LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY

On behalf of the faculty, students and staff of Dutchess Community College, I am pleased to present the 2009-2010 President’s Report. It was another exciting, rewarding year of record enrollment and significant achievement. As you read about the people, programs and services that create our highly regarded and vibrant campus, I hope you share my pride in your community college and all that’s been accomplished.

Our campus welcomed more than 9,800 students in fall 2009 – the largest enrollment in the College’s history. In fact, 39% of college-bound students who graduate from Dutchess County high schools choose to continue their education at DCC. More students than ever are attending full time — either for a solid start on a bachelor’s degree, or to pursue a career. Meanwhile, those juggling the demands of work and family continue to find DCC’s part-time study options flexible and convenient.

Another milestone was reached at graduation in May, when a record 1,040 students earned degrees. I always enjoy meeting graduates’ families on that special day, and was struck this year by the number of students whose parents, grandparents, sisters and brothers are among DCC’s tens of thousands of alumni. These legacy students reflect the fact that few institutions in our community have touched so many lives in such a profound and transformative way over the past 52 years.

As you may know, community colleges are the largest part of America’s higher education system, enrolling more than 8 million students each year. We continue to be at the forefront of national discussions; a recent White House Summit highlighted the critical role community colleges play in developing America’s workforce and reaching the country’s educational goals.

At DCC we see evidence of this each and every day, as students turn to the College for a quality, affordable education that will lead to success at a four-year school or in the workplace. Between the 62 academic programs offered by DCC and the job-training and other skills initiatives available through the College’s Office of Community Services, we serve more than 20,000 students a year.

DCC’s board of trustees, faculty and staff work diligently to ensure the College lives up to its reputation as one of the finest community colleges in the state. A recent SUNY survey, in which DCC students gave the College high marks in many areas, is a testament to this commitment to excellence. We’re also proud that our tuition — the lowest in New York state — makes higher education more accessible to our friends and neighbors.

Our community is at the heart of the success of DCC; thank you for your continued support and advocacy. I hope to see you on campus for some of the lectures, concerts, art gallery exhibits, plays and other exciting events we have planned in the coming year.

D. David Conklin, Ed.D.
President
**Graduating Class a Record-Breaker**

More students than ever earned degrees and career certificates from DCC in the past year, making the College’s 51st Commencement an especially momentous occasion. Graduates – and thousands of family members and friends – gathered with faculty and staff under sunny skies for the May 20 celebration.

Associate degrees and certificates in 51 programs of study were conferred on 1,040 graduates, who ranged in age from 18 to 62. Associate in Science degrees were awarded to 40% of the students; 28% received Associate in Applied Science degrees; 24% received Associate in Arts degrees; and 8% earned certificates. Almost 40% of the class graduated with honors, having earned a 3.2 GPA or higher.

Speakers included DCC President Dr. D. David Conklin, DCC Board of Trustees Chair Thomas LeGrand, Communications Professor Camilo Rojas and Student Government Association President Jasmin Vazquez.

The keynote address was delivered by DCC Class of 1963 alumnus Fred Schaeffer, Esq., an attorney in private practice who is best known for his tireless efforts to turn the vision of the Walkway Over the Hudson into reality. Schaeffer, the Poughkeepsie Journal’s 2010 Business Person of the Year (see story, page 5), reflected on how his DCC experience taught him more than academics. “I learned how to network with people and work toward a shared goal. It’s the contacts you develop and nurture through life that can help make your dreams come true.”

**Students Recognized for Volunteerism in Community**

Members of the College Student Government Association (SGA) volunteered their time and talent for various community and global causes during the fall 2009 and spring 2010 semesters.

The students’ efforts at Dutchess County Family Services last fall earned them the coveted Spirit of Dutchess County award, co-sponsored by United Way of Dutchess County and Hands On! The Hudson Valley. The 14 students spent a day at Family Services cleaning and organizing. They returned the following semester for a spring cleaning of the Peace Garden, an outdoor space utilized both by victims of crime and members of the staff. Family Services administrators nominated SGA for the award.

“Each year I’m struck by the students’ energy and commitment to helping our community,” said DCC Student Activities Director Michael Weida. “At DCC, we foster a culture of giving back to the community. It’s terrific that students take this to heart, and in addition to class, work and family obligations, they take time out to assist others in need.”

Other SGA activities during the fall included a Red Cross blood drive that collected more than 50 units of blood, a Haiti earthquake-relief effort that raised more than $2,000, a coat drive for Dutchess Outreach that collected 500 coats and a breast cancer awareness event. In the spring semester SGA raised more than $2,000 for the American Heart Association, and 27 students and friends participated in the Heart Walk. Also, the students assisted with a Jeans for Teens drive for Hudson River Housing shelter residents and held a Pajama Day that encouraged their classmates to donate clothes to Dutchess Outreach and wear pajamas for a day to signify their involvement.

“We had a great group of students this year,” said 2009-2010 SGA President Jasmin Vazquez. “Everyone worked together very well and had fun and learned a lot while helping many deserving organizations and causes.”
Artwork throughout campus enhances the learning environment and creates an inviting, enriching atmosphere for students, as well as the community.


Below, ‘New York City in the ‘50s by David Lax.

**Picture Perfect: DCC Art Collection Valued at $2.65 Million**

The acquisition of the noted “Denunciation” set of paintings by artist David Lax (read more on page 11) in the fall 2009 semester prompted the College to inventory and appraise all of its artwork on campus. The collection — which includes outdoor sculptures, watercolors and oil paintings — is valued at an estimated $2.65 million. The pieces have been donated over the years by artists and benefactors, enabling the beautification of the campus to be accomplished without the use of public funds.

In addition to having the country’s largest permanent display of photos by famed photojournalist W. Eugene Smith, DCC is home to original works of art by former students who have become respected artists, and pieces by individuals including Robert Benney, George Morland, Leslie Bender, David Lax and local artist Cynthia Dill, who added to the College’s collection last year with a generous donation of many pieces.

“It’s important for the college experience to extend beyond the classroom,” said DCC President Dr. D. David Conklin. “The variety of the pieces is impressive and each one evokes emotion and thought.”

“DCC has one of the most picturesque campuses in the state, and the College’s artwork plays a big role in that,” said Frank Munzer, a retired architect who led the effort to catalog the College’s collection of art. “In documenting each piece throughout campus, we were struck by the breadth of the artwork and how it enriches the campus environment.”

DCC has been recognized for its artwork collection. The College has been presented with the Dutchess County Arts Council Award for Artwork in Public Places and the Dutchess County Executive’s Award for Arts in Education.
The tables were turned in the spring, when hundreds of DCC students got the opportunity to grade the College as part of the SUNY Student Opinion Project. The more than 600 students who participated in the survey gave the College high marks in several areas, ranking DCC first or second on 63% of all questions, as compared to nine other SUNY community colleges of similar size. Not only did DCC score at the top in most categories, it was rated average or above for every question.

