

# Transitions

NEWS FOR ALFRED STATE ALUMNI, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just that,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the road was only  
dirt road, for travel, and for going,  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning  
In leaves and undergrowth,  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less traveled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Dr. Aniko Constantine's true

Legacy







Project-based learning is a cornerstone of our culture. When students work on real-world problems, they learn how to think, not what to think. As a result, Alfred State has a 99% employment and continuing rate.

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## TRANSITIONS

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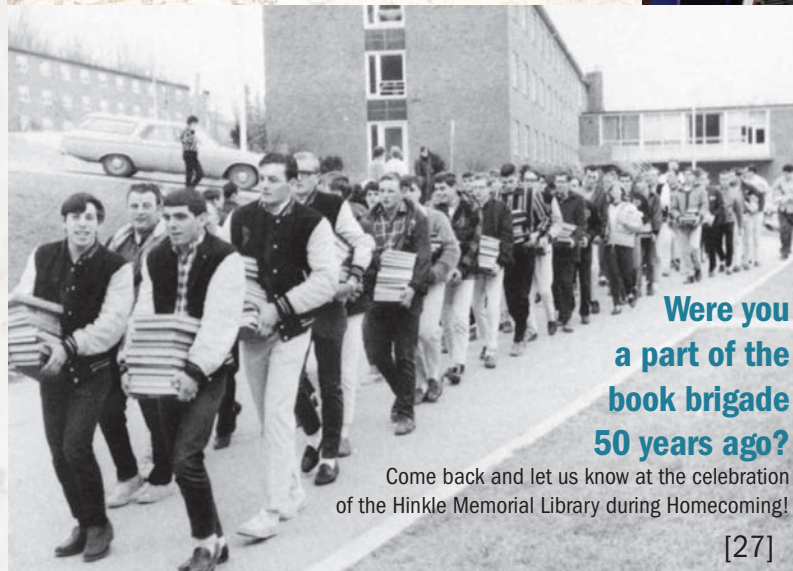
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**The Mission of the Alfred State  
Alumni Council is to enhance  
the engagement of the college's  
alumni for their enjoyment  
through programs and services  
which build relationships and  
to support the institution's  
efforts in student recruitment,  
career placement, and friend/  
fundraising.**

*All programs and services of  
the college are administered  
without discrimination on the  
basis of age, sex, marital or  
military status, race, color,  
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disability, or sexual orientation.  
This policy of nondiscrimination  
extends to admission, financial  
aid, housing, counseling,  
educational programs, athletic  
activities, and placement as well  
as to all aspects of employment.*





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**Sarah Jasterzab, '16**  
*Information Technology:  
Applications Software  
Development*

"My professors have tons of industry experience and you can tell they just love what they do. They love teaching, and they really care that you, as a person and as their student, are successful."



**Onika Grant, '16**  
*Forensic Science Technology*

"I'm taking chemistry classes, forensic classes, and biology labs, and they give you a feel of what to expect when you're in the real world."



**Jordan Ricotta, '15**  
*Automotive Service  
Technician*

"I am definitely prepared to be in my field of work and not be scared of any job."



**Jordan Williams, '15**  
*Electrical Construction  
and Maintenance  
Electrician*

"The hands-on aspect has really impressed me because we're getting all of the information and training that we need, besides just reading from a book. We're getting that hands-on experience that employers are looking for."



**Jennifer Vanskiver, '15**  
*Veterinary Technology*

"I'd rather practice what I'm going to be doing in my field rather than just sitting in a lecture. I like that I actually know what I'm going to do, how to do it, and how to do it correctly."





**Cleon Edwards, '16**  
*Nursing*

"I decided to attend Alfred State because it offered a great nursing program, as well as a change of pace from "the city that never sleeps."



**Steven Andrzejewski, '17**  
*Construction Management  
Engineering Technology*

"I had been to job fairs and asked employers to recommend a good school for what I'm interested in and I heard Alfred State over and over again."



**Chris McCormick, '15**  
*Cyber Security*

"I really enjoy solving puzzles and information technology is like that. I've learned how to figure out what's going on, what's wrong, and how to implement a solution."

Greetings alumni, faculty, staff, and friends,

In the 18 months that I have been president, I have been blessed and honored to meet hundreds of our alums, who always share with me their inspiring stories.

I hear about how they met their spouses and lifelong friends at Alfred State and about the significant impact our college has had on their lives, both personally and professionally.

Many of these alums also realize the value of giving back to their alma mater and how their contribution ensures the continuing success of our students and our college. Their gifts allow our current students to have the most up-to-date technology and to have amazing experiences that can make a difference not only locally, but around the United States and around the world.

Now, there are many ways in which you can make a gift to our college, and this issue of Transitions is focused on estate and legacy giving. Many of our graduates have included Alfred State in their planning, and as such, not only are they giving back to the College, they are investing in the next generation of students.

My challenge to you is to reflect on your own experiences, and determine if you would like to make a lasting gift to further the mission and vision of Alfred State. It is not really the dollar value, but the message you send to enhance the experiences of students who attend and will attend in the future.

Noticeably missing at Alfred State are named buildings, campuses, libraries, labs, meeting spaces, athletic facilities, and others. If you are interested in leaving a named legacy, or just contributing in a way that continues to help change lives, please contact our Institutional Advancement Office.

I am so very proud to be the president of Alfred State, and we are blessed by the generosity of so many. Thank you in advance for your consideration of a planned estate or legacy gift.

Respectfully,  
Dr. Skip Sullivan, President



**In her 40-plus years of teaching English at Alfred State,**

Dr. Aniko Constantine has won awards, become a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor, and donated money for scholarships and a legacy gift in the form of a \$100,000 annuity.

Dr.  
**Aniko**  
Constantine's  
**true**

Yet Constantine's true legacy isn't measured in achievements or dollars and cents, but rather by the impact she has had on her students.

Thanks to her, thousands of Alfred State alumni can recite "But, or, yet, for, and, nor, so are seven conjunctions I should know." And, because Constantine believes everyone should have a few lines of poetry to be able to readily recite from memory, they can also say, "Two roads diverged in a wood and I, I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference."

"And that is only the first day of classes," she said.

Constantine said she loves the fact that she can make a difference in her students' writing skills.

"I feel as if I make a difference in the quality of their writing, their ability to graduate from Alfred State, and their ability to work at a job at some point in the future, where their writing skills are going to be called upon and their communication skills are going to be asked for," she said.

Before her life's journey brought her to Alfred more than four decades ago, Constantine grew up on a dairy farm in

**is her  
impact on**

**Legacy**  
**STUDENTS**



another small town called Laurens, located in Otsego County. She said being a dairy farmer's daughter was probably the single most influential part of her upbringing. "I learned what it was to work hard and to enjoy the hard work and to enjoy the fruits of that hard labor at my father's side," Constantine said.

In between milking cows with her father at a young age, Constantine said, the two of them would dance together in the barn. "We had a phonograph out in the barn," she said. "If I put on 'Mi Casa, Su Casa' by Perry Como, he would say, 'OK Annie, come on.' And in between the hard work, there was this beautiful moment of play where I learned to waltz with my father."

After graduating from Laurens Central School in 1961, Constantine earned her bachelor's degree in English from Hartwick College in 1965, and her master's and PhD, both in English, from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign campus in 1966 and 1972, respectively.

She began her first teaching job in 1972 at Allegheny College in Meadville, PA, which is "why I'm such a Pittsburgh Steelers fan," she said.

"It was a nice, small town. I felt comfortable teaching there. But Allegheny College was a college for privileged students. It really was a very impressive, small school, but I never felt the pull there that I feel here, that I was needed and that I was making a big difference in the education of the students there," Constantine said. "So when a job became available at Alfred State and I came here to interview, this seemed like the school where I belonged."

Constantine joined Alfred State in 1974 as an assistant professor and six years later, she was named a SUNY Chancellor's Award winner for excellence in teaching. She received the Jaime Escalante Award for Teaching in 1989, was named a SUNY Distinguished Teaching Professor in 1997, and was honored with the Alumni Association Outstanding Faculty Award in 2010.

Other honors include the National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh to study theories of writing, an appointment to the SUNY Scholars Panel for Writing Assessment, and being treasurer and executive board member of the SUNY Writing Council for 25 years.

However, Constantine said her most important award, according to her father, Frank, was the one she received for winning the faculty milking contest for the first time in 1980.

"He was really tickled and pleased with the idea that I had not forgotten because it had been 10 years or so since I had milked a cow," she said.

Also in the 1980s, Constantine convinced then-Alfred State President Dr. David Huntington that each student's name should be read aloud at Commencement, which was not happening at the time.

"I have been reading the names of students as they graduate from Alfred State ever since then," Constantine said.

Over the years, Constantine has taught a number of courses at Alfred State, including

introduction to composition, introduction to literature, short story, gender and identity in literature, and images of women in fiction, which she created. When asked what she has enjoyed the most about her time at Alfred State, the answer was easy: the students.

"Our students are wonderful and I have enjoyed working with them," she said. Through an outreach program, Constantine even once taught Vietnam veterans, some of whom, she said, had been in rice paddies thousands of miles away from home only a month before they ended up in her class, talking about semicolons.

"Alfred State made an effort with this program to bring these students in and to provide them with a semester of essentially remedial math, remedial English, and then several courses in whatever field they might have been interested in pursuing," Constantine said.

Constantine's impact on students extends beyond the walls of the classroom, however. She is a faculty adviser for *Ergo*, Alfred State's literary magazine. More information on *Ergo* can be found here: <https://alfredstate.collegiatelink.net/organization/Ergo/about>.

