Crossing project in Washington, DC, the NGA Campus East Headquarters at Fort Belvoir, the \$1.2 billion Utah Data Center, and multiple projects in Washington, DC.

Also worth noting is that Leon is a past president of the National Capitol Chapter of the Design-Build Institute of America (DBIA). On a personal note, Leon and his wife, Sue, have been married for 25 years, and now reside in Fairfax, VA. They are the parents of three grown children, including a son, Jason, and twin girls, Maggie and Katie.

One of the aspects of his job that Leon loves the most is making connections with people and seeing them grow in their roles. While he used to gauge his success by the amount of work he brought into his business,

Leon now places greater emphasis on the development of his employees.

"Now, it's more about people and watching people that you recruited, trained, and developed achieve new roles and new successes," he said. "Watching them be responsible for the wins and losses are really what gets me excited to come to work every day."

Not only is Leon helping to develop his employees, he's also helping to shape the futures of Alfred State students. In the mid-2000s, thanks to Leon and his Balfour Beatty colleagues/fellow ASC alums Dan Novack and Tom Goodwin, Balfour became a key partner of the college's. Since then, the company has helped create numerous valuable connections between students and employees that lead to internship opportunities and even jobs.

Leon himself has served on the advisory board for the school's construction management program, helping to guide the direction of the major, as far as what the program can improve upon and "what we're looking for as a potential employer."

Speaking to the Alfred State/Balfour Beatty connection, Leon said, "We consider it to be a strong contingent. We try to get two or three new students each year to come join our business here in the Mid-Atlantic. Now, Alfred State has become one of our biggest schools at which we recruit."

Speaking from experience, Leon notes that working hard is so vital to achieving success in life, as is building significant relationships. Through his excellent work ethic, combined with a well-rounded Alfred State education and meaningful connections he made as a student and employer, Leon got to be where he is today: a successful CEO and an inspiration to all ASC students who are building futures of their very own.

[COMMENCEMENT]

CLASS OF 2018

Approximately 750 May 2018 graduates received their degrees during this year's commencement ceremonies, with Dr. Skip Sullivan, president, presiding.

Family, friends, and fellow students packed into Pioneer Stadium to celebrate as graduates crossed the stage, diploma in hand, and ready to begin the next phase of their lives.

Serving as the student speaker was Hannah Vuozzo, of Salt Point, a May 2018 graduate of the interdisciplinary studies program. Among her many accomplishments as an Alfred State student, Vuozzo served as the executive vice president for Student Senate, was a member of the Honors Program, and received the SUNY Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence.

Receiving the Paul B. Orvis Award for Excellence during the ceremony were Cory Farley, Cold Brook (School of Applied Technology associate degree recipient); Carina Scalise, Baldwinsville (School of Architecture, Management and Engineering Technology baccalaureate degree recipient); Amber Sirline, Angelica (School of Architecture, Management and Engineering Technology associate degree recipient); Kylie Buchek, Windsor (School of Arts and Sciences baccalaureate degree recipient); and Bailey Winslow, Warren, PA (School of Arts and Sciences associate degree recipient).

Near the end of the ceremony, Joe Geegba, a building trades: building construction graduate from Buffalo, won a 2012 Chevy Cruze vehicle after his ticket was drawn in a raffle.





In the Alfred State Building Trades Department, students are learning to build a foundation in more ways than one from people like Jack Jones.

Jack, adding with a smile, “I want to be like that when I grow up.”

Indeed, Jack’s connection to Richard helped him create a foundation of his own, one for the next phase in his life – teaching at Alfred State. In 2011, Jack joined the college faculty as an adjunct building trades instructor for a semester. After that time, he was promoted to a full-time instructor.

Citing his parents as the providers of “the best education I got,” Jack said they taught him how to work. As an instructor, instilling work ethic and teamwork in his students is a primary goal, as he seeks to help them develop “an ability to learn without me and to chase after things rather than let them happen.”

As a former contractor and current department chair, Jack is all too familiar with the value of mentorship and teamwork. He notes the importance of being a team player is also crucial to the success of the department.

Whether discussing curricula development or the building of the new Workforce Development Center, Jack is clear that every project is a team effort and requires strong connections and collaboration among the faculty and staff.

“We’re pretty tight-knit,” he said.

The notion of strong connections also translates into his role as an instructor.

“The best thing about teaching is the interaction and the relationships you build with the students,” he said.

Jack finds it rewarding to see the evolution of his students from wide-eyed freshmen to job-ready graduates.

“Watching (students) develop while they’re here is fantastic, but once they graduate and get a job out in the real-world, then it’s like hyper-speed,” he said. “You get to really see their potential come to life.”

Another way in which Jack has helped students is through his involvement in a career event his department hosted during the spring semester to provide a more direct opportunity for students to connect with employers.

Held on the Wellsville campus, this event engaged over 200 students in more intimate conversations with employers. Emboldening students to build meaningful connections is how students don’t just get a job but, also, how they get “the right fit,” as Jack described.

The theme of building is consistent even in how Jack describes his relationship with his wife, Lindsay.

“My wife builds me up in every way,” he said.

One notable building project the couple took on that they consider a significant personal achievement is the remodeling of an old house to fit their growing family. Altogether, Jack and Lindsay have three sons: Noah (16), Ethan (14), and Caleb (12) and one daughter whom they adopted from China, named Liana (7).

During the fall of 2017, the family faced a scare when Liana was in a serious accident. This emotional time, however, brought forth

an outpouring of love and support from the Alfred State community. The department, the Wellsville campus, and the college as a whole came together to show their support.

“It was like family,” said Jack as he shared how President Skip Sullivan and Interim Dean Jeff Stevens were at the hospital the next morning. “Alfred State really was there. There’s no way to repay that. To this day I can’t seem to go a week without someone asking, ‘How’s your daughter?’”

At the time of the accident, emergency responders wanted to life-flight Liana from Wellsville to a hospital in Rochester, but due to poor weather conditions, she had to be transported by ambulance. As the vehicle raced down the highway, Jack learned that the driver was an Alfred State culinary student who serves as an emergency responder.

“This young man played a part in saving my daughter’s life,” he said, noting that these days, Liana is doing very well, and that the family of six recently expanded with the adoption of a 2-year-old boy from China named Hudson.

The encounter with the culinary student/ ambulance driver was just the latest in a line of meaningful connections Jack has made throughout his life, personally and professionally, particularly when it comes to Alfred State. In turn, as an educator, Jack himself is helping students make valuable connections, and providing them with the tools they need to build strong foundations and futures of their very own.

Below: Building Trades students get on-the-job training building homes in Wellsville.

Whether building a curriculum, a career, a family, or a home, Jack strives to breathe life into all of his projects and endeavors. As an associate professor and department chair, he inspires others, especially his students, to do the same.

“It has been a life goal of mine to take things that are broken and make them beautiful again,” he said.