DCC was ranked first in areas including:
- Quality of education
- Classroom and library facilities
- Availability of instructors outside of class
- Study areas
- Fine and performing arts studios
- Athletic facilities
- Condition of buildings and grounds
- Job-search assistance/career services
- College social activities
- Cultural programs

The College scored second in:
- Overall quality of instruction
- Computer availability and support
- Availability of online services
- Health and wellness programs
- Transfer-planning services
- College website ease of use
- Guest speakers outside of class
- Racial harmony on campus
- Sense of belonging

More than 80% of DCC students stated they would “definitely” or “probably” choose DCC again if they could start over, compared to approximately 75% of students at the other nine colleges.

In addition, 71% of the DCC students surveyed said they intended to transfer to another school to continue their education, compared to 55% of students at the other community colleges used in the comparison.

DCC also scored well in the Community College Survey of Student Engagement administered last year, with students rating the College average or above in all areas. Designed to measure the success of colleges in creating an enriching, engaging environment, the survey indicated DCC students had worked on a project that required integrating information from various sources; worked with classmates outside of class to prepare assignments; and engaged in serious conversations with students of a different race or ethnicity than their own.

“It’s gratifying, but not surprising to know that our students recognize and appreciate the hard work done by our faculty, staff and board of trustees to provide a positive and meaningful college experience,” said Carl Denti, Vice-President and Dean of Academic Affairs. “We’re extremely pleased to be ranked so favorably in comparison to the other highly regarded SUNY community colleges.”
President's Breakfast Highlights College’s Impact on Community

Approximately 200 Dutchess County business and community leaders, friends and donors gathered in January for the 17th Annual Dutchess Community College President’s Breakfast.

The keynote speaker for the event was attorney James Fedorchak of Towne, Ryan & Partners, PC, who attended DCC and served as a board member. Fedorchak spoke fondly of his tenure as a trustee, and of how his experience as a DCC student enriched his life. He also talked about the positive impact the College has on the entire county.

“Think for a minute about the landscape of Dutchess County,” said Fedorchak, “and how different it would be without Dutchess Community College and the vital services it provides.”

The President’s Breakfast is hosted by the Dutchess Community College Foundation, which raises funds for student scholarships and faculty initiatives. The Foundation granted more than $300,000 in student scholarships last year.

Fall 2009 Enrollment Hits High

More students than ever – 9,837 – attended DCC in fall 2009, an increase of nearly 16% over the previous year. The number of full-timers – 5,278 – also broke records, accounting for a jump of 18.7%, with part-timers numbering 4,559, a 12.4% increase. This was the third consecutive year of enrollment growth. DCC met the challenge by adding faculty and maximizing resources to provide the additional advisement, registration and support services needed to accommodate the influx of students. According to the latest figures, nearly 40% of June 2009 Dutchess County high school graduates who said they were continuing on to college, attended DCC in the fall semester.

“Students and their families are looking for quality and value, especially in these uncertain economic times,” said Dr. D. David Conklin, DCC president. “DCC has earned a reputation for providing an exceptional college experience, while offering the lowest tuition in the state. Traditional students just out of high school are finding that DCC is a smart way to start a four-year degree or earn a career certificate, while adult students returning to school are finding our part-time study options flexible and convenient.”

DCC Alum Speaks at SUNY Event

Jeffrey Smith, a member of DCC’s Alumni Hall of Fame and Foundation board member, was selected by the State University of New York to speak about the “Power of SUNY” at the lower Hudson Valley kickoff of the SUNY Strategic Plan. The event, led by SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, was held April 22 at SUNY Purchase.

Smith, who in 1972 was the first prisoner in New York state to earn a college degree, told the crowd of community leaders and SUNY representatives about the profound impact DCC had on his life. After earning a two-year degree from DCC, Smith completed his undergraduate education at Vassar College and master’s degree in public policy at Princeton. He went on to earn a law degree from Yale Law School, and has been the lead attorney in some of the largest and most significant securities, shareholder and labor cases litigated in recent decades, recovering more than $1 billion for stockholders, investors and employees.

“My success today can be traced back to the opportunities I was afforded by DCC,” said Smith. “I’m proud to be an alum and Foundation board member, and will always be an advocate for the College and those it serves.”

The SUNY Strategic Plan is a 10-year initiative designed to align its purpose and resources with the opportunities and needs found in New York state. The plan focuses on six areas: Entrepreneurial Thinking, Seamless Education Pipeline, Healthier New York, Energy-Smart New York, Vibrant Communities and Global Outreach.
Walkway Visionary Schaeffer is Business Person of the Year

Dutchess Community College welcomed more than 150 guests to the 2010 Poughkeepsie Journal Business Person of the Year luncheon in June to honor award recipient Fred Schaeffer ’63, an attorney in private practice who is credited with leading the Walkway Over the Hudson project.

Schaeffer, a member of DCC’s Alumni Hall of Fame, has practiced law in the Mid-Hudson Valley for more than 30 years. His most public accomplishment has been key involvement in turning the Walkway Over the Hudson from vision into reality. From his first visit to the Poughkeepsie-Highland Railroad Bridge in 1993, Schaeffer was captivated by the spectacular view and knew the structure needed to be restored to provide public access. Over the next several years, Schaeffer volunteered countless hours toward that ambitious goal. Since its completion in October 2009, more than a half-million people have visited the site, deemed the longest pedestrian bridge in the world.

The Poughkeepsie Journal Business Person of the Year Award is presented annually to recognize an individual whose leadership, hard work and dedication has made a measurable impact on the economic viability and vitality of the region. The award recipient is selected by a panel of judges from various sectors of the community.

The award luncheon was co-sponsored by the Poughkeepsie Journal, the Dutchess Community College Foundation and the law firm of Corbally, Gartland and Rappleyea.

IN MEMORIAM

The Dutchess Community College family – and the community at large – recently lost two individuals of outstanding character, compassion and vision.

Allan E. Rappleyea, a local attorney who served many years on the College’s board of trustees, will be remembered at DCC for his commitment to providing access to quality higher education for the residents of Dutchess County. An advocate for both faculty and students, his contributions have forever enriched the learning environment at DCC. Rappleyea passed away June 27 at the age of 80.

Francis U. Ritz, a retired IBM executive and longtime member of the College’s board of trustees, shared generously of his time, treasure and talent. Dedicated to providing students with a meaningful and engaging college experience, Ritz supported the creation of a new library at DCC – the Francis U. and Mary F. Ritz Library – as well as renovations to the student lounge. He passed away July 20 at the age of 91.

“These extraordinary men loved family, community and making a difference in people’s lives,” said D. David Conklin, DCC president. “They enhanced the quality of life in the Hudson Valley, touched many hearts and will be deeply missed.”
More Dutchess County high school graduates than ever – 36 – took advantage of the Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence in fall 2009. The scholarship provides two years of full tuition to any Dutchess County high school student who graduates in the top 10% of his or her class. When combined with the students who were awarded the honor in fall 2008, there were 60 Conklin scholars on campus last year.

Conklin scholars come from across the county, including the following high schools: Arlington, Beacon, F. D. Roosevelt, John Jay, Millbrook, Orchard View, Pawling, Poughkeepsie, Red Hook, Roy C. Ketcham, Stissing Mountain and Upton Lake Christian School.

