The history of the Vikings

An update on the archives
Who are they and where are they now?

Campus parking situation
looking brighter
Welcome, New Chairwoman!
I am excited to share with you that Amy Danieli Monk ’00 has accepted the role of Chairwoman of the Alumni Association. I look forward to working with Amy not only in this capacity but also in her role as Foundation Board member. Amy has shared with me some great initiatives to move the Alumni Association to the next level of excellence.
— Laurel Calasurdo
Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs

Director of Annual Giving and Alumni Affairs Named
Laurel Colasurdo, of Brunswick, a fundraising, event planning and alumni affairs professional, has been named director of annual giving and alumni affairs at Hudson Valley Community College. She brings nine years of event planning, alumni affairs and higher education management experience.

Colasurdo will oversee the Foundation’s annual fund, develop and maintain a calendar of annual fund activities, oversee all fundraising events, plan and manage alumni recognition events and programs, and work with the Alumni Association to build its volunteer base and organizational potential.

Colasurdo comes to Hudson Valley from Russell Sage College, where she was the director of alumnae relations and executive director of the Russell Sage College alumnae association. Prior to that, she worked for the Albany Medical Center Foundation, where she was the director of special projects.

“I am thrilled to be working at Hudson Valley Community College,” said Colasurdo. “I am looking forward to working closely with the alumni to keep them connected with the Hudson Valley community through networking, social events, mentoring, community involvement and philanthropy.”
The History of the Vikings...

and the Fiberglass Viking

Intercollegiate athletics became part of the campus scene shortly after the college was established in 1953. Hudson Valley Tech, as we were commonly called for our first few years, fielded basketball, bowling, golf and tennis teams during those first few years.

The college’s team uniform colors were cherry and white—the same as RPI—but it wasn’t until the college moved to its new campus in the fall of 1960 that the administration sought to establish a unique identity for its sports teams.

In trying to determine a school mascot, the college turned to the faculty, staff and students, who submitted proposed college nicknames. Although the reasoning is lost to the ages, the Hudson Valley Community College Vikings were born. And we remain Vikings to this day. In addition, the college adopted green and white as the color scheme for all team uniforms.

Probably the most oft-recalled symbol of our Viking legacy stood near the west end zone of the football field from the 1960s into the early 1990s. A large manly fiberglass statue was obtained from the Mohawk Carpet Mills during the 1960s. (Reasoning, again, lost to history.) The statue—likely made by the same company that created the famous roadside Muffler Men (see www.roadsideamerica.com/muffler)—was given some green highlights and his hefty shield was emblazoned with a Viking ship logo.

The statue remained there for a number of years but blew down in a wind storm (along with the baseball scoreboard and football field press box) in the early 1990s. Since the Viking’s legs had been filled with concrete to stabilize it, the statue was sheared off at the kneecaps in the wind storm—an ignominious end to the symbol that stood silently over so many Viking football games. His final resting place remains a mystery.

If you have stories about how Hudson Valley became the Vikings, information about early athletic teams or any information on the evolution of the Viking mascot, we’d love to hear from you!

These documents would be a great addition to the college’s archives, located on the first floor of the Marvin Library. To donate pictures or simply share your favorite Viking story, contact our library director, Brenda Hazard, at (518) 629-7330 or e-mail her at library@hvcc.edu.
Dr. Steven Lynch, MD

If he wasn’t sitting there in his post-operative scrubs telling you all this in a no-nonsense but animated way, you’d think Dr. Steven Lynch’s life was a movie plot: a hard-luck-but-happy-ending melodrama that just happened to have Hudson Valley Community College at its core.

It’s a great story line—the teenage pool shooter from Troy who found some direction in the classroom of a Biology professor. Lynch was the kid no one thought would amount to much. Now, 30 years later, he’s one of the most respected surgeons in the Capital Region. But the story is true, incredible as it may seem. Lynch is the son of a Behr Manning factory worker and a nurse; a kid who finished in the bottom 10 percent of his Troy High School graduating class. As he tells it, he had little inspiration for college. In fact, all the inspiration came from his mother, who insisted that he register at Hudson Valley, and his father, who wanted his son to escape the drudgery of a lifelong factory job.