For seven years, Jack has helped Alfred State students build foundations, whether for houses in Wellsville or their futures. These foundations are rooted in valuable connections that Jack has helped students make, whether between classroom instruction and real-world application, or with employers looking to fill positions.

Prior to joining the Alfred State faculty, Jack, a Genesee, PA, resident, served in the United States Air Force from 1995 to 1999, after which he became an apprentice carpenter for the Carpenters’ Union in Pennsylvania.

His understanding of commercial construction came during his time as a tradesman for Air Tech Systems, which manufactured recreational facilities such as waterparks, go-kart tracks, and miniature golf courses throughout the Northeast.

While at Air Tech Systems, Jack started his own business as a general contractor. He continued to work as he pursued his bachelor’s degree in business administration at Mansfield University of Pennsylvania, which he earned in 2008.

During this time, a personal connection Jack had made years prior proved to be an important professional one, as well. Stephen Richard, a masonry instructor at Alfred State and longtime friend and mentor, encouraged Jack to consider teaching at the college. Jack’s relationship with Richard dates back to his years as a teenager when he was friends with Richard’s son, Dan.

Additionally, during his time as a contractor, Jack occasionally worked for Stephen Richard through his business, Miller and Richard Masonry, Inc. Throughout their relationship, Richard has provided much valuable guidance to Jack, and has had a profound impact on him.

“He always sees the best in people,” stated





Architecture students create stunning model for Buffalo's Guaranty Building

Visitors to Buffalo's Guaranty Building may witness the talented work of Alfred State architecture students when viewing an impressive replica model now permanently on display in the first floor.

The 4-foot-tall architectural model of the historic structure is one of several exhibits featured at the Guaranty Interpretive Center inside the building, which is located at the corner of Church and Pearl Streets. Housing the law firm of Hodgson Russ, LLP, the center officially opened earlier this year, coinciding with the firm's 200th anniversary celebration.

The Guaranty was designed by the Chicago firm of Adler and Sullivan and was completed in 1896. According to David Carli, Alfred State associate professor in the Architecture and Design Department, the building represents what is one of the first, and perhaps the finest examples of a modern skyscraper (at 13 stories tall) and was on the leading edge of construction technology and design over 100 years ago.

In 2002, Hodgson-Russ purchased the historic building. Since then, the firm has spent millions of dollars restoring and renovating the Guaranty to its current condition.

Carli noted he was approached by his colleagues at Flynn Battaglia Architects (FBA) in the summer of 2015 about constructing a large-scale, museum-quality architectural model of the building. FBA, for whom Carli has worked

as a project architect and designer for many years, was contracted by Hodgson-Russ, LLP, to convert the first-floor conference rooms into an Interpretive Center that would highlight the history of the building for visitors from around the world.

One of the primary reasons that FBA commissioned the architectural model, Carli said, was to illustrate the way the building was originally constructed so that visitors could see a representation of the Guaranty as it was designed.

Alfred State Department of Architecture and Design students were involved in many aspects of the execution of the impressive exhibit, including the survey and documentation of the building's existing conditions and the cataloging of the full range of the intricate terra cotta panels, which clad most of the building's visible exterior facades.

Over a period of several months, the 15 students involved and Carli devoted countless hours to producing an 1896 version of the Guaranty Building, utilizing historic photographs, 3-D printers, a computer modeling software package, and laser-cutting technology to piece together thousands of individual components made out of wood, acrylic, museum board, and artists' paper.

Finally, after all of the hard work had been completed, the model was crated up and delivered to the new Interpretive Center and placed in a specially constructed display case with glass vitrine in the center of the exhibit hall, where it currently sits for all to see and enjoy.

Financial Planning Students Attend Annual TD Ameritrade Conference



A pair of Alfred State College financial planning majors were among just 54 students from throughout the nation who attended TD Ameritrade's 2018 National LINC Conference in Orlando, FL.

Held annually, the conference invites schools with Certified Financial Planner (CFP) Board Registered Programs to attend. This year, Alfred State was one of 27 colleges represented, as Madison Webster and Adam Wilkins participated in the conference.

For four days, Webster and Wilkins expanded their knowledge on the latest financial planning trends, technology, and business solutions with workshops, conference sessions, and thought-provoking conversation about topics such as marketing growth and retirement plan opportunities. Additionally, they were able to connect with peers, industry experts, conference sponsors, and technology partners through one-on-one sessions and group interactions.



STUDIO TOKYO

Over winter break, Alfred State College digital media and animation (DMA) students, along with Associate Professor Jeremy Speed-Schwartz, explored art, cinema, and animation in Japan as part of the college's Studio Tokyo program. During the two-week experience, 18 ASC students collaborated on projects with students from Meiji University and the University of Iowa. Additionally, Alfred State students continued their research of Japanese media through several site and museum visits in the greater Tokyo area. The program is offered every other year to DMA students.

Sport management students gain valuable insight, experience



Sport management students have been scoring big with some amazing hands-on learning and networking opportunities this academic year.

Several events, such as the Binghamton Devils Sport Management Career Fair; the Niagara University Sport, Recreation, and Tourism Summit; and the Brooklyn Nets Networking Event have enabled students to gain valuable industry insight and network with professionals in the field. Students come away having made important connections and obtained a glimpse of what to expect in their own chosen careers someday.

Additionally, sport management students Cassidy McCourt and Kiana Sleight gained important real-world experience through some impressive opportunities.

Sleight was able to assist one of the most storied college basketball schools of all-time with its

2017 Countdown to Craziest night: Duke University. She gained significant experience through working on in-game contests, promotional events, preparation of Duke basketball players for the events, assisting in the men's basketball dunk contest, and running the women's basketball autograph event following the Blue-White scrimmage.

McCourt, meanwhile, served as a host for the on-ice officials during the 2018 International Ice Hockey Federation (IIHF) World Junior Championships in Buffalo. She also provided game day operations and event management assistance during the Outdoor Game between the US and Canada at New Era Field in Orchard Park.



BUV TEAM

For the third consecutive year, Alfred State College's Basic Utility Vehicle (BUV) Team came out on top in the annual intercollegiate BUV Design Competition in Batavia, OH. The contest is a combination of a race and manufacturing design competition. Other schools that competed include Purdue University, Baylor University, Trine University, University of St. Thomas Minnesota, and University of Cincinnati. The 2018 team includes mechanical engineering technology students Justin Niver, Devan Albrecht, and Thomas Moracco.





**ASC celebrates
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT
CENTER**

Alfred State College held a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate an amazing new facility that will soon serve as the home of the school's building trades: building construction program.

Attending the ceremony for the Construction Industry Workforce Development Center were project supporters and partners, elected officials, distinguished guests, friends of the college, and Alfred State administrators, faculty, staff, and students.

Located on the Wellsville campus, the 35,000-square-foot facility includes a large open bay space for prefabrication and mock-up work, and other special projects. Students have used the building for hands-on laboratories by conducting much of the interior work for the center. The open laboratory space has also been used to construct houses entered in the US Department of Energy Solar Decathlon competitions in China and California.