The Charles E. and Mabel E. Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence was established 15 years ago through a generous gift from the Conklins and the DCC Foundation. (Dr. D. David Conklin is of no relation to Charles and Mabel Conklin.)

Endowed Chair Lectures Bring Leading Authorities to Campus

Paul Ingrassia presented the lecture, “Crash Course: The American Automobile Industry’s Road from Glory to Disaster” in October. The 31-year veteran of The Wall Street Journal was the newspaper’s Detroit bureau chief in 1993, when he won a Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the prior year’s crisis at General Motors.

Ingrassia, along with Journal Deputy Bureau Chief Joseph B. White, with whom he shared the Pulitzer and a Loeb Award, authored a book called “Comeback: the Fall and Rise of the American Automobile Industry,” released in 1994. For 10 years beginning in 1996, Ingrassia was president of Dow Jones Newswires, overseeing 700 journalists and a $225 million annual budget. The lecture was sponsored by the TD Bank Endowed Chair and the DCC Foundation. Business Department Chair Peter Rivera brought the speaker to campus.

Internationally acclaimed Holocaust scholar Gerhard L. Weinberg presented “Kristallnacht 1938: As Experienced Then and Understood Now” in April.

Weinberg served as a scholar-in-residence at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum and is the William Rand Kenan Jr. Professor Emeritus of History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A leading expert on the Holocaust, Nazi Germany and World War II, Weinberg was born in Germany and emigrated to Britain and then the U.S.

The lecture, orchestrated by history professor Dr. Werner Steger, was sponsored by the Greenspan Trust-Handel Foundation Endowed Chair in Holocaust and Genocide Studies and the Dutchess Community College Foundation and supported by the Gillespie Forum and the Jewish Federation of Dutchess County.

Frances Perkins, the Secretary of Labor under President Franklin D. Roosevelt and the first female cabinet secretary, helped create many facets of the New Deal, such as Social Security and minimum wage. Author and journalist Kirstin Downey visited DCC in April to discuss Perkins’ achievements, and explain how her story slipped into historical oblivion.

Downey’s most recent book about Frances Perkins, “The Woman Behind the New Deal,” was featured in a spring edition of People magazine. Downey became a staff writer for the Washington Post in 1988, continuing until 2000 when she was awarded a Nieman fellowship at Harvard University, where she studied American economic history. She returned to the Post in 2005, and wrote a series of stories on the questionable lending practices of banks and investment houses. In addition, she shared a 2008 Pulitzer Prize for coverage of the Virginia Tech shootings.

The lecture, facilitated by history professor Dr. Laura Murphy, was sponsored by the Handel Foundation Endowed Faculty Chair to Perpetuate the Legacy of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, the DCC Foundation and the DCC Student Government Association.
Nursing Program Culminates in Pinning Ceremony

Eighty-nine graduates of the Dutchess Community College Nursing Program received pins during a ceremony on May 13 celebrating the completion of the challenging curriculum. The pinning ceremony signified their transition from hard-working students to professional nurses ready to begin their careers.

Following a greeting by DCC Vice-President and Dean of Academic Affairs Carl Denti and Nursing Department Chair Dr. Toni Doherty, the nursing students were introduced by faculty members Dr. Karen Blonder and Pamela Duda. Pins were presented by faculty members Karen Desmond and Jacqueline Fitzpatrick. The International Pledge for Nurses was led by Barbara Kabbash.

The nursing program includes classroom lectures, labs and clinical experiences in local health care organizations. More than 70% of the nursing staff in local hospitals and health care facilities graduated from DCC’s Nursing Program.

New inductees to business honor society Alpha Beta Gamma recite the organization’s pledge.

Business Honor Society Welcomes New Members

Twenty-nine DCC students were inducted into the Delta Zeta chapter of international business honor society Alpha Beta Gamma (ABG).


ABG was established in 1970 to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students in business curricula. The organization reserves more than $500,000 in scholarships for members who transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

To be eligible for membership in the Delta Zeta chapter of Alpha Beta Gamma at the College, a student must be enrolled in a business curriculum and have completed 15 credit hours with at least 12 hours of work taken in courses leading to a business degree and have demonstrated academic excellence by attaining a 3.5 GPA in business courses as well as a 3.5 overall GPA.

Students Receive More Than $100,000 in Scholarships

At the Honors Convocation in May, 147 students either starting their second year at DCC or graduating and entering four-year colleges in the fall, received scholarships totaling $110,000. More than $900,000 in scholarships has been awarded in Convocation ceremonies since they began 14 years ago.

The scholarships are funded by individuals and organizations to reward academic excellence. To learn more about establishing a scholarship, contact the DCC Foundation at (845) 431-8400.
National Security is Focus of Constitution Day Lecture

Constitution Day 2009 was marked on September 17 by welcoming Hina Shamsi for a lecture titled “A More Perfect Union: Achieving National Security Through the Rule of Law.”

Dr. Shamsi is senior advisor to the United Nations’ Special Rapporteur on Extrajudicial Executions. She also is a Lecturer-in-Law on international human rights at Columbia Law School and co-author of publications on torture and extraordinary rendition, and has monitored and reported on the military commissions at Guantanamo Bay. Previously, Shamsi worked as a staff attorney in the American Civil Liberties Union’s National Security Project.

Constitution Day celebrates the 1787 ratification of the Constitution. It was observed as Citizenship Day from 1952 until 2004, when a law was passed to change the name.

Summer Academic Skills Program Leads to College Success

DCC’s SmartStart program graduated 126 students in August 2010, the largest group in the program’s 13-year history.

SmartStart is a summer initiative of skills-building classes for incoming freshmen who have been identified as needing extra help to place into college-level courses. Classes focus on reading comprehension, writing ability, math capabilities, college study skills and college life.

Of those who completed the program this year, 97% of the students had an average of two schedule changes each, indicating advancement beyond several developmental education courses. All of the students gave the program a “good” rating or better, with 93% rating it as either “very good” or “excellent.”

The College’s FOCUS program also centers on improving students’ academic skills, but is held during the school year. Eighty-seven percent of fall 2009 FOCUS students registered for the following semester, compared to 66% of students eligible for it or a similar program who did not participate.

Archives Dedicated to Former DCC President

In October, DCC dedicated its archives in honor of the College’s third president, Dr. Jerry A. Lee, who served from 1982 to 1992. Following his retirement, Dr. Lee moved to Punta Gorda, Florida with his wife, Lynn. He passed away in September 2007.

Among Dr. Lee’s accomplishments at Dutchess Community College was the design and construction of the Center for Business and Industry, which opened in 1989. He also was responsible for the development of the off-campus learning centers at DCC South in Wappingers Falls and Norrie Point.

The archives, in the Francis U. and Mary F. Ritz Library, house the thousands of documents, artifacts and photographs that illustrate the growth and development of Dutchess Community College since its founding in 1957.

DCC Participates in Big Read

DCC English Professor John Desmond hosted a program on campus in October as part of the Poughkeepsie area’s Big Read, an initiative created by the National Endowment for the Arts aimed at emphasizing the importance of reading in American life.