“I knew that people went to college, but personally I didn’t know those people. No one else in my family had any experience with college,” he said. “Of my friends from Troy High, only two went on, one to Clarkson and another went to Hudson Valley.”

That first year at Hudson Valley wasn’t much more successful than his uninspiring high school career, but during his second year Lynch’s life began to turn in a positive direction. After stumbling through a few liberal arts classes that first year, he began in on the hard sciences—Biology, Chemistry, Physics.

“I found the Biology department to be of great interest but honestly I didn’t have the background, having never taken any of that in high school. I didn’t have the skills to get the work done,” he said.

One day, with his grades still suffering, he was called in to the office of department chair Dominic Eannello, who suggested that the young man enter the military to find some discipline. One of Lynch’s Biology professors, Edward Lottick, intervened, and convinced Eannello to give Lynch a second chance. The following year, he completed his studies at Hudson Valley with a bit more confidence and a ticket to continue his education at Murray State College in Kentucky.

“I’d like to tell you that I was a good student at Hudson Valley, but in fact, I was not. What Hudson Valley did was allow me to open up avenues that I just never knew existed. It was a conduit for me to the next part of my life,” he said. “When I got to Murray State, 1,300 miles away from my home, I knew it was do or die, so I just went crazy studying. When I got my first ‘A’ it became infectious. I didn’t want to settle for less.”

Lynch received his master’s degree in physical chemistry from Murray State and went on to complete medical school at the University of Kentucky. He spent five years in a general surgery residency at Upstate Medical in Syracuse and an additional two years at Albany Medical College, where he completed his residency in plastic surgery.

He’s currently the Chief of Plastic Surgery at Albany Med’s South Clinical Campus.

Perhaps one of his most rewarding experiences was being asked to speak at his 20th and 25th Troy High School reunions. He sensed that many of his classmates couldn’t believe that Steve Lynch had become a doctor.

“I’m sure many of them were questioning, ‘how did he do it?’ Well, the answer was study like crazy!”

That professor who, long ago, stood up for Lynch—Edward Lottick—only stayed at the college for a few years. Dr. Lottick eventually earned a medical degree and moved on to patent several medical devices. Lynch tried to contact him this year, merely to offer his thanks.

“It’s funny how some decisions you make can affect your whole life,” he said. “Thankfully, my parents saw Hudson Valley as the wonderful place that it is, a great fit for someone like me, and they made sure that I stayed in school. If it wasn’t for Hudson Valley, there would be no medical school, no medical career at all. There are many Steve Lynches out there in the high schools but they just have not found themselves yet. Stay in there… give some time to Hudson Valley and it will return to you in many ways.”

Steven M. Lynch, M.D.
Fellow, American College of Surgeons
Board Certified in Plastic Surgery
Board Certified in General Surgery
Chief of Plastic Surgery,
Albany Medical Center,
South Clinical Campus

Playing Pool for Tuition

One of the more colorful tales Lynch tells is of his time shooting pool while a student at Murray State. A victory in the college’s pool championship drew some interest from what Lynch described as a “backer”—a local money man who offered to take the then-graduate student to matches around the Midwest.

“We travelled throughout Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio. They were all prearranged matches, and I’d get 10 percent if I won,” he recalled. “My parents had no money, so I had to do what I had to do. It was dangerous, especially considering I had a wife and two kids. I was 23 years old.”

Lynch learned how to wield a cue from one of the Capital Region’s most renowned shooters—Joe Canton, who ran a pool hall on Fourth Street in Troy for many years. According to Lynch, Canton was a five-time New York State champion and ace at straight pool. “From the time I was 12, I was in the pool hall. I lived and learned,” he said.
In many ways, Jim Sasko was born into his profession as a builder and small business owner. The son of a building supply store owner, Sasko spent youthful summer days alongside his father in the family business. When high school came along, he transitioned to working summers with a local framing contractor, learning the craft of framing carpentry. “I was always interested in working with my hands, so when it came to college, Hudson Valley seemed like the place where I could expand that interest. I had already been out working in the construction field, and I knew that if I could use my hands to build things I could always make money,” said Sasko, who today owns the Saratoga Springs-based Teakwood Builders, an upscale design/build firm that specializes in historic renovation and custom building.