This fall, the structure will be home to freshman and senior building construction trades shops, as well as open lab space, state-of-the-art classrooms, and faculty offices. This center was made possible through donations, grants, and the Educational Foundation of Alfred, Inc., which owns the Wellsville campus.



**Wellsville campus
restaurant's new
name honors the past**

Alfred State has come up with a fitting new name for its restaurant in the Culinary Arts Building at the School of Applied Technology: "The Refinery Restaurant."

The Wellsville campus, which opened in 1966, was originally developed as an oil refinery, and was once one of the largest in the Pennsylvania oil fields. The new name of the restaurant symbolizes both the history of the Wellsville campus, as well as the high quality of the dining experience that Alfred State offers. The Refinery Restaurant is open for lunch fine dining Tuesday through Friday, as well as one night per month for unique themed events, including both buffet and fine dining options.

Masonry students building outdoor kitchen area on Wellsville campus

Students in the masonry program have been hard at work cooking up something special for the School of Applied Technology, particularly the Culinary Arts Department.

Earlier this year, the students completed the first phase of a three-phase project to build an outdoor kitchen area behind the bakery lab facility on the Wellsville campus.

The space, which is about 450 square feet, will enhance the culinary and baking curricula, as students will experience hosting and catering special events and creating specialty food in the setting of the outdoor kitchen. When completed, the space will include a wood-fired pizza oven and smoker, as well as countertop grills and prep space. The project is set to be completed in fall of 2018.

**ENGINE DONATION
PROVIDES EXCELLENT
HANDS-ON
LEARNING OPPORTUNITY**



Thanks to Utica General Peterbilt, students in the heavy equipment, truck and diesel technician program now have the opportunity to gain some valuable applied learning experience working on a PACCAR MX-13 engine.

According to a spec sheet on the PACCAR MX-13 on Peterbilt's website, the engine has a 405-510-horsepower range, is built for durability, has an excellent fuel economy, and will require a low cost of routine maintenance throughout its life.

The company donated a PACCAR engine to the program in the fall semester, and Joe Morrison, a fleet service manager at Utica General Peterbilt, visited the Wellsville campus to provide students with training on the engine.

One of the Utica General employees who made the donation possible was Kevin Molinari, who graduated from Alfred State's automotive service technician program in 1995 and ASC's heavy equipment, truck and diesel technician program in 1996.



**Planting Seeds for Success
AT THE ALFRED STATE COLLEGE FARM**

Alfred State is diversifying its College Farm to keep its students competitive in an evolving agricultural industry. Pictured is 2016 agricultural business graduate Sam Mietlowski.

Over the last few years, Alfred State College has invested nearly \$1 million dollars in the College Farm to modernize facilities and infrastructure. The college is committed to maintaining this momentum.

To keep its students competitive in an evolving agricultural industry, Alfred State is diversifying its educational offerings.

"Primarily, the farm has been a dairy operation for decades and we are very proud of that tradition," said Dr. Skip Sullivan, president of Alfred State. "We want to build on that proud heritage with the introduction of new species and new opportunities for our students. What's really interesting is that the process of deciding what works best with our land and facilities is exactly the sort of decision-making our students need to understand when they launch their careers."

Many alumni proudly recall the thriving College Farm atmosphere. The college plans to continue this tradition by offering unique hands-on experiences for its students, utilizing new agricultural technologies.

With these efforts, Alfred State can capitalize on the growing job markets in agriculture. A study released by Purdue University in 2015 showed that between 2015 and 2020, an

estimated 57,900 jobs would be created annually in agricultural, food, and renewable natural resources.

Dr. Phil Schroeder, chair of the Agriculture and Veterinary Technology Department, said, "To complement our state-of-the-art free-stall robotic dairy, we will develop agricultural innovation spaces. These spaces will provide room to diversify our agricultural programs, and may include opportunities for our students to work with meat goats, beef cattle, rabbits, swine, horses, and maple syrup production."

And not only will agriculture students benefit from the college diversifying its farm, but veterinary students will, too.

Dr. Mel Chambliss, associate professor in the Agriculture and Veterinary Technology Department and program coordinator of the veterinary technology major, said, "Increased diversity of species at the College Farm will greatly enhance the large animal husbandry and handling experiences for our veterinary technology students."

**POLICE ACADEMY
TO COMPLEMENT
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
PROGRAMS**

Looking to provide further training and certification opportunities for current and future law enforcement officers, Alfred State College is initiating a police academy. Throughout 2018 and beyond, ASC will begin providing professional and certification course offerings for both existing law enforcement officers and students.

Beginning in May 2019, the Alfred State Police Academy (ASPA) will offer its inaugural Basic Course for Police Officers and serve recruits in both pre-employment (Phase I) and employed (Phase II) stages. Graduates will earn either the Pre-Employment Certificate (Phase I) or the Basic Course for Police Officers Certificate (Phase II).

Academy participants in the Basic Course will gain knowledge and expertise in New York State laws, investigations, defensive tactics, emergency services and management, emergency vehicle operations, and many more topics as outlined by the New York State curriculum. Other courses offered will include instructor certifications and emerging topics needed by the regional law enforcement community.

The operation of the academy will complement Alfred State's Associate in Science (AS) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees in criminal justice by providing students wanting to work in policing with the opportunity to complete their degree in the same location where they complete their police training curriculum.



ALFRED STATE CELEBRATES MACKENZIE MAKEOVER PHASE ONE COMPLETION

With the first phase of the MacKenzie Makeover renovation now finished, Alfred State College and its project partners celebrated the new look and amenities of the largest residence hall on campus with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Attending the ceremony were representatives from Mach Architecture, Pathfinder Engineers & Architects LLP, LeChase Construction, and the Dormitory Authority of the State of New York (DASNY); honored guests; as well as Alfred State faculty, staff, and students, both past and present, some of whom have lived in the MacKenzie Complex.

The first phase of the MacKenzie Makeover project wrapped up just prior to the start of the spring semester. Among the upgrades are a new dining area named "TimberLineZ," a fitness center, laundry facility, and informal gathering spaces showcasing fireplaces and water features.

Following the remarks, ceremony attendees were able to tour the newly renovated space and witness the amazing new amenities, new apartments, and craftsmanship of the building.

Presidential ASPIRING Leaders PROGRAM

A brand-new program at Alfred State is aiming to help shape the leaders of tomorrow.

The Presidential Aspiring Leaders (PAL) Program was created for students who possess a strong work ethic, display commitment and dedication to their studies, are engaged in the community and the college, and are looking to strengthen their leadership skills.

As PAL members, students participate in quarterly dialogues on leadership topics with the president, provide feedback on campus issues, and attend a minimum of six assigned events with Sullivan, other faculty or staff, or alone on behalf of the President's Office.