Desmond analyzed the 2005 film adaptation of the Zora Neale Hurston novel, “Their Eyes Were Watching God,” discussing cinematic and narrative elements of the story and the elements that were kept, dropped or added during the novel’s transition to the screen. An evening program was open to the public, while a day program welcomed students from local high schools.

College Night Draws a Crowd

Hundreds of guests packed DCC’s College Night last November to talk with representatives from more than 160 colleges. In-state and out-of-state schools, four-year and two-year, public and private colleges were on hand. Technical schools and the armed services also were present.

The event is held annually to give high school and transferring DCC students, parents and high school counselors the chance to learn about many different colleges in one convenient location.

Also in the fall, DCC worked with Poughkeepsie High School to offer a fair featuring representation from historically black colleges.
Dr. Sam Bowser, a noted biologist featured in Werner Herzog’s Oscar-nominated documentary, “Encounters at the End of the World,” visited DCC in November to discuss his 25 years of conducting research in Antarctica.

From humanity’s place in the environment above the ice, to the research in the living laboratory below it, Dr. Bowser talked about the beauty and power he has experienced during his career as a biologist and polar explorer. He spent many years studying giant one-celled organisms in the Antarctic and has contributed immensely to the knowledge base of their biology, ecology and diversity.

Linda Diamond & Company, an award-winning professional dance group, hit the stage at Dutchess Community College in October. The performance featured a multicultural dance repertoire combined with assorted visual themes. A section from the award-winning DanceVisions of Picasso was incorporated into the performance.

Author Catherine Clinton visited campus to lecture about Mary Todd Lincoln’s life and contributions. Clinton’s book, “Mrs. Lincoln: A Life,” draws on important new research to illuminate the first lady’s background and contributions to the legacy of President Abraham Lincoln. The presentation also was part of DCC’s Women’s History Month celebration.

The gospel concert has drawn standing-room-only crowds for years, and 2010 was no exception. The show featured guest soloists, praise dancers and youth and adult choirs from local churches.

The College’s annual celebration of Women’s History Month in March included an information fair, Lyceum speakers, art exhibit, poetry reading and more. The kickoff event offered visitors the chance to pick up brochures about women’s issues as well as learn about the month’s activities. That evening, the Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery hosted an opening reception for an exhibit by the “Women’s Studio Workshop,” a Rosendale-based organization for female artists.

Courtney Lynch, who presented “Leading From the Front” on March 4, was the first of two Lyceum speakers. The presentation focused on 10 key practices that can be utilized to become a powerful leader. Lynch has written a book of the same name.

DCC’s annual celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month from mid-September through mid-October included a series of fun and educational events with a theme of “In Search of Identity.”

“The Day it Snowed Tortillas” was a show by the Crabgrass Puppet Theatre that focused on a talkative woodcutter who would become incredibly rich – if his wife could keep him from divulging an important secret.

A Lyceum presentation called “One, Two, Three, Who Put Latinas on TV?” featured Sonia Manzano, known for her role of Maria on PBS’ award-winning children’s series Sesame Street.
Earth Day Celebration
Fun and Educational

The College’s annual Earth Day celebration was held on April 22 and included a number of informational booths and fun activities that focused on the environment and “green” alternatives.

Cornell Cooperative Extension was on hand to offer information about climate change and tips on how to save energy and reduce carbon emissions, and other local groups brought animals including snakes to campus, giving students the opportunity to view them up close and learn about their habitats. In addition, DCC staff and faculty members presented updates on global warming, the Student Activities office sponsored a rock wall for students to climb and representatives from the College’s radio station sold used CDs in an effort to recycle some of its music collection.

Family Festivals Offer Exciting, Free Entertainment for All

The Office of Student Activities welcomed a number of talented performers to campus during the fall 2009 and spring 2010 semesters to perform for children and adults on Saturday mornings as part of DCC’s free Family Festival program.

The fall calendar included Jim West’s “Aesop’s Fables,” “Puss in Hightops” by Flying Ship Productions and Rick Adam’s “Holiday Parade.” Spring shows were “Sylvia Markson and the Magic Trunk,” “Fire on the Mountain” by Flying Ship Productions and “Cinderella’s Fairy Godmother” by Kit’s Interactive Theatre.

Sessions Enhance EMS Skills

Dutchess Community College hosted more than 200 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) professionals for a Nov. 14 conference.

The College’s EMS Program and Saint Francis Hospital partnered to host EMS Connections for pre-hospital emergency providers, nurses and physicians from across the Hudson Valley to provide a forum for the sharing of best practices and experiences.

In April, approximately 50 students in DCC’s Emergency Medical Services program teamed up with the New Hackensack Fire Department to practice many of the skills needed to be successful in the field of emergency medicine.

Students interacted with a LifeNet helicopter on the scene, as well as ambulances from several emergency services agencies.

The Emergency Medical Technician-Basic course, offered at DCC South in Wappingers Falls, is an integral part of the first semester of the two-year Paramedic degree program at Dutchess Community College. Students completing the one-semester EMT-Basic course learn the essentials of providing pre-hospital emergency care and have the opportunity to continue their education in the Paramedic degree program.

Safety Day Engages Students to Deliver Important Messages

Useful information offered in an interactive way was the premise of the College’s second annual Safety Day in September.

Different stations offered information about personal safety and health, self defense, fire safety and alcohol awareness. To illustrate the dangers of intoxication, students were given special goggles that gave them the chance to experience the disorientation that can come as a result of alcohol abuse. Meanwhile, members of the New York State Office of Fire Prevention were on hand with a trailer to demonstrate the safest way to respond to a smoke-filled environment.

DCC Safety Day is sponsored by the Student Government Association, Counseling Office and Safety Committee.

Student Activities Director Michael Weida passes out hand sanitizer during DCC’s 2009 Safety Day.

In April, students in DCC’s Emergency Medical Services program worked on skills enhancement with the New Hackensack Fire Department and LifeNet helicopter team.

Flying Ship Productions staged “Puss in Hightops” as part of DCC’s Family Festival series.

Student Activities Director Michael Weida passes out hand sanitizer during DCC’s 2009 Safety Day.
ARTS ACROSS CAMPUS

College Unveils Historically Significant David Lax Paintings

The widely recognized “Denunciation” series of paintings by David Lax has joined the permanent artwork collection at DCC. It was displayed in the College’s Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery in February before being housed permanently in Hudson Hall. The paintings originally were exhibited in New York City, Chicago and Los Angeles in 1949 and 1950.

Lax, a DCC faculty member during the early years of the College, was a soldier and artist in the U.S. army during World War II. He witnessed the human toll of the Holocaust while riding on a train with 1,500 survivors of the Belson concentration camp, and passing Dachau, where thousands of bodies had just been discovered in railroad cars. Lax’s 14 “Denunciation” paintings, completed between 1945 and 1949, were influenced by his experiences at war, and graphically reflect the plight of those who suffered. It is profound in its commentary on the human condition.

Lax donated the “Denunciation” series to the State University of New York in 1972. When SUNY decentralized its art collection, DCC President Dr. D. David Conklin requested they be donated to the College, citing Lax’s ties to DCC. Another series of Lax paintings, “New York City in the ’50s,” also is on permanent display at DCC, as are assorted other works by the artist.