At Hudson Valley, Sasko quickly learned that Construction Technology meant more than just carpentry. During his two years in Troy, he became immersed in all aspects of construction—the estimating, site planning, surveying and architectural design that precede the actual building. “I guess the curriculum opened my eyes to the fact that there was more to construction; that there actually was a construction management and planning process that went behind it,” he said. “When I transferred on to Utica College and then went to work, I had that education behind me and it was the right fit.”

After working for a local production builder and gaining some experience building restaurants in South Florida, Sasko settled back in the Capital Region. Teakwood Builders was formed in 1995 and for the last 13 years, he’s grown the company into a business that employs about a dozen carpenters and office staff.

Although the slowing economy has begun to affect the homebuilding and remodeling industry nationwide, Sasko remains committed to the business model that’s driven his company this far—creative design, quality craftsmanship and providing a positive experience for his customers.

With his location in historic Saratoga Springs, Sasko also has a unique opportunity to work with the Spa City’s residential architecture. Over the years, he’s completed several full and partial home renovations within the city’s historic districts. Perhaps the most prominent is his company’s office, which sits at the end of commercial North Broadway. The renovation of this 1890s Victorian home won a 2004 New York State Historic Preservation Award. “The owner of a historic home has to know what they have invested in. Thankfully, there seems to be a trend to recapture or recreate the charm of an older home. We are seeing more people who aren’t interested in the 30-by-30 foot family room but want to retain the things that make an older home special,” he said. “If we design and build an addition, the goal is to make it look as if it has always been there, seamless.”

Several years ago, Sasko was asked to join the board of the Saratoga Springs Preservation Foundation, a non-profit group that seeks to preserve the unique charm of the city’s commercial and residential architecture. It’s a cause he’s clearly excited about, both personally and professionally. Many of the Spa City’s older structures date to the early 19th century and preserving them also preserves what makes Saratoga a special place to live, work and visit.

Nearly two decades after graduating, the 1991 Construction Technology graduate still keeps in contact with former professors like Eds Fleming, Ted Marotta and Tim Dennis. Each year, Fleming asks his former student to come back to the classroom to give a presentation on how he’s grown his business. “Jim gives a history of how his company has grown and how he uses scheduling in his business. Young and adult students have been inspired by his talks,” said Fleming. “Year after year, he’s voted the number one guest speaker of the year.”

“All of those guys encouraged me and influenced me to succeed while I was at Hudson Valley,” Sasko said. “I really look forward to going there each year to talk to students and visit with the faculty.”
You

have the power to keep alive the promise of a
tomorrow for our region — not to mention
build bridges, educate children, harness the power
of the sun, and fight cavities.

A gift to Hudson Valley Community College is a
gift to yourself, your family
and the Capital Region.
In these uncertain times,
giving to the community’s
college is a solid investment
that reaps numerous
benefits. Supporting the
college supports our
region’s future engineers,
educators, entrepreneurs,
and health care providers.
For more than half a
century, Hudson Valley
Community College has
been serving the region.

A gift to the college
of any amount will
serve us all well for
the century ahead.

Donate today. Give at (518) 629-8012
or give online at www.hvcc.edu/give.

The Heritage Society

Planned giving includes both outright and
defered gifts, both of which have tax
advantages sanctioned by the Internal Revenue
Service. Charitable gifts are becoming more
popular as major components of long-term
financial and retirement planning programs.

Outright gifts include
gifts of cash, securities
or property. Deferred
gifts involve the
irrevocable transfer of
an asset to a charitable
organization, allowing you to retain either an
income stream or the remainder interest.
Current tax laws permit several planning
alternatives for deferred gifts allowing the
donor to receive a charitable income, gift, or
estate tax deduction.

If you are considering a planned gift, please
consult with a financial advisor to explore ways
in which a gift in your lifetime may be
advantageous not only to you and your heirs,
but also to Hudson Valley Community College.