Constantine has also aided students financially.

"I have, for probably the last 20 years, been supporting small scholarships on campus, for example, at the Honors Convocation to Phi Theta Kappa graduates and to building trades: building construction students for their Semester in the South trip, to Educational Opportunities Program



## [IT MATTERS]

graduates, to the outstanding students in the School of Arts and Sciences, prize money, and so forth," she said.

However, Constantine said she wanted to make more permanent donations to the school, so she endowed a memorial scholarship for her son Paul Edward Constantine Jr. and a scholarship for Educational Opportunities Program students.

Her largest donation is a \$100,000 annuity legacy gift, an attempt to benefit Alfred State, plus her and her husband, Paul, with whom she recently celebrated 50 years of marriage at Disney World, along with their three sons, Frank, Paul Jr., and Charles.

"It provides us with a small income for many years and it provides the school with funds to spend when we pass. It's unrestricted," she said. "The college one day will use the funds to benefit the educational programs here at Alfred State and we will continue to get the small income from it for the rest of our lives."

Constantine said she decided to make a legacy gift because there was a need for it.

"I see students often who need more financial support than what they're getting,

even for something as simple as Xeroxing articles in the library," she said. "Textbooks are always a big problem. Often, textbooks cost \$1,000. Even parents who have budgeted for that have not budgeted \$1,000 for textbooks for the semester and so I'd like to think that there was help around because a student without textbooks is a student who is not going to be able to pass."

Many Alfred State students, Constantine pointed out, are the first person in their families to attend college.

"I also know that many of our students come from families who are below the poverty line," she said. "I love the fact that they are coming to Alfred State, they're going to get a degree from here, they're going to get a good job, and they will no longer be below the poverty line, and hopefully they will be grateful to their parents and share some of the wealth that they can have after they graduate as well."

She noted, "I can make a difference, as their teacher, for the rest of their lives and for the lives of their families. That's the beautiful thing about Alfred State."

The beautiful part about Constantine's time at Alfred State is how she has made an

impact on so many people, including her colleagues.

Dr. Robert Curry, dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, said he can't say enough good things about Constantine.

"She has been an invaluable mentor to me and to many other faculty, she has been a tireless advocate for the liberal arts in general and the humanities in particular, and her positive impact on the lives of her students has been enormous," Curry said.

Janice Stafford, assistant professor in the English and Humanities Department, said she does not think Constantine will ever retire, though if she does, Alfred State will be losing a little piece of its soul.

"I have known Annie for more than 30 years," Stafford said. "She was my friend long before she convinced me to become an adjunct 13 years ago. Her enthusiasm for teaching is contagious."

"I have gone from an adjunct to a temporary lecturer and am now an assistant professor. None of that would have happened without her guidance. She loves this school, her colleagues, and her students, and the feeling is mutual."

**"I can make a difference, as their teacher, for the rest of their lives and for the lives of their families. That's the beautiful thing about Alfred State."**



YouTube / AlfredStateCollege

See more of Dr. Constantine's interview with student Lucas Bayus, on our YouTube channel.



# GIFTS

*that keep on giving* →

**Dr. James Koller** grew up more than 1,500 miles away from Alfred in the small town of Edgemont, SD, where he attended public schools.

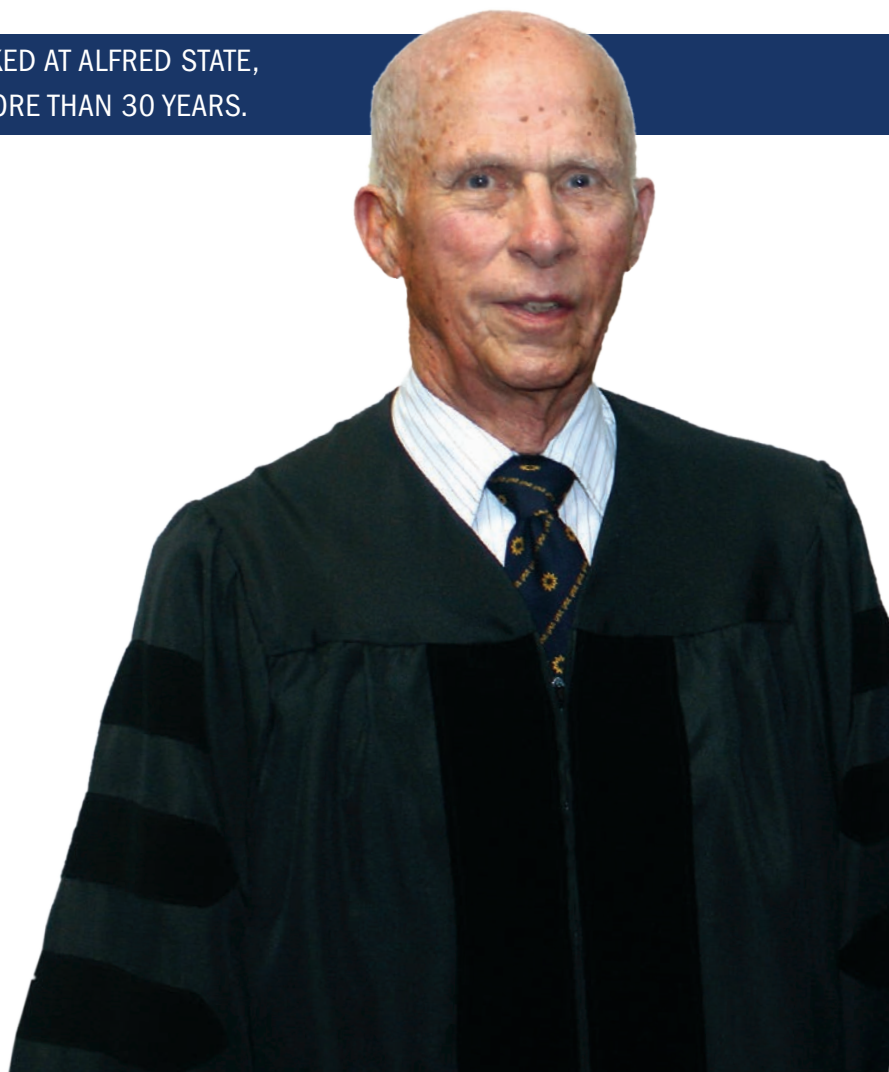
ALTHOUGH HE NEVER ATTENDED OR WORKED AT ALFRED STATE, DR. KOLLER HAS BEEN A PIONEER FOR MORE THAN 30 YEARS.

Although his undergraduate education was interrupted by 38 months of active military duty, he earned his bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry from Creighton University in Omaha, NE, in 1947 and 1949, respectively. He then achieved his PhD in physical chemistry from the University of Nebraska in 1953.

And although he never attended or worked at Alfred State, Koller has been a Pioneer for more than 30 years.

In 1981, he was appointed to the Alfred State College Council, an advisory group to the president of the college. He would serve for two additional seven-year terms, the legal limit.

For more than 20 years, Koller voluntarily invested his time and efforts in the future of Alfred State, both as a College Council member and later as an original member and second chair of the Board of Directors for the Development Fund, the fundraising entity for the college. Under Koller's direction, the Development Fund came together, the infrastructure was built, and policies and processes were established.





# GIFTS

*that keep on giving* →

"Our main goals were to establish a 'habit of giving' among the friends of Alfred State and to set up appropriate structures for conducting fundraising and stewardship activities," said Koller, who served on the Development Fund Board from 1996 to 2002. "These, among other challenges, meant establishing a policy base and working out the appropriate relationships with the Educational Foundation and Alumni Boards."

By the time he began his involvement with Alfred State in the early '80s, Koller had been an employee at Eastman Kodak for nearly three decades. He began working there in 1953, holding various positions in research, development, and manufacturing, until becoming manager of paper manufacturing at Kodak Park in 1979, manager of film manufacturing in 1980, and both in a reorganization in 1983. He retired in January 1987.

Thirteen years later in 2000, Alfred State established the Jim Koller Volunteerism Award to honor Koller and to recognize the time, effort, and energy he has invested in the future of the college. In recognition of his service to and support of Alfred State, the college awarded him an honorary Doctor of Science degree in 2008.

Evidence of the special place Koller has in his heart for Alfred State and its future can also be found in the financial donations he has made and will make to the college. He said he plans to contribute to the Koller

Scholarship Fund to encourage student volunteerism on campus and in their home communities, until the fund reaches what he believes to be an appropriate size. When that happens, Koller said, he will then continue to make unrestricted gifts to the college.

Koller will also leave a legacy gift to the college in the form of a commitment from his charitable remainder trust.

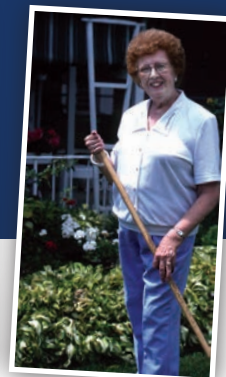
In this type of legal arrangement, property or money is donated to a charity, making it tax-deductible, but the donor continues to use the property and receive income from it while alive. Assets from the trust go to the charity upon the death of the donor.

Koller said he decided to make a legacy gift because, "I considered Alfred State to be the best opportunity for underprivileged high school graduates in Western New York and the Southern Tier to receive post-secondary education of very high quality. Also, I was impressed with the commitments already made to Alfred State by families and businesses in the area."

Koller encourages fellow members of the Alfred State family to give back to the college financially, saying, "If you're interested in Alfred State, support it with a gift that will keep on giving."

“THE DEVELOPMENT  
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FUNDRAISING AND  
STEWARDSHIP  
ACTIVITIES.”