“We are fortunate to have the ‘Denunciation’ paintings as part of DCC’s permanent art collection,” said Conklin. “They are of great historical significance, and David Lax’s professor emeritus status at the College makes them even more special to us and our community.”

Art Gallery Features Varied Exhibits

Dutchess Community College’s Mildred I. Washington Art Gallery hosts exhibits throughout the year. The showings feature everything from student art to pieces by locally and nationally known artists. Members of the public are encouraged to visit the gallery.

A September exhibit highlighted artwork created by DCC students in the spring and summer 2009 semesters, and select works by students in fall 2009 art classes were on display in January 2010. Both exhibits featured photography, drawing, ceramics, graphics, painting, calligraphy and more. The work was chosen for display by instructors teaching both introductory and advanced art classes.

The gallery hosted an exhibit called “Hudson River Quadricentennial: Photographs from DCC Faculty and Alumni” in October and November. The show marked the Gallery’s contribution in honoring the river and the inspiration it has provided. Featured were photographs taken by artists including Keith Ferris, Juan Garcia-Nunez, John Hotrovich, Sherri Raffaele, Camilo Rojas, Dakin Roy, Seth Rubin, Eric Somers, Jason Torres and Marie Vivirito.

The work of graphic artist Woody Pirtle was showcased in the Gallery in November and December. Pirtle’s work has been exhibited worldwide, and his pieces reside in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, Cooper-Hewitt Museum (New York City), Victoria and Albert Museum (London), Neue Sammlung Museum (Munich) and Zurich Poster Museum.

The work of Andrew Cooks was on display in April. Cooks’ series, “Imagining the Garden,” consists of bright, colorful paintings on large canvases. Originally from Sydney, Australia, Cooks is teaching studio courses in the Performing, Visual Arts and Communications Department at DCC. His work has been shown in galleries from Melbourne to Budapest.

The gallery hosted an exhibit of paintings and metal sculpture created by GG Kopilak and Thomas Joyce, respectively, from mid-May into June. Kopilak is a painter who explores historical themes of past civilizations and brings them to life on her canvases. Joyce works in metals, and the resulting sculptures are both organic and abstract in their presentation.

Throughout the Year

The work of graphic artist Woody Pirtle was showcased in the Gallery in November and December. Pirtle’s work has been exhibited worldwide, and his pieces reside in the permanent collections of the Museum of Modern Art, Cooper-Hewitt Museum (New York City), Victoria and Albert Museum (London), Neue Sammlung Museum (Munich) and Zurich Poster Museum.

The work of Andrew Cooks was on display in April. Cooks’ series, “Imagining the Garden,” consists of bright, colorful paintings on large canvases. Originally from Sydney, Australia, Cooks is teaching studio courses in the Performing, Visual Arts and Communications Department at DCC. His work has been shown in galleries from Melbourne to Budapest.

The gallery hosted an exhibit of paintings and metal sculpture created by GG Kopilak and Thomas Joyce, respectively, from mid-May into June. Kopilak is a painter who explores historical themes of past civilizations and brings them to life on her canvases. Joyce works in metals, and the resulting sculptures are both organic and abstract in their presentation.
Banners Depicting FDR Art Displayed at DCC as Part of Quadricentennial Celebration

An exhibit called “Banners Along the Hudson: FDR’s Hudson River Valley Collection” was displayed in the DCC Francis U. and Mary F. Ritz Library in October. The banners depict pieces of art acquired by Franklin D. Roosevelt throughout his lifetime. The original works are housed at the Franklin D. Roosevelt home or Presidential Library.

Each of the five banners showcasing Hudson River art is 4’x 8’ and double-sided, and all were created specifically for the Hudson Valley Quadricentennial celebration. They were on display at many locations throughout the state over the course of the year.

The exhibit was presented by the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum and the Home of FDR National Historic Site with support from Hudson-Fulton-Champlain Quadricentennial federal funds.

Students Bring ‘Fame’ to the Stage

Members of the Dutchess Community College Performing Arts Program and the Masquer’s Guild performance troupe presented “Fame: The Musical” from November 19-22. The popular show follows students at the New York High School of Performing Arts as they work to overcome personal and professional challenges while pursuing their dreams.

The performance was directed by Blair Wing, with choreography by Teresa Gasparini and musical direction by Evan Chapman.

DCC Students Go ‘Through the Looking Glass’

While director Tim Burton’s reimagining of “Alice in Wonderland” drew audiences to the big screen, performing arts students at Dutchess Community College staged the classic interpretation of the story, just as it was penned by author Lewis Carroll and later adapted for the stage by director Eva LeGallienne.

A cast of more than 60 performed the original family-friendly version of “Alice in Wonderland” in April, bringing to life classic characters including the Cheshire Cat, Mad Hatter, Queen of Hearts, March Hare and White Rabbit. The play was directed by DCC Performing Arts Professor Stephen Press.

The Dutchie Goes to …

Move over Tony Awards! Trophies, excitement and speeches all were center stage in May for the DCC Performing Arts Program’s High School Theater Awards, dubbed “The Dutchies.”

High school faculty, students and families from nine local high schools first watched a video montage of the performances. Then came the big moment. Winners in several categories were announced, heartfelt acceptance speeches were made, and students went home with individually inscribed “Dutchie” trophies or honorable mention certificates.

The awards were created to honor excellence in local high school theater productions. Judges were DCC Performing Arts Program Chair Joe Cosentino, Professor of Theater Steve Press, Instructor of Music Christopher Brellochs and Director of Scheduling Susan Moore.

High schools that submitted entries and took home awards were Brewster, Cornwall, FDR, John Jay, Millbrook, Newburgh Free Academy, New Paltz, Red Hook and Wallkill.
AWARDS AND HONORS

Seventeen members of the College’s professional staff were honored for milestone length-of-service achievements in January, including three who were recognized for 40 years at DCC. This marked the first time in College history three faculty and/or staff members celebrated four decades at once.

Vice-President and Dean of Academic Affairs Carl Denti of Hyde Park, Director of Scheduling Susan Moore of Poughkeepsie and Dr. Donald Puretz, of Poughkeepsie, professor in the Department of Health, Physical Education, Athletics and Dance, were each honored for 40 years of service to DCC.

Other faculty and professional staff recognized for milestone service anniversaries were:

- 35 years: Catherine Duncan, Phyllis Maisel, Jane Selin and William Young
- 30 years: Paul Brown, Lorraine Messina, Thomas Randall and Lorraine Schwinger
- 25 years: Michael Arzillo, Marsha Clemmons, Blanche Gordon, Judith Grabowski, Sandra Magee and Leslie Riley
- 20 years: Jeffrey Baker, Dawn Reardon, Brent Smith and Horace West
- 15 years: Anthony Corrado, Doris Geigel, Don McKay and Mary Ellen O’Donnell
- 10 years: Deborah Ackerman, Jon Alessandrello, John Biedinger, Marie Braig, Eileen Cultrera, Margaret Fitzgerald, Edwina Gray, Francine Green, William Houghtaling, Beverly Juchem, Colleen LaLonde, Debbie Priest, Mary Ramaglia, Laura Scardaci, Judith Simonetty and Christine Trusz
- 5 years: Gladys Boone, Julio Bradford, SueKay Case, Alison Kaase, Richard Kaputa, James Krieger, Pamela Osterhoudt, Brian Potter, Christopher Reilly, Leigh Shaffer and Karl Sprauer.