A key to the college’s continued success will be
the support of its alumni and friends through
The Heritage Society. The Society has been
established to recognize and honor donors
who have generously provided, or plan to
provide, gifts to the Hudson Valley Community
College Foundation through bequests, trusts,
and other life income gifts. Society membership
is a reflection of the highest of values and
commitment to future educational excellence.
Find out more at www.hvcc.edu/foundation/
plannedgiving.
Women’s Volleyball

The Hudson Valley Community College women’s volleyball team finished the fall 2008 season with a winning record of 12-8.

The Lady Vikings earned the team the seventh seed in the Region III Tournament. The tournament was held at Alfred State University, where the team lost in the first round to Jamestown Community College.

Men’s Basketball

The men’s basketball team had a successful season, being ranked as high as number one in the country. The Vikings captured its second straight Mountain Valley Conference championship and received the number one seed in the Region III Tournament.

Ramel Alexander (Albany HS/Albany) was named first team All-Region and a first team All-Conference performer for the Vikings. Dalton Austin-Michaud (Ichabod Crane HS/Valatie) and his brother Ian Austin-Michaud (Ichabod Crane HS/Valatie) were both selected second team All-Region and second team All-Conference.

Patrick Barnes (Mohonasen HS/Rotterdam) was a third team All-Region and third team All-League performer for Hudson Valley. Garret Bishop (Saratoga Springs HS/Saratoga Springs) was selected third team All-Conference. Bishop finished the regular season averaging 9.3 ppg.

Head Coach Andre Cook was selected Region III and Mountain Valley Coach of the Year. This is the second year in a row Cook was named Region III Coach of the Year. Hudson Valley finished the regular season 28-2 and has won back-to-back Mountain Valley Conference championships, posting identical 16-0 records.

Sophomore guard Garret Bishop (Saratoga Springs HS/Saratoga Springs) was named to the all-tournament team at the NJCAA Division III National Tournament. Head Coach Andre Cook also was named District I Division III Coach of the Year. Cook led the Vikings to its most successful post-season campaign in school history with a 32-4 overall record.

Women’s Basketball

Sarah Caciobolo (Colonie HS/Colonie) was a second team All-Region performer. Also honored as third team All-Conference selections were Rachell Maynor (Berlin HS/Grafton) and Marie O’Malley (Oneonta HS/Oneonta).

Men’s Bowling

The men’s bowling team finished first in the Mountain Valley Conference with a perfect 18-0. Devan Hodlik (Watervliet HS/Watervliet) was voted MVP of the Mountain Valley Conference and first team All-Region. Hodlik led the conference with a 215 average and also recorded the highest game and high series for the conference with a 280 and 706, respectively.

Women’s Bowling

The women’s bowling team finished first in the Mountain Valley Conference with a perfect 18-0. Devan Hodlik (Watervliet HS/Watervliet) was voted MVP of the Mountain Valley Conference and first team All-Region. Hodlik led the conference with a 215 average and also recorded the highest game and high series for the conference with a 280 and 706, respectively.

Men’s Soccer

The men’s soccer team finished the season with a record of 11-4-1. The team was ranked as high as third in the nation.

Ice Hockey

The ice hockey team qualified for postseason play and was ranked as high as third in the nation.

Fall and Winter Sports Wrap-up

Tracy Margosian ’99

After graduating from Hudson Valley’s Radiologic Technology Program in 1999, Tracy continued in the college’s Echocardiography Program with the help of financial aid counselors and the program directors. She holds licenses in Radiologic Technology and Cardiac Ultrasounds and is working toward her license in Vascular Ultrasound. She was invited to accompany a cardiologist she worked with on a Catholic Charities Mission to Guyana in South America to donate a portable ultrasound machine. During her weeklong visit, Tracy helped familiarize the physicians on site with the ultrasound machine and distributed medical books, blood pressure cuffs, an oximeter and other medical supplies she had collected prior to leaving home. Calling the Guyana trip her “greatest accomplishment so far,” Tracy said. “Without the skills and knowledge provided by the staff in HVCC’s allied health services, I would never have had this opportunity. I look forward to a future of traveling and teaching my learned skills.”