Upon completion of the program, PAL students receive a letter of recommendation from Sullivan and are recognized at the college's Honors Convocation and Commencement ceremony.



Alfred State grad wins **TOP AWARD** at SUNYWide Film Festival

Competing against more than three dozen other entries from across the State University of New York (SUNY) system, Alfred State's own Torin Murphy came away with the top prize in the eighth annual SUNYWide Film Festival held at Buffalo State.

Murphy, an East Branch native who earned his digital media and animation bachelor's degree from Alfred State in May 2017, received the Grand Jury Award for his animated film, "Other Real."

The film was one of 39 overall from 10 SUNY campuses that were accepted into the festival, out of more than 150 that were submitted from 23 SUNY schools. "Other Real" tells the story of a man who, against his will, is pulled through a screen into a strange world beyond reality, populated by equally unreal creatures.



VOLUNTEERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE THROUGH CIVIC ENGAGEMENT TRIPS

Alfred State Pioneers have been making a positive impact on a national scale in recent months.

During spring break, some faculty and staff members led dozens of students on service trips to Myrtle Beach, SC; New Orleans, LA; and Yabucoa, Puerto Rico.

In Myrtle Beach, a group worked on two different construction sites alongside Habitat for Humanity of Horry County to build affordable houses for local families.

On another trip, a group was involved in community outreach at St. Anna's Episcopal Church in the Tremé neighborhood of New Orleans, LA. Specifically, the group worked

with a mobile health clinical to provide blood pressure screenings and blood sugar checks.

The group in Yabucoa worked with All Hands and Hearts to provide much-needed hurricane relief to the devastated community. Volunteers were split into teams for different types of work: sanitation, roofing, chain-sawing, and minor repair.

In December, with Houston continuing to deal with the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey, Alfred State fielded a team of volunteers to help provide the city with some much-needed disaster relief. Partnering with All Hands and Hearts, the group focused on debris removal, mucking and gutting, and sanitation work inside buildings.



ASC GETS HIGH MARKS FOR GRADUATION, FRESHMAN RETENTION RATES

A national resource for students has declared, "Alfred State is one of the best in the country" for freshman retention, and has also praised the college for graduation rates of students at risk of not completing their degree.

Based on the profile of first-time/full-time students entering Alfred State, CollegeFactual.com determined that fewer than half of these students would normally graduate in a reasonable time at most colleges. However, by choosing Alfred State, these students graduate 68.7 percent of the time, a rate that is 22.5 percent higher than the average.

"Therefore, Alfred State is among the highest-performing schools nationwide in graduating students when their anticipated academic achievement is factored in," concluded College Factual, which defines a reasonable graduation time period as three to six years, depending on the type of degree.

On the topic of retention, College Factual found that, "With 88 percent of students staying on for a second year, Alfred State is one of the best in the country when it comes to freshman retention rates."



Cuomo, EDA **SUPPORT** BDCC

Alfred State's Biorefinery Development and Commercialization Center (BDCC) received some significant monetary support within the past few months.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo announced in January that New York State will be committing up to \$6.6 million to the BDCC. In April, US Secretary of Commerce Wilbur Ross announced that the Department's Economic Development Administration (EDA) is awarding a \$1.5

million grant to the Research Foundation for The State University of New York, Alfred State College to renovate and expand an existing building to house the center.

The BDCC will be a research and development center and a commercial scale-up facility focused on developing commercially viable products from wood materials. According to grantee estimates, the project is expected to spur \$500,000 in private investment.



Thanks to your support, we were able to raise \$152,788 from 954 donors during our second annual Day of Giving, far surpassing our goals once again!

Your generosity benefits Alfred State and our students through technology, new programs, athletics, scholarships, student clubs and organizations, and more. The Alfred State Family stepped up in a big way once again for our annual Day of Giving, and we are very proud of and thankful for the generosity shown by each of our donors. Thank you for making a difference!

**One Day.
One Goal.
One Alfred.**

It's all about coming together as an Alfred State family to make a difference in the lives of our students.



Planned Giving

STILL WORKS WITH THE CHANGING TAX LAWS

Your gifts make a difference, and giving can still benefit you!

While tax laws may be changing, there are still many ways you can make a gift to support your cause and make a difference. These include:

IRA Rollover Gift: If you are 70.5 years or older, you can avoid extra income this year by making a gift to us from your IRA.

Gift of Securities: Give us your old stock (with a low basis) that has appreciated in the rising market and avoid capital gains tax.

Life Insurance Gift: Eliminate an old or unneeded life insurance policy by making a gift of the cash balance to support our work.

Life Income: Make a gift for a gift annuity or charitable remainder trust and receive lifetime payments. Ask us for a free illustration with your benefits.

Charitable Bequests: Make a gift to support our work that costs you nothing today. Provide for your loved ones first and then our cause with a bequest made in your will or trust.

For more information, contact us at 607-587-3936 or at ia@alfredstate.edu. You can also visit our website at <http://legacy.alfredstate.edu/>.



Jim Grillo Receives President's Medallion

SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor Jim Grillo was honored with the Alfred State President's Medallion last November at the Alfred State Lake Lodge.

The President's Medallion was instituted in 2008 and is awarded to those who have made outstanding contributions to Alfred State. The college recognizes and commemorates the efforts of supporters and advocates dedicated to the mission of Alfred State.

A Marine veteran who served in the Vietnam War, Grillo holds two degrees from Alfred University. He began working at Alfred State in 1972 as a residence hall director.

During his 46 years of service to Alfred State, Grillo held numerous positions at the college, from dean of Admissions, Records, and Financial Aid, to associate professor and chair of the Business Department, to vice president for Administration and Enrollment Management. He also served a total of eight years as Faculty Senate chair.

Grillo retired following the 2017-2018 school year.

WAYS TO help ALFRED STATE

Alumni often say they want to do something to help Alfred State, but aren't sure how they can make a meaningful contribution, especially if they live far away from campus.

Well, there are many ways you can help! Some of these ideas require very little time or effort, but can bring tremendous benefit to our alma mater. You can make a difference right now! The following are just a few of the ways you can assist the college:

- Host an accepted-student reception in your home for area students.
- Attend a college/career night program with a representative from the Admissions Office.
- Share your story.
- Have a current student shadow you at work.
- Provide an internship opportunity.
- Join an alumni chapter.
- Make a donation – a donation at any level is always greatly appreciated. You can even donate your old car! See how you can help at www.AlfredState.edu/give.

WILDER Hired as Major Gifts Officer



J. Joseph Wilder, of Orchard Park, has joined the Alfred State staff as the major gifts officer working directly with President Sullivan.

Wilder is a past chair of the college's Development Fund Board of Directors. An attorney since 1984, Wilder practiced law at Phillips, Lytle, Hitchcock, Blaine and Huber, LLP (1983 to 1990) and at Falk & Siemer, LLP (1990 to 2000), where he was the managing partner from 1995 to 1997.