A celebratory luncheon was held in May to honor Civil Service, DCC Association and Cafeteria employees marking milestone service anniversaries. Celebrating 35 years of service were Catherine Duncan, Phyllis Maisel, Jane Selin and William Young. Those with 30 years of service were Paul Brown, Lorraine Messina, Thomas Randall and Lorraine Schwinger.

Those honored for 15 years of service were Anthony Corrado, Doris Geigel, Don McKay and Mary Ellen O’Donnell. Ten-year honorees were Deborah Ackerman, Jon Alessandrello, John Biedinger, Marie Braig, Eileen Cultrera, Margaret Fitzgerald, Edwina Gray, Francine Green, William Houghtaling, Beverly Juchem, Colleen LaLonde, Debbie Priest, Mary Ramaglia, Laura Scardaci, Judith Simonetty and Christine Trusz.

Five-year honorees were Gladys Boone, Julio Bradford, SueKay Case, Alison Kaase, Richard Kaputa, James Krieger, Pamela Osterhoudt, Brian Potter, Christopher Reilly, Leigh Shaffer and Karl Sprauer.

Awards Given to Honors Students

Several students who graduated May 20 from Dutchess Community College’s Honors Program in Liberal Arts and Sciences: Humanities and Social Sciences were presented awards earlier in the month to celebrate their academic achievements. The Honors Advisement Sequence challenges students with an enriched liberal arts education and an upper-level interdisciplinary seminar. The sequence is designed for students who have a demonstrated history of academic achievement and who, upon completing the program, intend to continue working toward a bachelor’s degree.

The honorees were: Andrew Covello (Pleasant Valley), Francis Dougherty (Tivoli), Deborah Eisen (Stanfordville), Natalie Feldsine (Pine Plains), Elizabeth Fitzpatrick (Poughkeepsie), Jonathan Galeoto (Clinton Corners), Rachel Hulton (Staatsburg), Sara Procek (Wappingers Falls), Khrista Smith (Wallkill), Lea Stickle (Red Hook) and Breanna Vaden (Poughkeepsie).

Also at the ceremony, the Richard Reitano Scholarship in Political Science was awarded to Sean Rizzotto of Mahopac.
Students Earn Awards from Teachers Union

Dutchess United Educators (DUE), the teachers union of Dutchess Community College, honored 40 students in May at the 25th Annual DUE Awards for Academic Excellence. The keynote speaker at the ceremony was Camilo Rojas, DCC professor of Communications.

Twenty-four students were nominated by professors for individual DUE Awards, while 16 other students received special awards, which are granted by entire academic departments or given in honor of past DCC faculty and staff members.

The 24 individual award winners were: Sarah Abouelmakarem (Wappingers Falls), Dorcas Adjaloko (Wappingers Falls), Diane Anderson (Marlboro), Isaiah Barker (Poughkeepsie), Valerie Cascino (Wappingers Falls), Lucia DeNio (Poughkeepsie), Joel Djanie (Hopewell Junction), Francis Dougherty (Tivoli), Bethany Duerr (Dover Plains), Derrick Emanuel (Newburgh), Itzel Fernandez (New Windsor), Erica Heule (Poughquag), Brandon Jewett (Wappingers Falls), Eli Mann (Poughkeepsie), David Rosencrans (Poughkeepsie), Mandi Sheraden (Poughkeepsie), Matthew Singleton (Poughkeepsie), Kimberly Traudt (Rhinebeck) and Stephanie Woleck (Poughkeepsie).

The 16 special awards went to: Samuel Sawyer III (Rosendale), Mary Fitterer (Wurtsboro), Joy Sebesta (Marlboro), Alvin Arnold (Poughkeepsie), Justin Zadro (Rhinebeck), Shayna Miller (New Paltz), Itzel Fernandez (New Windsor), Erica Heule (Poughquag), Brandon Jewett (Wappingers Falls), Eli Mann (Wappingers Falls), Andrew Mercer (Wappingers Falls), Dillon Molloy (Salt Point), Paul Pearson (Wappingers Falls), Julie Potak (Hyde Park), Araceli Rodriguez (Lagrangeville), David Rosencrans (Poughkeepsie), Mandi Sheraden (Poughkeepsie), Matthew Singleton (Poughkeepsie), Kimberly Traudt (Rhinebeck) and Stephanie Woleck (Poughkeepsie).

History, Government and Economics Awards Presented

Dutchess Community College hosted its annual Eugene Sheridan Awards ceremony in April, which honors student achievement in Social Sciences. Patricia E. Keane of Stormville was presented the Ann and Dan Zodikoff Memorial Scholarship in memory of the parents of Rita Alterman, an adjunct member of DCC’s History, Government and Economics (HGE) department.

Two HGE Departmental Awards for Outstanding Achievement in the Social Sciences were presented. They went to Gabrielle M. Lamake of Poughkeepsie and Lea N. Stickley of Red Hook.

The Xavier H. Verbeck Memorial Award was presented to Matthew K. Perry of Rhinebeck, and the Eugene Sheridan Award for Excellence in the Social Sciences was presented to Elizabeth K. Fitzpatrick of Poughkeepsie.
Professor, Staff Member, Four Students Receive Chancellor’s Awards

Science professor Dr. Andrew Scala and Collegiate Science and Technology Entry Program (CSTEP) coordinator Wendy Bohlinger have been awarded 2010 SUNY Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence.

Scala received the Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. He began his career at DCC in 1983 as a part-time instructor in the department of Allied Health and Biological Sciences. In 1987 Scala became a full-time faculty member, primarily teaching General Biology, Microbiology and Genetics. He also served as Department Head of the Allied Health and Physical Sciences Department from 1993 until 2003. In 2007 Scala was awarded the Llelanie Orcutt Endowed Chair for Excellence in Teaching. He completed a two-year, post-doctoral position in Clinical Microbiology at the University of Connecticut Health Center.

Bohlinger received the 2010 Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Professional Service. A graduate of DCC and SUNY Albany, Bohlinger has been the coordinator of CSTEP since 1991. As such, she has advised close to 2,000 under-represented minority and economically disadvantaged students in scientific, technical or health-related fields. Bohlinger also has been an adjunct instructor of biology since 1992 and advisor to the Biology Club since 1995.

Four DCC students were honored with the Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence. Students Danielle Dixon of Wappingers Falls, Jacquelyn Fego of Brewster, Matthew Scanlon of LaGrange and Simmy Williams of Millbrook were among the 228 students from SUNY campuses presented with the award. The Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence was created 13 years ago to recognize students who have best demonstrated, and been recognized for, the integration of academic excellence with accomplishments in the areas of leadership, athletics, community service, creative and performing arts or career achievement.