# Investing in EDUCATION



**Barbara Becker** credits Alfred State with providing the foundation for advancement in her 40-year career in the business world, as well as the confidence to meet the challenges of everyday life.

"Alfred State is one of my big loves," she said.

At the time of her graduation in 1947, Becker was one of seven in the first graduating class of executive secretarial majors. A Corning resident, she soon began working for Corning Glass Works as secretary to the director of New Products and of the Centennial.

Becker then took several more jobs within the company, first as executive secretary to the assistant treasurers, and in following years as executive secretary (administrative assistant to the vice president and treasurer).

And as doors began to open for women in the business world in the 1970s, Becker became one of the first women to be afforded the opportunity to enter the financial management field at Corning Glass Works. She became supervisor of corporate accounting in 1973 and supervisor of management and professional payroll in 1983, a position she held until her retirement in 1987.

Keeping up-to-date with the constantly changing field of finance, Becker received credits in intermediate and advanced accounting from Corning Community and

Elmira colleges. She also took management courses through the American Management Association and programs in microfilming, payroll, data processing, and corporate accounting department management.

During and after her time at Alfred State, Becker was involved in numerous causes.

While she was a student, Becker was a member of the Commercial Club and the Newman Club; on the business staff of the Kanakadea, the yearbook that was a joint publication of Alfred State and Alfred University; was secretary at her student residence, Henderson House, during her second year at school; and was treasurer of her class during her second year. She has been a member of the Alfred State President's Society for more than 20 years.

After she joined the professional world, Becker was elected to the Corning Federal Credit Union Board of Directors, serving the organization for 20 years, both on the board and as supervisory committee chair, and as director emeritus.

At her parish, St. Vincent's Roman Catholic Church in Corning, Becker served as a lector, a member of the finance committee, a trustee, as a Eucharistic minister, and became chair of the first consolidation of councils for the four Catholic churches in Corning.

Becker was a member, president, vice president, and chair of several committees of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Corning and the statewide organization. She also volunteered at the Corning Hospital for 13 years.

Her legacy at Alfred State can be found in numerous forms. She has purchased an alumni brick, as well as a bench and a perpetual garden in memory of her parents, Leo and Frances Becker, near St. Jude's Church, located on the Alfred campus.

Becker is also a Legacy Society member, has given money for an endowed scholarship and additional funds to be used where needed. She said her legacy gift will assist students who otherwise may not have had the funds to attend college.

"An investment in the education of our young people through gifts to the Alfred State College Legacy Society," Becker said, "is one of the best investments we can make for our families, communities, and our country."

**"AN INVESTMENT IN  
THE EDUCATION OF  
OUR YOUNG PEOPLE  
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[COMMENCEMENT]





## Class of 2015

Approximately 900 May 2015 graduates were recognized during this year's commencement ceremonies, with Dr. Skip Sullivan, president, presiding.

Offering some welcoming remarks was Eunice Lewin, State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees member. Keynote speaker for the event was Alfred State alumnus Dr. J. Gregory Ferry, chaired professor of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Penn State.

Specially recognized at the ceremony were 1943 graduate Merrill B. Allen, of Gowanda, and Donald M. Bergreen, of Olean, who attended the college between 1942 and 1943.

Allen and Bergreen were two of several men who, in the years between 1942 and 1945, left their homes, families, friends, and the opportunity to finish their college career or attend graduation to serve in the military.

Allen was presented with a diploma recognizing his graduation from Alfred State, and Bergreen was given a certificate in recognition of his time spent studying at the college.

Receiving the Paul B. Orvis Award for Excellence were Jessica L. Baier, Rochester (School of Applied Technology associate degree recipient); Samantha J. Duquette, Churchville (School of Architecture, Management and Engineering Technology baccalaureate degree recipient); Sheyenne N. Hooker, Angelica (School of Architecture, Management and Engineering Technology associate degree recipient); McKenzie E. Mallaber, Livonia (School of Arts and Sciences baccalaureate degree recipient); and Emily A. Gilfert, Wellsville (School of Arts and Sciences associate degree recipient).

Near the end of the ceremony, Shawn Sanfilippo, an electrical engineering technology graduate from Franklinville, won a 2003 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer Edition vehicle after his ticket was drawn in a raffle.





# Applied Learning

# PAYS



OFFERING A WIDE VARIETY OF ASSOCIATE-LEVEL PROGRAMS, A CULTURE OF HANDS-ON LEARNING, AND AN AFFORDABLE EDUCATION, ALFRED STATE IS POISED TO DO ITS PART TO HELP FILL THE GROWING GAP BETWEEN QUALIFIED MIDDLE-SKILL EMPLOYEES AND MIDDLE-SKILL JOBS.

**Middle-skill occupations are those that require more than a high school education but less than a bachelor's degree**, such as machinist, technician, and health care worker. According to the National Skills Coalition (NSC), 54 percent of all jobs in the US were middle-skill in 2012 and that between 2012 and 2022, 49 percent of job openings will be middle-skill.

jobs, for prosperity, and for the future. "It's clear that technical education is our primary weapon in this conflict," said Pinchuk. "In fact, the up-skilling of the American workforce is the seminal issue of our time."

Pinchuk cites the National Association of Manufacturers in saying that 600,000 jobs



However, the NSC points out that while middle-skill occupations account for more than half of the US labor market, only 44 percent of the country's workers are trained to this level. Currently, there are approximately 4 million unfilled middle-skill jobs.

One possible reason for this could be the so-called "college-for-all" mentality, which pushes underprepared students toward a four-year college at the expense of occupational programs. This has created a surplus of four-year college graduates that exceeds the number of college-level jobs available.

According to the ManpowerGroup's Talent Shortage Survey, the 10 hardest jobs to fill in 2014 were skilled trade workers, restaurant and hotel staff, sales representatives, teachers, drivers, accounting and finance staff, laborers, IT staff, engineers, and nurses. Nicholas T. Pinchuk, chairman and CEO of Snap-on Incorporated, said in the December 2014/January 2015 edition of the "Community College Journal" that America is in the midst of a global competition – for

go unfilled because employers can't find qualified workers. He said this shortfall exists largely because those entering the workforce today don't aspire to technical careers or understand that they can provide a good living.

"We must characterize technical careers as what they have always been: the building blocks of American prosperity," Pinchuk said. "We need to enlist our young people in technical careers as a national calling, capturing their enthusiasm as soldiers in a continuing preeminence.

"We have to restore the image of the American Dream as something attainable through a technical career – an endeavor worthy of dedication and energy, deserving of pride and dignity, and essential to the American future. We must banish the impression that these jobs are consolation prizes."

Another strong advocate for the promotion of middle-skill professions is Mike Rowe, creator, executive producer, and host of

CNN's "Somebody's Gotta Do It," and former host of TV's "Dirty Jobs. Rowe has given many speeches about closing the skills gap in the United States and started the mikeroweWORKS Foundation, a nonprofit organization that provides financial assistance to students interested in skilled trades professions.

engineering, and math) have greater lifetime earnings than four-year degree holders in most other career areas.

This is where we come in. Of the more than 65 majors the college offers, 50 are associate-level programs, many of which are geared toward middle-skill occupations.

Alfred State is also enabling its graduates to secure employment in their field of study. Ninety-nine percent of the college's graduates are employed or are continuing their education. Of those employed, 91 percent are in their chosen field.

And choosing to get an Alfred State education is an economically sound decision.



He was quoted in the December 2014/ January 2015 edition of "Community College Journal" as saying, "There are 4 million (open) jobs right now and a very small percentage of them require a four-year degree; most require training. So either we make training cool, or we continue to look at lots and lots of people looking for jobs and lots of available jobs and no logical way to connect the two."

In addition to playing a role in closing the skills gap, two-year diplomas can also prove fiscally beneficial to those who hold such degrees. According to the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce's report, "The college payoff: Education, occupations, lifetime earnings," workers with two-year degrees in high-demand occupations can earn salaries that surpass those of four-year degrees.

Bryan Goodwin writes in "Research Says/ Don't Overlook Middle-Skill Jobs," in the April 2012 edition of "College, Careers, Citizenship," that two-year degree holders in STEM subjects (science, technology,

#### THE FOLLOWING IS A SAMPLING OF MIDDLE-SKILL TWO-YEAR OPTIONS BY CATEGORY OFFERED AT ALFRED STATE:

**Computers:** computer information systems, computer engineering technology.

**Construction:** heavy equipment operations, diesel technology, building construction, masonry, welding, and electrical construction and maintenance electrician.

**Health care:** Nursing.

**Installation maintenance & repair:** HVAC technology, automotive technology, autobody repair, heavy equipment, truck & diesel technician, electrical construction and maintenance electrician, and machine tool technology.

**Service:** culinary arts, baking and production management.

**Other:** drafting/CAD, electrical engineering technology, mechanical engineering technology, and veterinary technology.

Students learn about renewable energy technologies and green building techniques in several programs.

More than 88 percent of the student body receives some type of financial aid assistance and students share in \$48 million in financial aid annually. The college also offers \$4 million in merit-based scholarships in a variety of categories, many relating to middle-skills programs. These include automotive service technician, electrical construction and maintenance electrician, culinary arts, and more.

And instead of simply listening to lectures in a classroom, students learn by doing through a number of hands-on, project-based learning experiences. Whether it's working on automobiles, constructing buildings, or tending to manikins that simulate hospital patients, these experiences and the high-tech instruments involved help students develop the skills and knowledge they need in their chosen professions.

While no single entity alone can solve the problem of the skills gap, Alfred State is certainly well-positioned to be a driving force toward the solution and will continue to train and educate students for successful and rewarding careers in middle-skill occupations.