Wilder was the managing partner of Wilder & Linneball, LLP from 2000 to 2007. He is a past president of the Lawyers Club of Buffalo and was one of 16 attorneys selected in 1997 by Business First for its list of "Who Runs Western New York Business."

Wilder was an adjunct instructor in Administrative Law at Hilbert College (1993 to 1997 and 2003 to 2005). He was selected in 2005 by the National Republican Congressional Committee to the Business Advisory Council and received an award as "Businessman of the Year." He was elected by his peers in 2007 for "Who's Who In The Law" for Business Law and for Civil Rights Litigation, as published by The Buffalo Law Journal and Business First. He was elected again in 2011 for Civil Litigation.

Wilder holds an associate degree from Alfred State College, a bachelor's degree from Purdue University, and a Juris Doctor degree from the University at Buffalo. He and his wife, Laura, have four children, Jennifer, Kimberly, Christina, and Daniel.

Every gift will enhance our students' experience, impact their work, and change their life and the lives of others. Your support of the college shows us and our students that your education had a wonderful impact on your life and now you want to pay it forward. This is a great example to set for our students.

Your gift matters...

Your gift will help Alfred State today and in the future!

Use this tear-off and mail back to:
**Alfred State Institutional Advancement
10 Upper College Dr., Alfred, NY 14802**

Designate your gift to the area most important to you.

If no choice is made, your gift will be directed to Advancing Alfred State.

I am enclosing a gift of \$ _____
Please direct my gift as follows:

- Unrestricted (For Alfred State's greatest needs.)
- New Century Endowed Fund (For scholarship and technology support.)
- Athletics
- Other _____

I have included Alfred State in my will/estate plans.

I am an alumni parent friend faculty/staff

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Check Enclosed (payable to ASC Development Fund)

Charge: Visa MasterCard Am.Ex. Discover

Card Number _____

Exp. Date _____

To make a donation of any kind or to make an inquiry, contact Alfred State Institutional Advancement: ia@alfredstate.edu | 607-587-3930 www.alfredstate.edu/give



GET IN ON THE ACTION

Become a Sponsor Today!

Consider joining the Pioneers Athletic Corporate Partnership Program. Designed to bring area businesses and Alfred State together as partners, this initiative will support athletes and athletic programs, as well as scholarship and programmatic support, while promoting your company, and showing that we support each other in our future successes.

With your sponsorship, you will benefit from visibility at athletic events, public address announcements, signage, and athletic event tickets just to name a few. It's a win-win situation for everyone involved!

Get in on the action, visit www.AlfredState.edu/make-a-gift > Giving Opportunities > Athletics

FORNESS NAMED TO DEVELOPMENT FUND BOARD



Bob Forness, of Allegany, is the newest member of the Alfred State Development Fund Board of Directors.

Forness is a 1985 graduate of Alfred State's engineering science program and a 1988 graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology's microelectronic engineering major. He is currently the director of quality and process innovation at the Dresser-Rand Company. Prior to joining Dresser-Rand, Forness held positions at Olean General Hospital and ON Semiconductor (formerly a division of Motorola).

His volunteer experience includes serving as finance committee chairman for the St. Bonaventure Parish Church Festival, president of the Allegany-Limestone All Sports Booster Club, and member of the Olean Area YMCA Board of Directors.

ALFRED STATE COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT FUND, INC.

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Dear
ALUMNI

On behalf of President and Mrs. Sullivan and all in Alumni Relations, it is my pleasure to congratulate and welcome the Class of 2018 as our newest Alfred State College Alumni! We look forward to a long and wonderful relationship with you.

This is a great opportunity to once again share with all of our alumni that the leadership at the college, as well as in our alumni chapters, continues to actively work to increase the connections among all alumni as we approach the future. Our goal is to help alumni connect with each other so your connection to Alfred State remains strong. We work with various alumni and campus groups to provide opportunities for alumni to strengthen their bond with the college.

We have Alfred State alumni who reside in nearly every state and in many countries around the world. Wherever you go, there is likely an Alfred State alumna or alumnus for you to meet. Throughout this issue, you will read and see how Alfred State is sewn into the fabric of many alumni lives. We remain committed to and look forward to connecting with alumni on the basis of your interest, whether it's through a sorority, fraternity, club or organization, residence hall, program, or sport. We are happy to help start and assist with an alumni chapter in or around your region.

I encourage you to take full advantage of the programs and events we sponsor and organize, including career networking, civic opportunities, social events, sporting events, faculty and staff presentations, outdoor recreational opportunities, and reunions. The connections you will make will be both beneficial and fun.

We look forward to meeting as many of you as we can. As always, we want to hear from you! Send us suggestions on how we can continue to make our alumni connections stronger, more engaged, or you can simply send us a note to let us know how you have been and what you have been up to. We welcome your input at any time and encourage you to stay connected and get involved.

We are excited about the future and what it holds for us as we partner to strengthen and grow our connections with our alumni and Alfred State.

Warmest Regards,
Colleen Argentieri, '85
Director of Alumni Relations

Gifts & Commitments
of \$10,000+

July 2017 - March 2018

- Bethesda Foundation, Inc.** - Bethesda Annual Nursing Scholarship
- Lee K. and Martha Brasted** - ASC Development Fund
- Brawdy Construction** - Building Trades
- Robert J. Drago** - Drago Family Endowed Fund
- Max and Marian Farash Foundation** - Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation
- Harry L. and Marcia Fox** - Fox Endowed Scholarship*
- JBK Bridal and Prom** - Student Engagement Fund
- Rachel A. Johnston** - Jeffrey Johnston Memorial Sorrento Study Abroad Endowed Scholarship
- Krista Knowles** - Barber Construction Management Endowment
- Robert K. and Joan Livingston** - Heavy Equipment Operations*
- Monroe Tractor & Implement Co., Inc.** - Building Trades
- Timothy P. and Deborah Moore** - Deborah and Timothy Moore Nursing Endowed Scholarship
- Penn Power Group** - Automotive Trades
- Pierce Steel** - Welding Technology
- Praxair** - Praxair Scholarship
- The late William D. Rezak** - Paula Burroughs Rezak Endowment for Support of a Caring Campus Fund and the Radia Khouri Rezak Endowed Scholarship
- Debbie Schmieding** - ASC Development Fund
- Albert R. and Judith Styrcula** - Styrcula Endowed Scholarship
- Evelyn Turner** - Evelyn Turner Culinary Arts Scholarships
- Utica General Peterbilt** - Automotive Trades
- The Margaret L. Wendt Foundation** - Student Course Material Support Fund
- Harold and Florence Zimnick** - ASC Development Fund*

*Legacy Society Planned Gifts

Be our
quest



Watch for an alumni event in your area!

We're excited about the many fun alumni events planned for 2018-19. Watch for an event in your area!

If you don't receive an invitation via email or mail, please let us know at 607-587-3931 or alumni@alfredstate.edu, as we may need to update our records. Invitations through the mail will only be sent to alumni in the given area the event will be held. However, please remember all alumni are welcome to attend any/all alumni events.