Jacquelyn Fego, one of four DCC students who won the 2010 Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence.
The men’s basketball team showed relentless drive and energy on the court, competing in one of the toughest regions in the country. The Falcons’ top scorer, Jack Blayney (Millbrook High School) with 528 points, received Second Team All-Conference and Second Team All-Region honors. It was the first All-Region nomination for the men’s basketball program in more than a decade.

The DCC volleyball squad played hard through a rebuilding season. The team’s Katie Slate and Lisa Kristofik were named to the All-Conference First Team.

The baseball squad finished the Division II NJCAA season with an overall record of 20-15 and a league record of 11-9 before falling in the Region XV Tournament. The team batting average was .339. Leading pitchers were John Mallay, who finished 3-1 with a 2.18 ERA and John Newhard, who finished 4-0 with an ERA of 4.94. The team was led in hitting by Michael LaTempa, who batted .450 with 44 runs scored, 41 RBIs, 15 doubles, 2 triples, 5 home runs and 23 stolen bases for the season. He received a nomination as an All-American.

The men’s soccer team finished 11-5-2. After beating Ulster, 4-0 in the first round of Regionals, the Falcons lost to #1-seed Suffolk Community College, 1-0 in the second round. They were paced during the season by Mario Marotta’s seven goals and eight assists. The goalie combination of Jason Lueck and Patrick Moesch combined for six shutouts. Ryan Reynolds, Lueck, James Craft and Paul Cutajar were selected to All-Region XV teams.

The women’s softball team ended the inaugural season on its new field with 16-6 region and 17-9 overall records, a second-place finish in the NJCAA Region XV Tournament and the Region’s Softball Sportsmanship Award. Several players also received postseason accolades for Mid-Hudson Conference, Region XV and NJCAA Tournament play.
Dutchess Community College is committed to offering educational activities to help young people in our community discover challenging and rewarding career paths in science, math, architecture and other areas. The College works with schools throughout our region to encourage development of problem-solving skills and spark healthy competition.

The DCC gymnasium had a futuristic feel in February when it hosted the 2010 Hudson Valley FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League Tournament robotics championship matches. The regional competition features teams of children ages 6-14, who use Lego components to build small robots that complete specific tasks.

The theme for 2010 was “Smart Move,” which focused on transportation systems. The autonomous robots designed by the teams performed tasks involving object collection, manipulation, transportation and safety.

FIRST is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1989 to foster an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Each year, more than 120,000 students in eight countries participate in the League.

Coordinator for the DCC event was Dr. Leah Akins, head of the College’s Engineering, Architecture and Computer Technologies Department.

Girls Explore Opportunities in Math and Science

Givn the enthusiasm of the hundreds of girls who participated in the College’s 14th Annual “Math and Science Matter … Especially for Young Women” program in March, one might forget that science, technology, engineering and math have been historically male-dominated fields.

The initiative, coordinated by Tony Zito, department head of Mathematics, Physical and Computer Sciences, offers hands-on workshops designed to engage girls in grades 5-9 and encourage them to explore careers in those fields. Students conducted experiments, built a model solar car, investigated applications of geometry and explored oceanography.

Magnetic Attraction

The annual magnetic levitation (MAGLEV) competition for middle and high school students got on track this year in November. In its 13th year, the competition is sponsored by DCC’s Department of Math, Physical and Computer Sciences and the Department of Engineering, Architecture and Computer Technology.

Participants design a car that uses magnets for levitation and a propulsion system, such as a battery-powered fan, wind sail or balloon. The students build and then race the cars on tracks lined with oppositely charged magnets to keep the vehicles aloft. The first-place division winners were Tyler Sivulich and Shawn Hegarty of Red Hook High School, Christian Zegarelli, Kaitlin Cavell, Olivia Waters, Olivia May and Kyle Connell of Union Vale Middle School, Matt Vercelletto of Arlington High School and Ericka Paparella of George Fischer Middle School.

Brick by Brick

The DCC gymnasium had a futuristic feel in February when it hosted the 2010 Hudson Valley FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Lego League Tournament robotics championship matches. The regional competition features teams of children ages 6-14, who use Lego components to build small robots that complete specific tasks.

The theme for 2010 was “Smart Move,” which focused on transportation systems. The autonomous robots designed by the teams performed tasks involving object collection, manipulation, transportation and safety.

First is a not-for-profit organization founded in 1989 to foster an appreciation of science and technology in young people. Each year, more than 120,000 students in eight countries participate in the League.

Coordinator for the DCC event was Dr. Leah Akins, head of the College’s Engineering, Architecture and Computer Technologies Department.

Building Relationships

Local high school students interested in architecture came together with professionals in the field when DCC hosted its fourth annual Day of Design in February. The teens worked in groups with a professional architect to develop a concept board and architectural model.

Ten architects volunteered their services for the program and participating students came from school districts including Arlington, Poughkeepsie, Marlboro, New Paltz, Ketcham, Rhinebeck, John Jay, Our Lady of Lourdes, Spackenkill, Dover and Newburgh Free Academy. The program is sponsored by the DCC architecture faculty, the Dutchess Community College Foundation and Catskill Art and Office Supply.

In addition, eight local students won awards in the 18th annual DCC High School Architectural Design Competition in June. The initiative is presented by DCC’s Architectural and Construction Technologies program. The 35 students were judged on their designs for a single-family home on the Hudson River.

Caroline Pushkarsh and Nick Paolozzi of Arlington took first and second place, respectively; Nicholas Velely of Pine Bush came in third.

Both events were coordinated by Dave Freeman, assistant professor and program chair for Architecture.
CC’s Office of Community Services and Special Programs served approximately 10,000 students last year with credit-free courses in career and vocational training, workforce development, GED and ESL, professional and personal development, leisure activities and crafts and sports and fitness.

The Music School at Dutchess Community College remains one of the region’s premier providers of private and group lessons in music and dance, serving children and adults. In the summer Community Services also offers enrichment academies where kids can enjoy science, nature, sports and other activities.

‘Green’ Technology Forum Presents Opportunities

The Dutchess Community College Office of Community Services and the Clean Energy Technology Training Consortium teamed up in January to offer a two-hour information session on careers available in green technologies, and the training needed to get jobs in this emerging field. More than 100 attended the program.

Experts in the green technology field provided an industry overview and talked about why green makes sense not only environmentally, but financially. In addition, an introduction to photovoltaics was presented by Mark Courtney, assistant professor and chair of the DCC Engineering Sciences program. The event ended with breakout sessions highlighting what courses, both credit and credit-free, DCC offers that serve as preparation for a career in green technologies and renewable energy.

Music School Director Lauded for Support of Youth Initiatives

Julie Wegener, director of the Music School at DCC, received an award in June from the national MusicLink Foundation in recognition of the College’s ongoing commitment to providing music instruction scholarships to underserved populations.

The Music School, part of DCC’s Office of Community Services, established the MusicLink Scholarship Program 10 years ago to provide music instruction to low-income students who show musical promise. Since then, dozens of youngsters have been sponsored to participate in tuition-free classes in a wide variety of instruments and voice. The scholarships are funded through initiatives undertaken by the Music School and through private donations.