Amy Keefe Fraioi ’87

is married to Doug Fraioi and earned a BA in History from SUNY Albany in 1993. She is director of government relations for the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal in Albany.

David Brennan, Jr. ’81

works as an engineer for Naviyst Medical, Inc. in Glens Falls. He is married to Michele Williams Brennan. He earned a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology while at Hudson Valley.

Nathan Fong ’89

is married to Cindy Fong, earned his associate in applied science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a BSME in Mechanical Engineering from SUNY Buffalo in 1991. He works for Lancer Corporation in San Antonio, Texas, as a senior quality engineer and manager.

Nicholas Agostino ’06

is a business administration major while at Hudson Valley, received a bachelor’s of science degree in Finance from Siena College in 2008 and serves as a financial advisor for Halliday Financial Group in Albany.

Harry Posporelis ’89

holds an AAS degree in Telecommunications Management as well as a Data Processing Certificate, is employed as a telecommunications technical associate for Verizon in Albany.

Sean Grady ’02

earned an AAS degree in Business Administration at Hudson Valley and a BS in Finance from George Mason University, Fairfax, VA, in 2005. He is employed as a business consultant for BearingPoint, Inc., management and technology consultants based in Alexandria, VA.

Annie Bayly Reed ’02

earned an AAS degree in Nursing at Hudson Valley Community College and works as a registered nurse for Northeast Health.

J. Daniel Corcoran III ’89

received an AAS degree in Telecommunications Management at Hudson Valley Community College and a BS degree in Business Administration from SUNY Albany in 1992. He is director of telecommunications in the NYS Office for Technology in Albany. He is married to Cynthia Izzo.

Cara Vanness ’99

, an individual studies major at Hudson Valley Community College, is a project support technician for Hatch Consultants in Massena, NY.

Lori Quick Purcell ’91

is married to Dan Purcell ’94. A mortuary science graduate, she is a funeral director at Parker Brothers Memorial Funeral Home in Watervliet.

Melissa Aiken Spiezio ’95

received an AAS degree in Radiologic Technology and is an imaging services coordinator/assistant director at Southwestern Vermont Medical Center in Bennington, VT.

Gail Roberts ’00

earned an MFA degree at SUNY Albany in 2006 and is a part-time faculty member in the Department of Fine Arts, Theater Arts and Broadcast Communications at Hudson Valley Community College.

Patricia E. Fonda

serves as associate director of nursing for child and adolescent psychiatric services at Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City.

Theodore Rice ’68

is married to Kathleen Rice. After graduating from Hudson Valley, he earned a bachelor’s degree in education from SUNY Oswego in 1970. He teaches at the Mount Anthony Union Middle School in Bennington, VT.

John Hukey ’63

lives in Shawnee, Kansas, and works as a technical service specialist for Dayton Superior Corporation, international concrete specialists.

Kimberly Degener ’98,

an individual studies major at Hudson Valley Community College, is employed by Rensselaer County Employment and Training. She lives in Valley Falls.

Brendan Wittke ’05

of East Greenbush, received an AS degree in Environmental Studies at Hudson Valley before earning a bachelor’s degree in Biology from Paul Smith’s College in 2007. He’s now completing an MS degree at Queens University in Kingston, Ontario, studying Paleoecology. Brendan graduated in 2007 from Paul Smith’s College with a degree in Biology.

Thomas Morris ’91,

who earned an AAS degree in Criminal Justice at HVCC, recently was promoted to the position of Probation Supervisor in the Dutchess County Office of Probation and Community Corrections. He had been a Senior Probation Officer in the House Arrest/Warrants Unit.

Deaths

1958 Albert Denio

1958 John Pazin

1959 George Magaver

1960 John Mitchell, Mark Andersen

1962 Eileen Lamanec

1965 David Maddison

2003 Candice Green

2004 Patrick Dewane

2006 Ronald Viola

2007 Michael Fennelly, Kristin Jerian
Thanks to You, Hudson Valley’s History is Coming Together

In the Fall 2008 edition of the Valley View, we asked you to help identify images from the new and improved Hudson Valley Community College archives—and the response was overwhelming! Not only did you identify people and events, but donations of yearbooks, commencement programs and invitations were received. Thank you!