Rochester Red Wings Baseball Game - Rochester Chapter
WEDNESDAY, JULY 18, 7:05 P.M.
Frontier Field, Hardball Café
One Morrie Silver Way, Rochester, NY

Limited tickets available - first-come, first-served. Tickets will be mailed to you.

Buffalo Bisons Baseball Game - Buffalo Chapter
THURSDAY, AUG. 9, 7:05 P.M.
Coca-Cola Stadium, Pettibones Grill
1 James D. Griffin Plaza, Buffalo, NY

Limited tickets available - first-come, first-served. Tickets will be mailed to you.

Mt. Hope Cemetery Cleanup - Rochester Chapter
SATURDAY, AUG. 11
1133 Mt. Hope Ave, Rochester, NY

Corning Country Club Dinner - Finger Lakes Chapter
THURSDAY, AUG. 16
2501 Country Club Drive, Corning, NY

Class of '78 Reunion
SATURDAY, AUG. 25
Alfred State College

Homecoming and Family Weekend 2018
OCT. 5-7
Come back to Alfred State for a weekend full of fun and memories!



For updates, visit: Facebook/AlfredStateAlumni or www.AlfredState.edu/alumni-events.

ALUMNI CHAPTERS We need volunteers!

Now is your opportunity to join one of our alumni chapters in the Atlanta, GA; Buffalo; Finger Lakes; Rochester; Florida; or New York City regions. Join in on the fun of helping to plan alumni events and activities while promoting the interest and welfare of your alma mater. By volunteering time, energy, and talent in this program, you'll join a group of leaders who are committed to achieving the program's mission of engaging alums in direct and meaningful ways in order to develop a long-term relationship between alumni and Alfred State.

If you are interested in participating in one of these chapters, please complete the online form by visiting www.AlfredState.edu/alumni-and-friends > **Get Involved > Alumni Chapters** or contact our office at 607-587-3931.

Your participation as an alum encourages Alfred State students and alumni to strengthen their ties, to create new friendships and networking opportunities, and to support and serve our students today and in the future.



Stay Connected!
Miss your Alfred State classmates? Want to reconnect? **The 110th Anniversary Commemorative Alumni Directory** can help you do just that!

Watch for postcards and emails from our Alumni Relations partner, PCI, with instructions to update your information so you can stay connected!

Alfred State College
VERIFICATION OF ALUMNI DATA
PO Box 809157, Dallas, TX 75280-9157

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IMPORTANT ALUMNI VERIFICATION NOW DUE
Please Call 1-800-690-0000 Today

Sample A. Sample
Class of 2011
123 Any Street
2nd Address Line
City, ST 12345-6789

Alumni BENEFITS

We are excited to share with you that as an Alfred State alum, you are eligible for group discounts and offers from a variety of vendors! These include:

GEICO – You could save more on automobile, home, renter's, or other insurance by being an Alfred State alum!



BJ's – Membership discount.



HotelStorm – Book a hotel using your Alfred State alumni discount and instantly save 10-55 percent worldwide.

Huledet – All alumni will now receive a birthday message and gifts when their special month comes. Your gifts will include free meals at local restaurants, event tickets, spa treatments and more – all for you to use to celebrate! Make sure we have your updated email address.

Career Development – connect with great jobs/ careers, access our virtual career success center, perfect your resume, and more.

Visit www.AlfredState.edu/alumni/benefits for details, as well as helpful tools to locate campus resources for transcripts, continuing education, SUNY Perks, and updating your contact information.

Outstanding Young Alumni

The Alfred State Alumni Council has established awards to honor alumni who bring distinction to our alma mater and to themselves through their outstanding personal and professional achievements.

The Outstanding Young Alumni award recognizes Alfred State graduates who, within 10 years of his or her graduation, have demonstrated outstanding service to his or her profession, community, and Alfred State.

We are honored to present the following award to a couple of distinguished alumni who have been nominated by you, the alumni community.

RJ Klisiewicz III and Miranda Dischner met at Alfred State as freshmen in the fall of 2009. "It was love at first sight, or love at first interaction, rather," as the couple put it.

After two semesters in the nursing program, Miranda switched gears to the human services program, looking to ultimately pursue a psychology and sociology degree. In the spring of 2011, she transferred to the University of Buffalo, where she completed her bachelor's degree. Since graduation, she has worked for four years with Auctions International, Inc, alongside RJ, her fiancé. In October 2017, in a selfless act of kindness, Miranda donated her left kidney to a fellow co-worker and best friend, Nicole. Today, she is the human resource manager and assistant accounts clerk at Auctions International.

After completing Alfred State's business administration associate degree program in 2011, RJ reapplied to continue his education in Alfred, and later graduated again from Alfred State



in May 2013 with his BBA. While a student at Alfred State, RJ was the vice president for the Psi Delta Omega fraternity and the parliamentarian for the Business Professionals of America Club. He worked in the Office of Institutional Advancement as a work study, and then later with the Phonathon.

Since graduation, RJ has been a full-time auctioneer and the operations manager of Auctions International, now the largest-volume online auction service provider for government and municipal agencies in New York State. He is a member of the National Auctioneers Association, the New York State Auctioneers Association, and the Massachusetts Auctioneers Associations, and holds several state auctioneer licenses across the country. This year, he will be completing his real estate brokers course and attending the Certified Auctioneers Institute at Indiana University.

Since 2014, RJ and Miranda have worked together at Auctions International, Inc. They have traveled the Northeast together, conducting auctions and attending dozens of conferences and trade shows. They continue to work together and support each other's career paths, which have been fortunate enough to be under the same roof.

Miranda and RJ are currently planning their wedding, set for Aug. 24 of this year.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Distinguished Alumni & Outstanding Young Alumni Awards

The Alfred State Alumni Council has established awards to honor alumni who bring distinction to our alma mater and to themselves through their outstanding personal and professional achievements.

We are honored to present these awards to a group of distinguished alumni who have been nominated by you, the alumni community.

We are now accepting nominations for our 2019 Alumni Awards. Please take a moment to visit our website for additional information on the two awards and nominate someone you feel deserves to be recognized for their achievements.

www.AlfredState.edu/alumni/get-involved-with-alfred-state#Distinguished-Alumni-Award



ASC's Van Valen wins national championship, Mattison finishes 5th

Wrestler George (Ian) Van Valen, a construction management major from Ithaca, capped an amazing career at ASC by becoming the 184-pound national title winner at the 2018 NCWA Championships in Allen, TX in March. Teammate Ryan Mattison, a construction management major from Brockport, earned an impressive fifth-place finish nationally in the heavyweight bracket.



Van Valen finished the tournament with a 5-0 record, and outscored his opponents 74-2. For his dominating performance, he was named the Most Outstanding Wrestler of the Tournament.