Exciting local high schoolers with an

# Engineering Challenge

NEARLY 150 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FROM FIVE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICTS VISITED ALFRED STATE IN FEBRUARY TO DISCOVER THE EXCITING WORLDS OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY AS PART OF NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK.

Founded by the National Society of Professional Engineers in 1951, the week is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers, according to [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org). Throughout the week, 34 Alfred State students in the School of Architecture, Management, and Engineering Technology showcased the many great projects and activities they engage in at the college through various clubs and organizations.

Participating Alfred State groups included the:

- Alfred State Information Security Team
- American Congress on Surveying and Mapping Glickman Chapter
- Architecture Club
- Associated General Contractors of America
- Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
- Robotics Club
- Society of Automotive Engineers
- Women In Non-traditional Studies

Attending schools included Hornell, Arkport, Elmira, Scio, and the Greater Southern Tier BOCES Wildwood campus. In addition to learning from Alfred State students, high school students also took part in a fun design challenge, in which their teams were tasked with designing and building a table out of a newspaper that was at least 8 inches tall and could hold, at minimum, a 200-page textbook.

Alex Surdyk, an electrical engineering technology major from Hamburg, said the event was Alfred State's chance to show high school students that science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields are "not just math and numbers, but instead something that you can see, feel, and be a part of."

"It is crucial to the continuing development of society and the human race as a whole to continue to make advancements in STEM," he said. "We need young minds to lead us into the future."



*Alex Surdyk, an electrical engineering technology major from Hamburg, right, judges one of the entries in the design challenge.*

For Josh Weaver, a junior from the Elmira City School District, and Jasmine Mosko, a freshman from Arkport Central School, the day was about fun and learning.

**"We need young minds to lead us into the future."**

"It was fun and people were nice about everything while they were trying to teach everyone what was going on and trying to get other people interested in what they were doing," Weaver said. "I learned about how certain architectural things are made."

Mosko said, "It was fun because we got to do hands-on activities and learn different things."

Dr. John Williams, dean of the School of Architecture, Management, and Engineering Technology, said he received many positive comments from the visitors and that the vast majority of high school students were engaged in the event. He also noted that he is very proud of his school's students.

"Watching them represent their fields and seeing the passion they have for what they are studying, it was a great day," Williams said.

# Solar LINK

WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE THE WORLD BETTER

DOZENS OF STUDENTS REPRESENTING A WIDE variety of departments and programs are currently involved in a project that could bring clean drinking water and biofuel to communities around the globe.

Solar Link, according to Sarah Jastrzab, project vice president and web programmer, involves using a solar still, which contains a Fresnel lens that harnesses huge amounts of energy from the sun.

"Right now, we're distilling water, making biofuel, there has been talk of possibly smelting metals. We've cooked food with it, as well," said Jastrzab, an applications software development major. "The whole point is to take energy from the sun, concentrate it, and then put it to good use."

After the water or biofuel is distilled, the project's chemists and biologists perform tests on what is produced. According to Jastrzab, Solar Link could benefit not only the local community, but even those in places such as Alaska, Africa, and Haiti.

"It's kind of like, 'Don't just give them fish, teach them how to fish,'" Jastrzab said. "We give them a method to create their own clean water, to create fuel, a way to cook food, and a way to harness the energy most of these places naturally have."

The project was founded by Lawrence Fink, a computer engineering technology major; Dr. John Burke, assistant professor in the Computer and Information Technology Department; and Markus Hall, an applications software development major.

The Solar Link team received a \$5,000 STEM grant to

purchase the Fresnel lenses

and other materials, Jastrzab said, and has since gotten funding from Alfred State President Dr. Skip Sullivan, Vice President of Academic Affairs Dr. Kristin Poppo, and Dr. John Williams, dean of the School of Architecture, Management, and Engineering Technology.

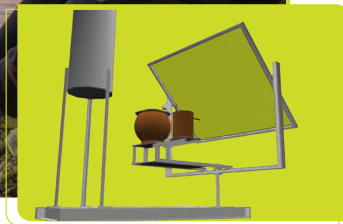
"We're trying to get more corporate sponsors and grants going forward with this because our goal is to keep the students from the different departments and programs working together, and to partner with businesses so that we give students a realistic expectation of what it's going to be like in the business world," Jastrzab said. "We run this organization like a corporation."

Fink said it takes all types of people from different backgrounds and career paths to accomplish a job.

"By incorporating this type of teamwork into students' education," he said, "it gives them the chance to learn valuable skills early on and gives employers proof that they can not only work in a team, but effectively with everyone in the organization."

Jastrzab said her hope for the project is that it continues to grow, even after she has graduated.

"It's great for students to be able to work with each other because we are all very different," she said. "I learned so much from working with the engineers, the biologists, the chemists. It's been a real growth for me and I've even gotten job offers from this. The project has been a great experience and it has the potential to help a lot of people."





# Building

toward a greener tomorrow

WITH THE 2015 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY SOLAR DECATHLON ONLY A FEW MONTHS AWAY, members of Team Alfred have been working hard and making great progress on their entry throughout the spring semester.

Held this year from Oct. 8-18 in Irvine, CA, the Solar Decathlon challenges collegiate teams to design, build, and operate solar-powered houses that are cost-effective, energy-efficient, and attractive. Seventeen teams are competing in the 2015 event.

Team Alfred, which consists of students from Alfred State and Alfred University, continues the construction of its entry, a nearly 900-square-foot zero-energy home for middle-class families in rural Western New York, in February, about a year after the design work started. Both colleges also collaborated on a submission for the 2013 Solar Decathlon, held in Datong, China.

"The basic floor system and subfloor are in, framing for the exterior decks is complete, interior wall framing is complete, and our students also built the kitchen cabinets," Joe Richardson, chair of the Alfred State Building Trades Department,

said of the work on the 2015 house. "Structurally insulated panels for the outside 'shell' of the house have also been installed."

The shell was assembled quickly, Richardson said.

"Windows and doors, work on interior walls and trim, siding, and roofing all continue to be finished, with the solar thermal and photovoltaic systems being among the last items assembled," he said. "The deck boards and railing systems on the outside will be made ready for full assembly in California."

Eventually, the house, which is currently located on the School of Applied Technology campus in Wellsville, will be shipped in modules to the site of the Solar Decathlon. Approximately 15 students will be making the trip to California, where they will receive a valuable applied learning experience.

"There is going to be some substantial work to conduct in California. We're going to have to place the upper part of the structure and the roofing on while at the competition site. We have nine days to assemble the house once we're in California," said Richardson, who noted assembly begins Sept. 27.

"That's working from 7 in the morning until 2 in the morning. The students are going to have to work in shifts."

The students, however, are definitely up for the challenge.

"I think it's nice that we're competing in a national competition," said Jacob Van Norman, a building trades: building construction major from Leicester. "We're putting in the hours for something that really matters."

Adam Morrison, a building trades: building construction student from Hilton, said, "It's a great opportunity to get out there and apply what we've learned at Alfred State."

As a result of the need to fund costs associated with constructing the competition home, as well as housing, meals, and transportation, the students are asking for donations. For more information on the project and how to donate, visit [www.alfredstate.edu/sustainability/academics/solar-decathlon-2015](http://www.alfredstate.edu/sustainability/academics/solar-decathlon-2015).

Anyone who has questions or would like to be a sponsor may contact Craig Clark, dean of the School of Applied Technology, at 607-587-3102.

#### Alfred State would like to thank:

- AKR Associates
- Apricus
- HEP Sales
- Kohler
- LaBella Associates
- LeChase Construction
- Madison Wood
- O'Connell Electric
- Resource Furniture
- SWBR Architects
- Thermal Foams
- Upstate Roofing & Painting
- Western New York Floor Company





# INTERNSHIPS

## Define Career Paths

**A**fter watching TV shows such as *Law and Order* and *Criminal Minds*, and researching the field of forensic psychology, Nahillah High, of Brooklyn, was certain of what career path she wanted to take.

However, after Alfred State helped her land an internship at the Alfred Montessori School, the 2015 human services graduate changed her mind. Rather than become a forensic psychologist, High decided she wanted to be a child psychologist instead.

"I realized, through working at the Montessori, that I actually want to catch the problem at a young age," she said. "Say, if there is a child who has a behavioral disorder, I want to catch the problem before it progresses, so that their behavioral disorder doesn't turn into psychopathic tendencies. Usually, you see it when they're a child, so if I'm able to make a difference when they're young, it'll possibly change their life and the lives of others around them."

Throughout her internship, which took place during the spring 2015 semester, High worked 11 hours a week, assisting children from ages 18 months to 5 years old with daily activities, such as "snack time and circle time," she said.

"A lot of the children also liked when I read to them," she said.

High credits her internship with not only defining her career path, but also giving her patience and teaching her the correct way to talk to and handle children.

"I learned how to talk to them, be on their level, and still treat them as mature because some of them really are advanced," she said. "It's amazing."

Her internship, however, is far from being the only influencing factor of her Alfred State experience. Coming from Brooklyn to Alfred, High admits, was an "environment shock."

"I wasn't really expecting it to be this rural, so I was kind of doubting coming here, but

when I came up here for Experience Alfred, the RAs were really friendly and I actually sat in for a class with Dr. Jill Amati," High said. "I was able to answer one of the questions and she was really enthusiastic about it, so she made me feel really welcome and I liked the attention."

She added, "Also, during my birthday, the college sent me a birthday card and no other school did, so that made me realize that Alfred State is caring."