There is so much more to do and we still need your help. Above are a few more images to identify but we have placed a whole lot more on our Web site at www.hvcc.edu/archives—so check them out and help us piece together Hudson Valley history!

There was an especially strong response to the photograph of Cecelia M. Jorgensen, retired from the Chemistry Department. Many of her former students testified to her influence on their studies and attributed future professional success to their experience with her. They all described Mrs. Jorgensen’s ability to teach organic chemistry, a notoriously difficult subject. Many respondents fondly recalled the husband-wife Jorgensen team of Cecelia and Helmut Jorgensen, who were both faculty in the Chemistry Department.

“We still need your help! Unfortunately, the majority of archive items are unidentified. In an effort to trace and organize the history of our college, we are still seeking the assistance of the top experts in this field—our alumni!”

Please call Brenda Hazard at (518) 629-7330 or e-mail her at library@hvcc.edu if you can identify a person or event, make an appointment to visit the archives or to discuss an item you wish to donate. For more information on the archives or the Hudson Valley Community College Library, please visit the Library Web site at http://library.hvcc.edu.
This past October, Hudson Valley hosted another fun-filled Homecoming weekend for students, alumni and members of the community. The weekend was kicked-off Friday night with a packed house in the Maureen Stapleton Theatre for a showing of “Wall•E.” The next morning, the college hosted its first annual alumni 5K race—a new tradition that will be continued this year! The weekend concluded with the homecoming football game, carnival games, food and music for everyone to enjoy.

The Hudson Valley Community College Foundation has planned a variety of events for alumni throughout the year to ensure they can stay connected with their alma mater. Keep your eyes open for postcards and invitations to these events:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, July 20</td>
<td><strong>The 15th Annual Golf Classic at Troy Country Club</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Special discount offered for alumni &amp; faculty for the morning flight.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, Aug. 30</td>
<td><strong>Alumni and Welcome Back Students</strong> at the Tri-City ValleyCats game</td>
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<td></td>
<td>5 p.m. with fireworks after the game</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, Sept. 23</td>
<td><strong>Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon</strong></td>
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<td>Noon at the Franklin Terrace Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fri–Sun, Sept. 25, 26 &amp; 27</td>
<td><strong>Homecoming:</strong> a campus-wide event featuring the homecoming football game, food, games, tours of the campus, music and more!</td>
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If you would like additional information on any of the Foundation’s upcoming events, contact the Foundation at (518) 629-8012 or alumni@hvcc.edu.
Nominate a Fellow Alum or Community Partner!

Last fall, Hudson Valley Community College recognized four individuals and one local hospital for their loyal dedication and service to the college and to the community. Three of the recipients were alumni and the other two were ardent supporters of the college. It is time to nominate candidates for the 2009 Distinguished Service Awards. We are asking your help to identify individuals you may know who exemplify the criteria below.

- The Otto V. Guenther Career Achievement Award honors a member of the alumni who has demonstrated outstanding accomplishments in his or her career. Honorees have distinguished themselves as leaders in business, health care, government, and the community.
- The 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College By an Alumnus recognizes an alumnus/alumna who has contributed significantly toward advancing the Hudson Valley Community College mission.
- The 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College By a Non-Alumnus recognizes a non-alumnus/alumna who has contributed significantly toward advancing the Hudson Valley Community College mission.
- The Hudson Valley Community College Humanitarian Service Award recognizes a Hudson Valley Community College alumnus/alumna who has exercised leadership through volunteer service, participation in public service and/or personal sacrifice to improve the lives of others.
- The Corporate Excellence Award recognizes a company that has demonstrated exemplary commitment to Hudson Valley Community College.

The deadline to submit nominations is Friday, May 15, 2009. Recipients selected will be honored at the 2009 Distinguished Services Awards Luncheon scheduled will be held Wednesday, September 23, 2009. For a nomination form, please visit www.hvcc.edu/alumni/nomination.