This is the third time Van Valen has earned NCWA All-American honors. He finished fourth in 2016 and second in 2017. He finished the season 42-1 on the year, and is 81-8 during the last two seasons.

Mattison entered Saturday of the tournament guaranteed a spot in the top eight of the heavyweight bracket. He finished 5-2 for the tournament, and 24-16 on the year.

The Pioneers finished the three-day tournament with 73 points to earn 11th place out of the 79 teams that competed.

Pictured above: Van Valen in action at a recent meet; below l-r Mattison and Van Valen with championship medals.

Linn to Lead Pioneer Football



Alfred State Director of Athletics Jason Doviak has announced the hiring of Scott Linn as the new executive head football coach for the Pioneers. Linn becomes the fourth coach in the history of the football program at Alfred State.

Linn comes to Alfred State after spending the last four seasons as the offensive coordinator at Alfred University. He was in charge of all aspects of the offensive staff, game plan, and practice preparation. He helped guide four players to All-American honors and aided the Saxons to the NCAA quarterfinals and a school-record 12 victories in 2016. Linn also served as the kickers and kickoff return team coach, as well as serving as the football team strength and conditioning coordinator.

Prior to working on the Alfred University coaching staff, Linn spent from 2009-2014 on the coaching staff at Hartwick. During his time there he held numerous roles, including assistant head coach (2012-14), special teams coordinator (2012-2014), recruiting coordinator (2012-2014), defensive backs coach (2012-2014), strength and conditioning coordinator (2011-2014), academic coordinator (2011-2014), linebackers coach (2011-2012), and defensive line coach (2009-2011).

Linn started his coaching career at Albion College (Albion, MI) as a tight ends and fullbacks coach for his alma mater (August 2006 - November 2006). He spent the next spring working as a volunteer with the Eastern Michigan University football program before accepting a graduate assistant coaching job at Alfred University. He spent the 2007 and 2008 seasons with the Saxons coaching the running backs.

On the playing field, Linn was a fullback on a Michigan Intercollegiate Athletics Association (MIAA) conference champion team at Albion College (Albion, MI). At Albion, he earned a bachelor's degree in physical education while at Alfred University he earned a master's degree in education.

Linn has been a member of the American Football Coaches Association since 2007 and been active in community service projects with Hornell Concern for Youth, Read Across America, and Be the Match.



Dr. Yvonne T. Bustamante, assistant professor in the Department of

Social and Behavioral Sciences, successfully defended her dissertation, "A Phenomenological Study on Faculty Perceptions of Digital Natives and Digital Immigrants and Best Practice in the Classroom" on Nov. 28 and has completed all requirements for her EdD in counseling psychology from Argosy University. In addition, Bustamante was elected to the Board of Directors for the National Organization of Human Services (NOHS) as the social media chair.



Dr. Nicholas L. Waddy, associate professor of History, authored a textbook titled,

"The Essential Guide to Western Civilization." He also published an article titled "Free and Fair? Rhodesians Reflect on the Elections of 1979 and 1980" in African Historical Review.



Dr. Richard Kellogg, professor emeritus of psychology at Alfred State,

authored an article about the joys of hunting titled "Mossberg Memories," which appeared in an issue of the New York State Conservationist journal. He also wrote an article appearing the Paperback Parade journal titled "Philip Wylie's Superspy," which discusses a spy novel written by noted writer Philip Wylie.



Trystan Duell, mechanical engineering technology, Warsaw, shot his

way to an impressive second-place individual finish in the men's compound/open class at the USA Archery Collegiate 3D National Championships held in Foley, AL.



Zac Barbis, residence director and coordinator of Student Leadership, and



Brittany Richards, coordinator of Student Activities, presented "The Five

Essential Elements: Infusing Clubs and Organizations with Leadership Development," at the Mid-Atlantic Region Conference for the National Association of Campus Activities in Buffalo, and the College Student Personnel Association of New York State Annual Conference in Corning.

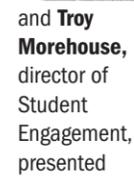


Jaime Howe, campus public safety officer, was presented with a State University

of New York (SUNY) Professional Service Award, a system-wide honor given to members of University Police departments for acts that greatly enhance the operation of their respective department.



Jonathan Hilsher, director of the Center for Civic Engagement,



and **Troy Morehouse**, director of Student Engagement, presented "Applied Learning: The Alfred State Leadership Minor" at the SUNY Applied Learning Conference in Niagara Falls.

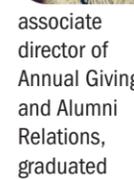


Robin Torpey, an associate professor in the Computer and Information

Technology Department, completed the 2017 New York City Marathon after 3 hours, 35 minutes, and 38 seconds, averaging an impressive 8:14 per mile or 7.2 mph.



Trish Haggerty, director of Annual Giving, and **Kaitlyn Brown**,



associate director of Annual Giving and Alumni Relations, graduated from the Leadership Allegany program, which provides a dynamic learning environment where adult professionals who live, work, or have a vested interest in Allegany County grow their leadership abilities, create connections, and impact their communities.



Bradley Smith, an instructor in the Automotive Trades Department, was welcomed

as a new board member of the Educational Foundation of Alfred, Inc., a private foundation representing faculty, staff, and friends of Alfred State.

Alfred State College was honored by Higher Education Marketing with a Gold Educational Advertising Award in the "Newsletter" category for its fall 2017 issue of Transitions. The entry was judged on content, design, and writing.



Cindy Thorp, academic success coach; **Natasha Daniels**, academic navigator; **Troy Morehouse**, director of Student Engagement; and **Mallory Morehouse**, associate director of Orientation and Family Programs, presented at the 37th Annual First Year Experience (FYE) Conference in San Antonio, Texas. Their presentation was titled "A Holistic and Seamless Transitional First-Year Program."

ACHIEVER 

1965

John R. Burch, *Farm Power & Mechanical Technology*, Hilton, celebrated over 60 years with the Burch Family Farm. The Burch family has been growing fruit at their farm in Hilton and John Burch says he hopes the family will keep the farming tradition going well into the future.

1967

Jeffrey D. Rase,



Mechanical Engineering Technology, Warsaw, is a Vietnam veteran who was honored in Warsaw for service to country.

1970



Eugene Schurman, *Agricultural Science*, Clymer, PA, was honored as the 2017 Dairy Science Distinguished Alumnus by the Penn State Department of Animal Science at a ceremony on Oct. 27 at University Park.

Show Off Your Talent! Contribute original works of art, poetry and prose to Ergo, Alfred State's literary and artistic publication. www.tinyurl.com/ASCergo

1979

Andrew DeSantis,



Audio Visual Technology, North Tonawanda, was honored with The Silver Circle award in New York City by The National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences

BIRTH 

2003

Michael Fouser, *Construction Engineering Technology*, and **Christina N. (King) Fouser**, '05, *Liberal Arts and Sciences: Social Science*, Webster, are excited to announce the birth of their daughter, Millicent Kennedy Fouser, born Nov. 14, 2017.