High said she also likes that the faculty "know you personally, rather than just as a number," and that the classes are thought-provoking. She said what she enjoyed most about her major was learning how to apply certain skills to everyday life, such as talking to people.

"I know how to talk a little bit better now," she said, "and even in casual conversations with friends, I'll say, 'So how does that make you feel?'" And they look at me like, 'Don't do that therapy.' And I'm like, 'I'm not.' Now, it's just natural."





### Career fair draws record number of employers, nearly 700 students

Many Pioneer alumni such as 2005 architectural technology graduate Joshua Bezio, BIM Manager and Architectural Designer for Hunt-EAS, are asked by their employers to attend the annual spring career fair in search of more Alfred State students to hire.

A total of 96 employers and 690 students were in attendance at the spring 2015 career fair at Alfred State. Students were able to explore career options, network with potential employers, and gain insight into the job application and interview process. This year's number of registered employers broke the previous record total of 73, set last year.

### Accelerated three-year bachelor degree programs now available

With the college receiving approval from the State University of New York and the New York State Education Department, qualifying students now have the opportunity to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in human services management or a Bachelor in Business Administration degree in three years.

Through online summer and winter session course work, accepted students may complete degree requirements by following a carefully designed accelerated track, while avoiding undue academic loads during the typical fall and spring semesters. These fast-track options have been promoted by SUNY in recent years as it looks to provide avenues to shorten time to graduation.

Interested students can contact the Alfred State Admissions Office at 607-587-4215 or 1-800-4-ALFRED.

### New Phi Kappa Phi honor society chapter formed

The new Alfred State chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi honor society was installed during a ceremony Feb. 19 in the Allegany Room of the Central Dining Hall.

Charter members include Chair of the Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Technology Department Edward Tezak, Dean of the School of Applied Technology Craig Clark, Senior Director of Health and Wellness Services Hollie Hall, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering Technology Associate Professor Christopher Tomasi, Computer and Information Technology Assistant Professor Evan Enke, Librarian Barbara Greil, Bursar of Student Records and Financial Services Martha McGee, Social and Behavioral Sciences Professor Regina Pollard, and Digital Media and Animation Assistant Professor Jeremy Schwartz.

Pollard and Schwartz are new initiates, along with Alfred State President Dr. Skip Sullivan, Vice President of Academic Affairs Kristin Poppo, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences Bob Curry, and Dean of the School of Architecture, Management, and Engineering Technology John Williams. Charter members who are not new initiates had their Phi Kappa Phi affiliation at another institution changed to the Alfred State chapter.



### College farm now shipping organic milk

Consumers who purchase Organic Valley-brand organic milk could now also be supporting Alfred State at the same time.

The college's farm began shipping organic milk in September 2014 through Organic Valley, its cooperative company. According to Virginia Chamberlain, farm manager, the college farm took about a year to transition a herd of cows from producing regular milk to giving organic milk. She said the farm ships about 6,500 pounds of organic milk every two days and that 55-60 organic-fed cows are milked there between two-and-a-half to three times a day.

In addition to shipping organic milk, the college farm has also taken a number of other positive steps forward since the start of 2014. The college invested \$138,000 in facility improvements, including critical electrical upgrades, heating upgrades in the farm milking parlor, repairs to the calf barn and milk house, and cleaning upgrades in the milking system.

More exciting things that could be happening at the farm in the next two years include fixing the existing heifer barn and show building, rehabilitating the classroom, and creating a computer lab. Future builds during that time frame could include a hay barn and a commodity shed.

### Land for Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing Center leased to SUNY

The Educational Foundation of Alfred, Inc. signed a contract on Feb. 20 that leases land on the School of Applied Technology campus designated for a Sustainable Advanced Manufacturing Center to the State University of New York (SUNY) for 30 years. This move was required to allow the NYSUNY 2020 Challenge Grant Program funds to be used to construct the building, according to Dr. Craig Clark, executive director and dean of the School of Applied Technology.

The center will be used to train welding technology and machine tool technology students in state-of-the-art sustainable practices in advanced manufacturing through efficient processes, including energy systems. Other uses for the center include prototyping and assisting manufacturers in the development of new products and systems.

The date for full occupation is currently planned for August 2016, with the move-in to begin in May 2016 after the spring semester has ended.

### Alfred State makes Top Online Associate Degrees listing

The Affordable Colleges Foundation announced that Alfred State ranks 23rd on its list of Top Online Associate Degrees for 2015.

ACF, a leading resource for online learning and college affordability information, analyzed data collected from hundreds of colleges across the US with online degrees at the associate level. The organization considered various cost and quality criteria and metrics, including number of online associate degrees available, online tuition cost, job placement for graduates, student-faculty ratio, and more.

### New Member of Talloires Network

Alfred State has joined the Talloires Network, an international association of institutions committed to strengthening the civic roles and social responsibilities of higher education. The college will work with other institutions to implement the recommendations of the Talloires Declaration and build a global movement of engaged universities.



## NEW POLO TEAM THRIVING

The new Alfred State Polo team took first place overall at the Northeast Intercollegiate Women Preliminary Tournament, held Feb. 27 to March 1 at Yale. The team, consisting of students

Anna Campbell, of Geneseo; Sarah Burgoon, of Westfield; and Kasandra Wohlschlegel, of Honeoye, was officially formed after receiving approval from Alfred State in November and the United States Polo Association in January.





## You can have an everlasting impact on our students.

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

Use this tear-off and mail back to:

**Office of 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.)
- ☐ Architecture and Design Programs
- ☐ Athletic Pioneer Pride Society
- ☐ BAJA Competition
- ☐ Solar Decathlon
- ☐ Scholarships
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

*For assistance, contact the Office of Institutional  
Advancement at 607-587-3930.*

I am ☐ an alumni ☐ parent ☐ friend ☐ faculty/staff

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Check Enclosed (payable to ASC Development Fund)

Charge: ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Am.Ex. ☐ Discover

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

[www.alfredstate.edu/give](http://www.alfredstate.edu/give)

## Gifts & Commitments of \$10,000+

July 2014 – Feb. 2015

**Bequest** pledge gift from Evelyn Turner to support the Evelyn Turner Culinary Arts Annual Scholarship and the Evelyn Turner Excellence in Culinary Arts Annual Scholarship.

**Bequest** pledge gift from Paul and Annie Constantine to support the general needs of the college.

**Bequest** pledge gift from Lloyd McCall to support the McCall and Williams Family Endowed Scholarship.

**\$111,000** (approx.) from the estate of Betsy Gannon to support the general needs of the college.

**\$51,000** (approx.) from the estate of Ann Wood Stopper to support the Robert Wood Memorial Scholarship.

**\$36,000 gift in kind** from the Ingersoll-Rand Charitable Foundation to support the automotive program with tools.

**\$30,000** from Timothy and Deborah Moore to support the Deborah and Timothy Moore Nursing Endowed Scholarship.

**\$30,000** from Lee '62 and Martha Brasted to support the general needs of the college.

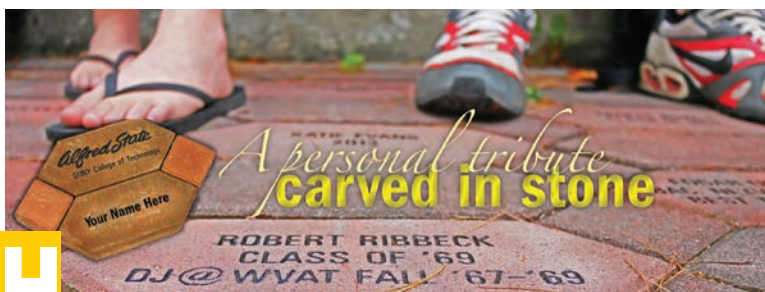
**\$36,000** from Evelyn Turner for the Evelyn Turner Culinary Arts Annual Scholarship, the Evelyn Turner Excellence in Culinary Arts Scholarship, and the culinary program.

**\$15,000** from the Bethesda Foundation, Inc. for the Bethesda Foundation Scholarship.

**\$15,000 gift in kind** from Elegance Bridal to support Project Prom Dress with new dresses.

**\$10,000** from James and Marilyn Ferry to support the James G. and Marilyn A. Ferry Endowed Scholarship.

**\$10,000** from Praxair for the Praxair Scholarship.

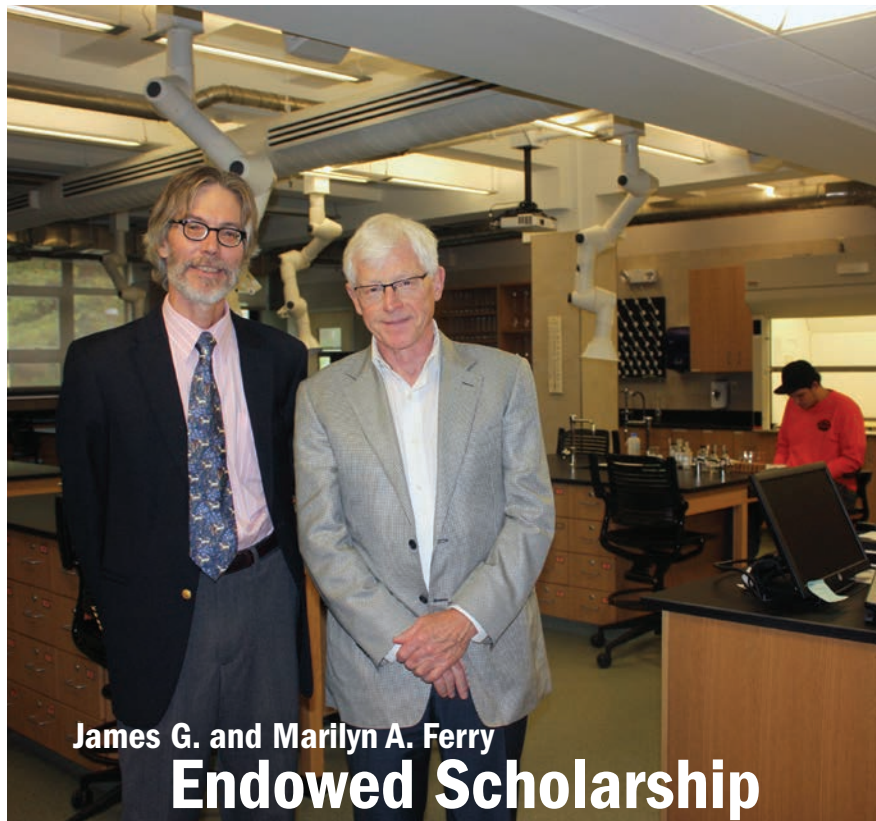


**H**elp create the foundation for a new tradition, and remind fellow Pioneers of the faithful alumni and friends who paved the way for them. Honor yourself or pay tribute to a friend, family member, or favorite faculty or staff member. Declare your devotion to a fraternity or sorority, Pioneer team, club, or chapter.