The 2008 award winners were:
- Paula A. Stopera ’77, president and CEO of Capital Communications Federal Credit Union, who received the Otto V. Guenther Career Achievement Award;
- Michael J. Whalen ’73, director of administration for Prime Care Physicians, who received the 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College by an Alumnus;
- Charles Touhey, an educator, businessman, and civil rights activist, who received the 1953 Award for Distinguished Service to Hudson Valley Community College by a Non-Alumnus;
- William C. Wolff ’72, executive director of the La Salle School, Albany, who received the Hudson Valley Community College Humanitarian Service Award; and
- Albany Medical Center, which received the Corporate Excellence Award in recognition of the hospital’s commitment to the college, its alumni and the Capital Region.

Facebook for Alumni!

Facebook is not just a social networking site for college students anymore. Many adults use Facebook to stay connected with friends and former classmates. Now Hudson Valley alumni can keep in touch with each other and their alma mater, too! Hudson Valley Community College has created an organization profile page, where Hudson Valley alumni who have a Facebook profile can become “fans” of the college! Fans can participate in discussions on the page’s discussion board, view a list of different events happening on campus, post photos of their favorite memories at Hudson Valley, read recent news on the college and easily stay in contact with fellow alumni!

It’s easy to become a fan of Hudson Valley on Facebook. If you aren’t a member, simply sign up and create a profile (Facebook provides step-by-step directions on how to create a profile). Once your account is set up, type Hudson Valley Community College Alumni in the search bar in the upper right corner. Click on the organizational page and then click on the “become a fan” link.

We look forward to seeing you on Facebook soon!

Paula Stopera, Charles Touhey, William Wolff and Michael Whalen
Parking on campus—if you’re a recent alum, you know it’s one of the chief concerns for current Hudson Valley students.

The college’s skyrocketing enrollment during the past decade has put a premium on parking, but that search for an elusive empty spot will be a whole lot easier. A total of 300 new student parking spots were created in Fall of 2008 after a new lot was built behind the McDonough Sports Complex. Last summer, the college was able to remove two older buildings that housed the campus print shop, mailroom and physical plant staff. When those offices moved into the new LaPan Services Building (see below), it made way for the new student lot, which roughly runs between Bruno Stadium, the McDonough complex and Hudson Hall. This welcome addition, which opened just as the fall semester was beginning, allows the college to reduce its current reliance on the front lawns for overflow parking.

Looking toward the campus’ future parking needs, this year the college is taking an even bolder step. The creation of a new five-level parking garage adjacent to Fitzgibbons and Braham halls should make parking woes a thing of the past. Construction is set to begin immediately after the 2009 commencement ceremony in May. The parking garage, when completed in August 2010, will hold approximately 800 cars. Three hundred spaces will be dedicated to faculty/staff and the remaining 500 spaces will be used by students.

The garage is expected to be connected to Fitzgibbons Hall with a pedestrian bridge and equipped with a state-of-the-art security system including emergency phones, surveillance cameras and a satellite public safety office.

### New Building on Campus

Always growing and expanding services, the college brought together several service offices when it completed the LaPan Services Building in the summer of 2008.

The LaPan Services Building houses:
- The Graphics Department
- The Print Shop
- Physical Plant offices
- The Mail Room
- Central Receiving

The building is named in honor of John LaPan, one of the college’s first administrators, and in memory of his wife, Marguerite. John LaPan, who worked at the college from 1954 to 1978, was credited for his leadership and guidance in beautifying what was then a new college campus in the early 1960s. One of the buildings demolished to make way for the new student lot was named LaPan Hall, so the new services building keeps the LaPan’s legacy alive.

The building is located beyond the softball field and the college’s cogeneration plant and is accessible by vehicle down North Drive.
Reconnect with Old Friends!

Contact The Valley View and tell people what you’ve been doing; personal updates, marriages, children and professional accomplishments are welcome, even messages for old classmates who you haven’t seen in years.

We want to hear from you! E-mail: alumni@hvcc.edu, call (518) 629-8012 or visit with us on Facebook.