CAREER 

1976

Robert Finch, *Parks and Grounds Management*, Denver, CO, retired from Colorado State Parks in 2008 and is currently employed as the director of Natural Resources for the City and County of Denver.

1978

Jeffery Hinman, *Surveying Engineering Technology*, Weedsport, was recently promoted to senior project manager for Bryant Associates, P.C.

1980

Dorothy Stanley Nisbet, *Court Reporting*, Hornell, retired from the New York State Department of Transportation after a 33-year career.

1981

Marvin Roberts, *Animal Husbandry*, Candor, recently became a New York State Department of Transportation highway maintenance worker.

Shawn H. Malone,

Electronics Technology, Reading, PA, is the founder and CEO of Security Diligence, LLC, a cybersecurity and risk management consulting and advisory services firm.

1991

Eugene Kornacki, *Information Systems*, Rosemead, CA, has been promoted to senior database administrator of Raytheon.

1994

Michele Cone, *Nursing*,



Geneseo, was named director of nursing for M.M. Ewing Continuing Care Center at UR Medicine's Thompson Health in Canandaigua and the center's medical adult day program, The Brighter Day.

2010

Nathan A. Fox, *Mechanical Engineering*, Jordan, a mechanical engineer at Labella Associates DPC, celebrated one year of employment with Labella in February.

Christopher J. Shubert, *Architectural Technology*, Rochester, is a mechanical designer in the facilities engineering and design services core business, and has recently been promoted to associate at Erdman Anthony in Rochester.

MARRIAGE 

2012

Christopher M. McDonald, *Network Administration*, Scottsville, married Katelin (Adamczak) McDonald on Aug. 12, 2017.

Dylan A. Colburn,



Electrical Construction & Maintenance Electrician, Skaneateles, exchanged wedding vows with Nikole K. Lindquist on Aug. 12, 2017, at Chautauqua Suites in Mayville.

2013

Jessica (Churlik) Hogg,



Veterinary Technology, Hermitage, PA, and Jesse Hogg III were married Sept. 1, 2017, in St. John's Episcopal Church in Sharon.

REMEMBRANCE 

1949

Russell H. Wimer, *Farm Power & Mechanical Technology*, Strasburg, PA, passed away April 27, 2016.

1950

Henry "Hank" Henderson, *Mechanical Engineering Technology: Product and Machine Design*, and dear friend of Alfred State, Woodland Park, NJ, passed away March 8, 2018.



1952

Walter M. Rajski, *Diesel Tech*, LeRoy, passed away April 30, 2017.

STAY CONNECTED

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George Ortolano, *Frozen Foods*, Silver

Creek, passed away June 19, 2017.

1953

William P. Dougherty, *Air Conditioning Engineering Technology*, Kappa Sigma Epsilon Brother, Batavia, passed away Sept. 24 2017.

1957

Richard A. "Rich" Argentieri, *Business Administration*, Hornell, passed away March 29, 2018.



1959

Russel Warner, *Business Management*, Las Cruces, NM, passed away March 2, 2018.

James Shipway, *Business Administration*, Endicott, passed away May 7, 2017.

1961

Richard E. Schillinger, *Agricultural Engineering Technology Power & Machine*, Shallotte, NC, passed away June 5, 2015.

1964

Joseph Mihalyi, *Sales and Marketing*, North Fort Myers, FL, passed away Jan. 14, 2018.

1965

Dennis Fancher, *Air Conditioning Engineering Technology*, Ocean Isle Beach, NC, passed away Feb. 25, 2018.

1967

Larry R. Andrews, *Agricultural Animal Science*, Dadeville, AL, passed away Sept. 6, 2017.

1970

Paul H. Haugh, *Agricultural Animal Science*, Brookville, PA, passed away Nov. 21, 2017.

1971

Michael Thorpe, *Agricultural Engineering Technology Power & Machine*, East Aurora, passed away Jan. 22, 2018.



1974

Joseph Denzel, *Mechanical Engineering Technology*, San Jose, CA, passed away June 19, 2017.

1987

Jeffrey Resch, *Nursing*, LeRoy, passed away Sept. 29, 2017.

Hoyt R. Mason, *General Agriculture*, Lakeland, FL, passed away Jan. 18, 2018.

1986

Robert Bentley, *Building Trades: Building Construction*, Angelica, passed away March 7, 2018.



1990

Deborah A. Hunt, *Nursing*, Belmont, passed away Oct. 13, 2017.

2013

John M. Albrecht, *Human Services*, Alfred Station, passed away Dec. 14, 2017.

2015

Zack T. Carey, *Heavy Equipment Operations*, New Windsor, passed away Feb. 19, 2018.

Faculty/Staff

George R. Morgenfeld, The Plains, OH, retired vice president for Academic Affairs, passed away Nov. 23, 2017.

Helen Kerr, Bath, retired supervising janitor, passed away Dec. 16, 2017.

REUNION 

1959

James M. Burdett, *Agricultural Business*, Geneseo, was one of 14 Alfred State alumni who attended the last Burdett family reunion.

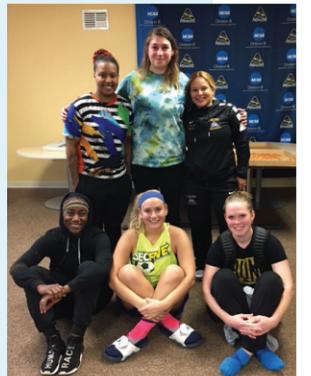


1977

MacKenzie East friends and suite mates got together to celebrate 60th birthdays! Friends for 40 years, they meet up frequently for weddings, birthdays, and friendship. Pictured in the front is **Eileen (Eaton) Cucchiaro**, *Executive Secretarial Science*, Cuba. In the back row, from left to right, are **Eileen (Masters) Dorn**, *Retail*, Chicago, IL; **Margie (Saam) Rixford**, *Executive Secretarial Science*, Howard; **Ruth (Radenburg) Campbell**, *Retail*, Maryville TN; and **Betsy (Faulks) Herzog**, *Retail*, Knoxville TN.



A group of Pioneer alumni returned to campus to participate in the women's alumni basketball game. Pictured here front row l-r: **Philicia L. Harris**, '10, *Interior Design*, Buffalo; **Kimberly M. Levee**, '17, *Radiologic Technology*, Dansville; **Steffanie N. Preston**, '17, *Forensic Science Technology*, Arlington, VA. Back row l-r: **Jaslynn D. Lee**, '07, *Lib Arts & Social Science*, Rochester; **Haley M. Witchella**, '13, *Individual Studies*, Oxford; **Destiny J. Brito**, '15, *Business Management*, Alfred. Not pictured was **Amie L. Brooks**, '12, *Business Management*, LeRoy; and **Breana N. Gleaton**, '17, *Individual Studies*, Waldorf, MD.



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