The Alfred Alumni Plaza and the Wellsville Campus Courtyard are central gathering places in the heart of our two thriving campuses. You may acquire your piece of Alfred State by purchasing a brick (or bricks) to be included in either of these dedicated sites.

Prices range from \$65 to \$85. Visit [www.alfredstate.edu/give](http://www.alfredstate.edu/give) or call 607-587-3930 for more information.

You Matter...



## James G. and Marilyn A. Ferry Endowed Scholarship

DR. JAMES FERRY recently created the James G. and Marilyn A. Ferry Endowed Scholarship to assist students with a strong desire to learn and who have the need for financial assistance.

To be eligible for consideration for the endowed scholarship, a student must be an incoming or current student at Alfred State, have financial need following the completion of the FAFSA form, be currently in and remain in good academic standing.

Funds may be used as a retention tool to keep students who may not be able to return because of financial restraints. Preference should be given to students who are the first generation to attend college.

Ferry received his AAS degree from Alfred State in 1963 followed by BS and MS degrees from the University of Georgia. He continued his education with a PhD degree in biochemistry from the University of Illinois in 1974. He was appointed

assistant professor of microbiology at Virginia Tech in 1976, where he rose to the rank of professor.

In 1995, Ferry moved to Penn State to accept an endowed chair in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He has authored more than 200 scientific publications and is a fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and past editor of the *Journal of Bacteriology*. He has served on numerous national committees and currently is co-chair of the Committee on Astrobiology and Planetary Science that advises the federal government on matters of space exploration.

*Pictured above Mark Amman, professor and chair of the Physical and Life Sciences Department, poses with Dr. Ferry on a tour of Alfred State's renovated Physical and Health Sciences building last fall.*

## New member of the DFB



**JAMES H. HELMS**, FHFMA, CPA, is the newest member of the Development Fund Board. He graduated from Alfred State in 1993 with an associate degree

in accounting, before transferring to St. Bonaventure University to earn a bachelor's degree in business administration/accounting.

Upon graduating, he joined the firm of Arthur Anderson, LLP, in Rochester, where he later earned his Certified Public Accountant license. Since leaving public accounting, he has worked in various industries, including communications, manufacturing, and health care.

In 2013, Helms joined Jones Memorial Hospital in Wellsville, where he serves as the director of health information management and corporate compliance officer. He recently attained his Fellowship in the Healthcare Financial Management Association.

Helms has a 23-year military career and currently serves in the United States Army Reserves at the rank of command sergeant major. In addition to volunteering on the Development Fund Board, Helms offers his time as the event chair for the Allegany County RidgeWalk & Run, as an elder at Trinity Lutheran Church, and as treasurer of American Legion Post 702, all in Wellsville.

In his spare time, he enjoys hiking, running, and downhill skiing with his wife, Dena, who is a 2014 Alfred State alumna.

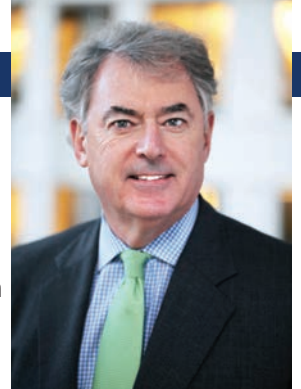


**The Alfred State Alumni Council is pleased to announce recipients of this year's Distinguished Alumni Awards and the Outstanding Young Alumni Award winner.**

**The Distinguished Alumni Award is presented to an Alfred State graduate for significant accomplishments in his or her personal and professional life or for distinguished service in his or her community. The Outstanding Young Alumni Award recognizes an Alfred State graduate who, within 10 years of his or her graduation, has demonstrated outstanding service to his or her profession, community, and Alfred State.**

#### DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

**A. Patrick Doyle** is a partner in the international law firm of Arnold & Porter, LLP, and a resident in the firm's Washington, DC, office. Doyle has a broad background in financial institution regulation and headed the Arnold & Porter financial services practice from 1993 to 2013.



Doyle regularly counsels bank holding companies, foreign banks, savings institutions, insurance companies, securities firms, hedge funds, and private equity entities on a wide variety of regulatory matters, including strategic planning, complex regulatory issues, enforcement proceedings and legislation. In addition, he has represented numerous firm clients on merger and acquisition transactions.

Prior to joining Arnold & Porter in 1983, Doyle served in a variety of legal positions at the US Treasury Department, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency - including counsel to the Multinational Banking Group - and as the acting general counsel of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board.

Doyle served on the adjunct faculty of the Morin Center for Banking Law Studies at Boston University School of Law from 1985 to 1993, and currently serves on the Steering Committee of the Board of Advisors of the University of North Carolina School of Law's Banking Law Institute.

Doyle is a frequent speaker both in the US and abroad on topics related to the regulation of the financial services industry. He also has authored or co-authored numerous articles on the regulation of this industry, focusing most recently on the Dodd Frank Act.

Doyle has been recognized by his peers and clients in Chambers USA, Chambers Global, Euromoney's "The Expert Guide to the World's Leading Banking Lawyers," "The International Who's Who of Banking Lawyers," and "The Legal 500 United States." For several years, Doyle has been included in Washingtonian's "Best Lawyers" and Washington, DC, Super Lawyers.

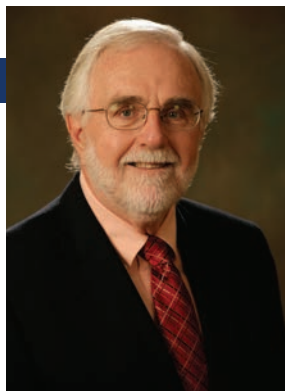
Doyle is a member of the Board of Directors of the Children's Law Center, Washington, DC.

Although he was born in Pittsburgh and reared in Erie, PA (until age 13), Doyle calls upstate New York home. He graduated from Sweet Home High School in Amherst in 1966, Alfred State in 1968, and the State University of New York at Oswego in 1970. He received his Juris Doctor degree from Syracuse University in 1975.

Doyle is married to Elizabeth Downes, and they have three grown children, Kathryn, Liz, and John. They reside in Bethesda, MD, and spend much of the summer at their cottage in the Finger Lakes.

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

**Donald F. Arnold, Sr.** is professor emeritus of accounting at Union Graduate College and Union College in Schenectady. He holds a PhD from SUNY Buffalo and degrees from SUNY Albany and Alfred State ('64).



Arnold served as a Fulbright-Hays Scholar at the National University of Ireland at Galway and on the editorial board of the *Irish Accounting Review*. He has co-authored more than 40 articles in various national and international academic and professional journals, has received the *Managerial Auditing Journal's* Outstanding Manuscript of the Year award, and has presented his research at various academic conferences in the US and in Europe.

Arnold has served in various capacities with the American Accounting Association, including chair of its By-Laws Committee and twice as chair of the Executive Committee for the Northeast Region of the association. He was inducted into the American Accounting Association – Northeast Region's Hall of Fame in its initial membership class.

Arnold has been director of the graduate accounting program at SUNY Albany, where he was awarded the President's Award for Excellence in Teaching. At Union College, he held the position of the director of the Graduate Management Institute and the director of the PhD program, where he served as chair or member of 10 student PhD dissertation committees. He was appointed as a faculty resident of Arthur Andersen & Co. in its Boston office and has taught professional development courses for international accounting firm KPMG and General Electric Company's Corporate Audit staff.

Arnold is married (1967) to Betty Arnold and together they have three children, Don Jr., Kelli, and Erin; two sons-in-law, Graig LeBel and Gene Basle; and one grandchild, Aiden LeBel. In family-related activities, Arnold has been a scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts, Kiwanis Club adviser to a high school Key Club, and "chief" of the YMCA Indian Guide Youth Program in Albany.

He has also served on church councils and their finance committees for more than 20 years. On two occasions, he has organized and guided a group from his church to Ireland for service projects.

## OUTSTANDING YOUNG ALUMNI

**Jenny Brongo** graduated from Alfred State with a bachelor's degree in construction management engineering in 2011 and immediately joined her father in his excavation and earthmoving business. Upon the untimely death of her father just two months following her graduation, she realized the true meaning of the statement "hit the ground running."



"You have to believe that everything happens for a reason, that you're placed on a specific path and mission in life and it's up to you to continue down the right road."

Today, just four years out of college, Brongo is the successful business owner of Brongo Contracting & Supply. With the knowledge from her Alfred State education in LEED: Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design, she has transformed an abandoned gravel pit property into a business focusing on sustainability. Brongo Contracting & Supply in Rochester is a woman-owned business and specializes in construction recycling and wholesale landscape supply.

Brongo also founded a nonprofit organization in honor of her brother called "Homesteads for Hope," which is a developing community farm for young adults with autism and disabilities. She stated that, "Alfred State gave me the bricks and mortar to build a strong foundation to build a beautiful and sustainable life for her community. I am proud of this college and all of its accomplishments, past and future, and it was the best thing I could have ever invested in."



## Hello Alfred State Alumni!

Together with President Sullivan, the Alumni Council, and my colleagues, we remain excited about the opportunity to engage and connect with our alums as we work toward continuing the legacy of our great alma mater. Our graduates have gone on to distinguish themselves in business, medicine, construction, manufacturing, politics, education, and many other fields, and are taking leadership roles in their respective areas of expertise.

As a graduate of Alfred State, one of more than 50,000 alumni, and a member of the college staff for 27 years, I understand the hard work, dedication, and vision of those whose shoulders we now stand on to continue providing a quality education. The years I have spent at Alfred State have taught me how to be a leader, a team player, to strive for excellence, and to always give back to the community.

We plan to continue strengthening the bond between Alfred State and our alumni, to create programs that match the interests and needs of alums, to increase giving and participation, and to assist in developing a culture that teaches current students and younger alumni the importance of philanthropy.

We are strongly committed to the vision and mission of Alfred State and look forward to your involvement, participation, and continued support through giving, campus involvement, attending alumni events, and by providing feedback and suggestions.

Each of you is an important part of the 107-year history of our college, and we want to strengthen that history by celebrating you and your accomplishments, as well as those of our alumni-to-be. If you are aware of an Alfred State alum who is a relative, friend, colleague, or neighbor who is not receiving our newsletters, invitations, or other information from the college, please let us know or encourage them to update their contact information at [www.alfredstate.edu/webforms/alumni-updates](http://www.alfredstate.edu/webforms/alumni-updates).

If we may be of assistance, please contact our office at 607-587-3931 or [alumni@alfredstate.edu](mailto:alumni@alfredstate.edu).



Kind regards,

Colleen Argentieri, '85  
Director of Alumni Relations

Be our

*quest*

Watch for an alumni event in your area!

Tuesday, July 14

### **Charlotte, NC, Alumni Event – Summer Shootout Racing**

Charlotte Speedway Club, Queens Room, 5th Floor

5555 Concord Parkway South, Concord, NC

Racing begins at 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m. social hour, 7 p.m. dinner (\$30/person)

Includes a private tour provided by Brett Bodine, '79, at the NASCAR Research & Development Center for the first 35 registrants.

Friday, July 31 - Sunday, Aug. 2

### **TG, Pi Nu, and Delta Chi Reunion** (Invitations forthcoming)

Gamma Theta Gamma Fraternity along with Pi Nu Epsilon Sorority members from 1977 and prior together with Delta Chi Omega Sorority members from 1967-74.

Saturday, Nov. 21

### **Wine Tour of Cayuga Lake – 22nd Annual Shopping Spree**

Start your holiday shopping season with us on the Cayuga Lake Wine Trail, sampling wines and holiday treats while shopping for that special someone. MUST be 21 years of age (maximum number of guests is 40). Tickets are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seventeen couple tickets available at a cost of \$90 and six single tickets are available at \$55 each. Price includes a wine glass and a grapevine wreath to hold the ornaments you'll receive at each of the wineries visited. The fee also covers all costs of wine tasting and snacks at each of the wineries, transportation to and from the event, and other goodies. The bus will leave from Hornell Wegmans parking lot at 8:30 a.m., but guests from other areas may meet us in Ithaca at a place to be determined. We will once again be stopping for dinner at a place to be identified, as well as offering overnight accommodations at a hotel to be determined for those wishing to stay over.

[SAVE THE DATE] March 8-18, 2016

### **Discover Tuscany, Italy Trip offered by Alfred State Alumni**

Price per person for double is \$3,699; single is \$3,999. Price includes early booking bonus of \$200 per person if booked by Sept. 11, 2015. Highlights include Rome, Assisi, Basilica of St. Francis, Montecatini Terme, Lucca, Gothic Line, San Gimignano, Winery Tour, Florence. Price includes the following:

- First-class and deluxe hotel accommodations.
- 13 meals: eight breakfasts and five dinners.
- Roundtrip airfare from Rochester, NY.
- Sightseeing (see itinerary online for additional details).
- All baggage handling (one bag per person).
- Services of a professional tour manager.
- Transportation via deluxe air-conditioned motor coach.
- All taxes and service charges.

**Also, watch for details on our annual alumni events at the Buffalo Bisons Baseball Game (July 20, 7:05 p.m., \$12/pp) and Rochester Red Wings Baseball Game (Aug. 17, 7:05 p.m., \$10/pp)!**

Updates and details on these and other alumni events can be found on the Alfred State Alumni Facebook group and the Alfred State Alumni Events website as they progress.

[f/groups/AlfredStateCollegeAlumni](https://www.facebook.com/groups/AlfredStateCollegeAlumni)

[www.alfredstate.edu/alumni-events](http://www.alfredstate.edu/alumni-events)

FAMILY WEEKEND

Thursday - Sunday  
Sept. 10-13

# Homecoming

**For the Sports Fan**  
Pioneer athletics is now a NCAA DIII member. Come cheer on our athletes.

**For the Whole Family**  
Bring the kids; we've planned lots of family-friendly events!

**For the Alumni**  
Alfred State takes pride in the support of our alumni, and we invite you to celebrate with us!

Reserve your hotel room!

Schedule available in June!

Registration opens in July!

#PioneerPride

Thursday, Sept. 10  
4 - 6:30 p.m.

**Blue & Gold Dinner**

8 p.m.

**Dodgeball**  
(students vs. fac/staff)

Friday, Sept. 11  
4 - 6 p.m.

**50th Celebration of Hinkle Library**

7 p.m.

**Magician**

8:30 p.m.

**Spirit Rally & Bon Fire**  
(car smash, taco in a bag, brick oven pizza, cotton candy, snow cones, etc.)

9:30 p.m.

**Fireworks display**

9:30 p.m.

**Late Night Glo-lympics**  
• Miniature golf  
• Glow racing  
• Laser tag

Saturday, Sept. 12  
9 a.m.

**5th Annual Race for a Cure: 5K Run/Walk**

11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

**Chicken BBQ Tailgate Party**  
• Greek Tailgate & Chili Cook-off

12:30 p.m.

**End Zone Club Party**  
- MUST be 21 & over  
• Beer, wine, & snacks

1 p.m.

**Football vs. Husson University**

6 p.m.

**Alfred's Got Talent**

Sunday, Sept. 13  
10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

**Brunch**





MOMENTS AFTER THE 2015 NFL DRAFT ENDED, RASHEED WILLIAMS, OF SWEDESBORO, NJ, SIGNED AN UNDRAFTED FREE AGENT CONTRACT WITH THE DETROIT LIONS.

The running back spent most of the winter and spring training with his agent, Dr. D.S. Ping, in Michigan. Leading up to the draft, Williams participated in the NFL Regional Combine in Chicago, had a private workout with the Houston Texans, and held a pro day, at Alfred State, that the New York Jets attended. During his 2.5-hour pro day for scouts, he performed a gauntlet of drills, including the broad jump, the vertical jump, the 225-pound bench press drill, the 40-yard dash, various cone and agility drills, and caught passes from out of the backfield.

Williams, an individual studies degree recipient, wore the blue and gold the past two years after earning NJCAA All-American honors at Louisburg College in North Carolina. This past season, he was named to the All-USCAA First Team and to the All-ECAC North First Team.

During his two-year career as a Pioneer, Williams broke or tied eleven school records. He joins elite Alfred State company with his shot in the NFL. Rod Streater will begin his fourth season with the Oakland Raiders, while LeRoy Collins and Lyonel Anderson spent time in NFL camps and on practice squads.



## **Dodson named new leader of Pioneer Football after Caba's retirement**

After an extensive search to replace Mick Caba, the longest-tenured (15 years) and winningest football coach in program history (66 wins), Jarod Dodson has been named the new head football coach at Alfred State.

Dodson began his duties in April, taking over for Caba, who retired at the end of February. Caba came to Alfred State in the spring of 2000, leading the Pioneers to their first winning season that year. He also helped the team to a 7-4 record in 2003, led his players to a Region III Championship in 2011, coached the program's first NFL player (Rod Streater of the Oakland Raiders), coached seven NJCAA All-Americans, and in the last two years as a member of Division III of the NCAA, he coached 17 All-USCAA players.

During his time at Alfred State, Caba was named the Northeast Football Conference Coach of the Year (2005) and was inducted into the National Junior College Athletic Association Football Hall of Fame (2012) for his 16 years of coaching in the NJCAA.

Dodson has been in the coaching ranks since 1998 and has held positions in all levels of NCAA football, most recently serving as the defensive coordinator and defensive backs coach at South Dakota School of Mines and Technology.

Prior to coaching there, Dodson also coached at Old Dominion University, the University of Buffalo, Michigan Tech University, and his alma mater, the University of South Dakota, where he was a standout cornerback and where he also began his coaching career as a graduate assistant in 1998. Dodson holds a bachelor's degree in recreation (1999) and his master's degree in health and physical education (2000).

Dodson and his wife, Shannon, are the proud parents of four daughters, Mariah, LaRae, JaeLynn, and Kendyl. As the third head football coach in Alfred State football history, he will lead the Pioneers on the field for the first time on Sept. 5 when the blue and gold host William Patterson (NJ).



**Danielle Green,** a court reporting and captioning instructor in the Alfred State Business

Department and a freelance court reporter, contributed to the National Court Reporters Association's (NCRA) recently released book "Court Reporter Survival Guide: School Success Stories."



**Dr. Richard Kellogg,** professor emeritus of psychology at Alfred State, is the author of an

article appearing in a recent issue of "Paperback Parade," a quarterly journal for readers and book collectors. The article is titled "The Galactic Adventures of Doc Smith."



**Dr. Tabitha L. Sprau-Coulter,** assistant professor, Civil Engineering Technology had

her article "Modifying energy auditors' behavior to align with facility owner's needs" published in *Laboratory Design*.



**Melissa Holland,** senior international admissions counselor at Alfred State,

recently graduated from the 2014 NAFSA Academy for International Education.



**Cynthia Thorp,** academic success coach for the Student Success Center, was selected

to present at the 34th annual Conference on The First-Year Experience, held Feb. 7-10 in Dallas.



**Todd Martin,** instructor in the Automotive Trades Department, completed his Master of

Education in career and technical education.



**Jack Jones,** assistant professor in the Building Trades Department, traveled to the

state of Washington to attend factory training on spray foam insulation in January.



**Mike Ronan,** Automotive Trades professor, authored the sixth edition of "Today's Technician:

Manual Transmissions and Transaxles Shop Manual," a two-volume set published by Cengage Publishing.



**Joe Richardson,** chair of the Building Trades Department, completed the OSHA 502

Update for Construction Industry Outreach Trainers course through the RIT OSHA Education Center in February.



**Dr. Matthew Lawrence,** associate professor in the Mechanical and Electrical

Engineering Technology Department, contributed a chapter to a text titled "A Guide to the Manufacture, Performance and Potential of Plastics in Agriculture."



**Kent Johnson,** associate professor and chair of the Automotive Trades Department,

attended an Associated Equipment Distributors (AED) Summit to work on the AED accreditation initiative for the heavy equipment: truck and diesel technician curriculum.



**Dr. Rex Olson,** assistant professor in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences,

presented at the eighth annual Conference for Humanistic Psychology in Chicago on March 27. The paper he presented is titled, "Knots and Shorelines: On the Necessity of Deconstruction for an Evidence Based Humanistic Psychotherapy." Olson also published an article in a collection of essays titled "Imagining Psychological Life: Philosophical, Psychological, and Poetic Reflections." His article is titled "Undermining Surfaces: Tracing the Psychological Significance of Arche in Archetypal Psychology."

**The Alfred State Marketing and Communications Office** recently won a Gold MarCom Award for its Orientation Progression 2014 meme postcards and email campaign.

**I'VE GOT 5 REASONS TO ATTEND ORIENTATION**



**I DON'T ALWAYS EMAIL YOU**



**Norm Ellis,** Building Trades associate professor, completed the OSHA 502 Update

for Construction Industry Outreach Trainers course through the RIT OSHA Education Center in March.



## ACHIEVER

**1967**

**Gary B. Will**, *Landscape Development*, Hamilton, has been elected president of the American Wildlife Conservation Foundation.

**1978**

**Robert Healy**, *Architectural Technology*, Pittsford, president of LaBella Associates DPC, was recognized by the Small Business Council of Rochester as a recipient of the 2014 Business Person of the Year Award.

**1992**

**Ricki Friends**, *Marketing*, Avoca, an assistant branch manager at Five Star Bank, was recently inducted into the Bath Rotary Club by President Benita Nesbitt.

## CAREER

**1983**

**Paula M. Whitney (Spence)**, *Accounting*, Scio, recently joined Buffamante Whipple Buttafaro, P.C., in the company's Olean office, where she will be responsible for clients' monthly bookkeeping, assisting with tax returns and accounting tasks such as analyzing, summarizing and adjusting in preparation for compilations or audits along with general tax assignments.

**1986**

**Richard Woodfield**, *Medical Laboratory Technology*, Lima, OH, was promoted to vice president for Academic Affairs at Rhodes State College.

**2005**

**Jeffrey D. Hanson**, *Mechanical Engineering Technology*, West Henrietta, was hired by Remington Outdoor Company in Alabama in Jan. 2015 as a senior research engineer.

## SHARE YOUR NEWS WITH YOUR FELLOW ALUMNI!

### #PIONEERPRIDE

Please send your news, achievements, and announcements to [alumni@alfredstate.edu](mailto:alumni@alfredstate.edu)



**1982**

**Kristin (Christopher) Beck**, *electrical/electrician service technician*, Upper Marlboro, MD, former US Navy SEAL and transgender woman, Kristin shared her life's journey and some advice to an audience of about 200 people March 25 at Alfred State.



Students, faculty, staff, and community members packed into the Cappadonia Auditorium in the Orvis Activities Center on the Alfred campus to hear the star of the CNN documentary "Lady Valor: The Kristin Beck Story" speak. The documentary, which was shown March 23 at the Terra Cotta coffee house in Alfred, chronicles the journey that Beck, 48, underwent in transitioning from Christopher to Kristin.

Beck, who grew up in Wellsville, shared stories from her 20-year career in the Navy SEALs and mentioned her plans to run for Congress in 2016. Talking about her transformation, she said she felt at an early age that she was truly a woman.

"For a long time, maybe I didn't like myself very much," she said. "Maybe I wasn't living that life that I should have been living. And so I said, 'You know what? I'm retired from the military. I'm done. I'm Kristin. This is part of my life. I can be this. I'm going to do it.' And so I began living a different journey and that's the journey I'm on today."

Beck, who fielded numerous questions from the crowd after speaking for nearly an hour and posed for pictures afterward, told those in attendance to have some pride in themselves.

"We're all beautiful," she said. "We're all great people and we can do beautiful stuff. That's got to start from you liking yourself and you being proud of yourself."

**2011**

**Tyler Getty**, *electrical construction/maintenance electrician*, Kingsbury, was named the paper mill electrical and instrumentation maintenance planner at Irving Tissue in Fort Edward.

Getty was raised on a dairy farm in Kingsbury and graduated from Hudson Falls High School in 2009. He said he enrolled in the electrical construction/maintenance electrician program at Alfred State because he enjoyed installing and working with the controls of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment.

Immediately after graduating from Alfred State, Getty was hired as an electrical and instrumentation operations support technician at Irving Tissue. Through his strong work ethic and on-the-job training, he earned more responsibilities and proficiency in his trade, becoming the converting electrical and instrumentation maintenance planner two years later.

Last year, he moved to the paper mill, becoming the paper mill electrical and instrumentation maintenance planner. He said he works with a wonderful group of electricians to help maintain and troubleshoot the drives, starters, motors, instruments, and control systems that tie equipment together to keep the paper machine running at amazing speeds.

*Below: Tyler stands in front of a 4106V, 1500HP, AC motor that drives two vacuum pumps to supply vacuum to his employer's FE7 paper machine.*

**2014**

**Steven M. Hicke**, *Architectural Technology*, Fairport, was hired as a project manager at Taylor the Builders in May 2014.

**Emily Sallome**, *Court and Realtime Reporting*, Batavia, has recently been hired by Jack W. Hunt Associates as a court reporter.

**MARRIAGE****2008**

**Peter G. MacClellan**, *Network Administration*, Summerville, SC, married Aliza Mandel on Oct. 12, 2014.

**REMEMBRANCE****1951**

**Nelson R. Meadows**, *Mechanical Engineering Technology-Internal Combustion*, Forestville, passed away Feb. 5, 2015.

**1954**

**Shirley K. Russell (Kyser)**, *Business-Executive Secretarial Science*, Olean, passed away Jan. 13, 2015.

**1957**

**Kenneth H. Hersee**, *Agricultural Engineering Technical Power & Machinery*, Corfu, passed away July 5, 2014.

**Richard S. Smith**, *Air Conditioning Engineering Technology*, North Syracuse, passed away Oct. 10, 2014.

**Roger D. Spencer**, *Electrical Technology*, Hayden, ID, passed away Sept. 1, 2014.

**1959**

**Anthony C. Culver**, *Ornamental Horticulture-Floriculture Merchandising*, East Randolph, passed away Feb. 2, 2015.

**Laverne A. Miller**, *Farm Power & Machinery*, Albion, passed away Oct. 14, 2014.

**Ralph Miller**, *Agricultural Business*, Lockport, passed away May 10, 2014.

**1967**

**Ronald Priest**, *Agronomy-Plant and Soil Science*, Dade City, FL, passed away Sept. 27, 2014.

**1979**

**Gary R. Comstock**, *Mechanical Design & Drafting*, Lockport, passed away in May 2014.

**1992**

**Raymond Russo**, *Electromechanical Systems*, Kirkville, passed away Sept. 27, 2014.

**Colleen E. Sedgwick (Coss)**, *Executive Secretarial Science*, Mount Airy, MD, passed away Oct. 9, 2014.

**2012**

**Paul E. Constantine, Jr.**, *Human Services Management*, Dansville, passed away Jan. 14, 2015.

**Faculty & Staff**

**E. Lorraine Crandall**, Hornell, retired assistant to the president for 28 years, passed away March 7, 2015.

**Carol Willenbrock**, Santa Fe, NM, retired coach and phys ed instructor, passed away July 15, 2014.

**Doris Mulconery**, Andover, retired staff, passed away Oct. 13, 2014.

**Alfred Nudd**, Albany, former professor and chair of the Civil Engineering Department, passed away March 4, 2015.



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SUNY College of Technology

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