College Oversees Distribution of Federal Grant

Congressman Maurice Hinchey joined Dutchess Community College and local leaders in June to announce $380,000 in new federal funding for 10 non-profit organizations to run programs that provide mentoring, job training and counseling services for at-risk youth in Dutchess County. DCC’s Office of Community Services was chosen to administer the funds and oversee the 10 organizations and schools that are operating various programs to help keep kids off the streets and provide them with new learning opportunities. “We’re honored that DCC’s reputation as a catalyst for change was recognized, and that we were selected to administer this important grant,” said Dr. Carol Stevens, the College’s Vice-President and Dean of Community Services and Special Programs.

The funds are supporting the following initiatives: New Hope Community Center (after-school, summer and youth leadership programs); Real Skills at Family Partnership (mentoring, mediation and leadership training program); Project Thunder at Vassar College (tutoring and mentoring by college students); Children’s Media Project (media production and technology program); Mill Street Loft (job skills and empowerment programs); Salvation Army (summer camp and after-school programs); Nubian Directions (New Directions YouthBuild mentoring project); Christ Church (camp for children whose parents are incarcerated and re-entry program for previously imprisoned parents and their children); Protect the Dream (after-school program for teens); and Cunneen-Hackett Arts (performing arts programs).

Here Comes the Sun

DCC Engineering Instructor Mark Courtney works with SpectraWatt employees as part of a solar energy training initiative between the business and the College’s Office of Community Services.
Geothermal Class Provides Hands-On Training

The Office of Community Services continues to create “green” courses and provide up-to-date sustainable energy training to businesses. Of particular interest to students was a three-day credit-free course in March about the installation of geothermal heating and cooling systems. The location of the class — Bowne Hall — was especially appropriate, as the building’s temperature is controlled by geothermal technology. Members of the class were able to get an up-close view of an actual working system to supplement material taught in class.

The course combined classroom learning with hands-on training. A step-by-step, closed-loop system design for residential applications was covered, along with geothermal marketing and sales for small and large companies. The class ended with a tour of Bowne Hall’s geothermal facilities.

Summer Brings Kids to Campus

The campus was alive with youngsters over the summer, as hundreds of children participated in sports, art, science, computer, music, storytelling and other activities. Back by popular demand was the Mad Science series, offering experiences with robotics, chemistry, astronomy and more.

Programs Boost Medical Skills

In March, Vassar Brothers Medical Center staff took part in a two-day course at Dutchess Community College designed to enhance the skills needed to accurately and ethically act as a Spanish-language interpreter between doctor and patient. The class was organized through a partnership between the DCC Office of Community Services and the Language Assistance Program at VBMC.

Successful medical interpretation requires not only a full knowledge of the source and target languages, but the ability to analyze the message to ascertain its full meaning and intent beyond the word-for-word translation.

This year, in addition to introductory and advanced classes, DCC offered a special course to provide more training on specific medical areas including health insurance, anatomy and specific disciplines including pediatrics, oncology and cardiology.

For the second year, DCC offered a Patient Care Technician course, an eight-week non-credit class that was a partnership between the College, VBMC and the Dutchess County Workforce Investment Board. The duties of a PCT center around providing support to the nursing staff. Classroom work was done at DCC, while lab work was performed at the hospital. ✤
**Gala Honors Three, Raises Scholarship Funds**

The Dutchess Community College Foundation raises funds to provide scholarships and advance initiatives that have a significant and measurable impact on the educational opportunities provided by the College. Through the generosity of donors and other friends of DCC, the Foundation awarded more than 145 scholarships valued at $300,000 last year.

Anthony Campilii ‘60 and Jeffrey Smith ‘72 were inducted into the DCC Alumni Hall of Fame, and the Bernard Handel Community Leadership Award was presented to Sally Mazzarella.

“DCC was very pleased to award more than $300,000 in student scholarships last year, and it’s events like the gala and the generosity of our donors that make it possible,” said Trish Prunty, executive director of the DCC Foundation. “The lifetime success achieved by this year’s Alumni Hall of Fame inductees is a testament to how DCC positively impacts lives, and the importance of public higher education.”

Campilii graduated from DCC with an A.A.S. and continued to Marist College for a B.A. in Business Administration and M.B.A. He was the vice president of Business Affairs and Chief Financial Officer at Marist, and is the former president and a current member of the Mid-Hudson Chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants.

Smith has been the lead attorney in some of the largest and most significant securities, shareholder and labor cases litigated in recent decades. After earning his two-year degree at DCC (see related story, page 4), he completed his undergraduate education at Vassar College, earned a master’s degree in public policy at Princeton University and graduated from Yale Law School.

Mazzarella is the Treasurer for the Center of Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, on the Board of Directors for the Walkway Over the Hudson and President of the Winnakee Land Trust, of which she is a charter member. Mazzarella has served in leadership roles on more than 10 boards, in some cases holding a position for more than 20 years.

“Sally is just the kind of individual I had in mind when I established this award last year to honor those who are dedicated to service in our community,” said Bernard Handel. “Her accomplishments in volunteer leadership in the Hudson Valley are legendary, and I’m very pleased to present the award to someone so deserving.”

Handel is a longtime supporter of the College and a current member of the DCC Foundation board and has funded two endowed faculty chairs, among many other contributions. In introducing Handel, Dr. Conklin referred to him as “a leader among leaders.”

The Poughkeepsie Journal was among the Gala sponsors.

**Teeing Up for Student Scholarships**

Dutchess Golf and Country Club was packed in May with foursomes hitting the links for a good cause – student scholarships. The Dutchess Community College Foundation’s 21st Annual Golf Tournament and Dinner, in memory of Jack Orcutt, raised approximately $50,000. Orcutt was DCC’s first director of student activities and a founding member of the College staff.

The players in the tournament benefit not only from a great day of golf and camaraderie, but also the knowledge that they’re helping support scholarships for deserving students at DCC. The event committee was co-chaired by Richard Chazen and Michael McCormack.

The team of Mark Fellenzer, James Feraca, Paul Hoffner and Raymond VanVoorhis took first place in the scramble-format tournament, the team of Craig Busby, John Rickert, Roger Smith and Jason Smith came in second, and the team of Dr. D. David Conklin, Mitchell Orcutt, Frank Strickler and Alan Wiecking placed third.

The longest-drive competition was won by Gina DeBonis in the women’s class and James Feraca in the men’s, while closest-to-the-pin honors went to Ryan VanVoorhis.

Llelanie Orcutt was the Event Sponsor, Marshall & Sterling was the Ace Sponsor, Chazen Companies was the Giveaway Sponsor, DCH Toyota of Wappingers Falls was the Hole-in-One Sponsor, Darlind Group and Kirchhoff Consigli Construction Management were Double Eagle Sponsors, and Meyer Contracting Corporation and Rondout Electric, Inc. were Eagle Sponsors.
Going Once …

Festifall, the Foundation’s annual benefit auction, was held in October and grossed more than $50,000.

Exciting trips to locales including Colorado’s Rams Horn Village Resort and Palmas del Mar in Puerto Rico were among the items up for bid. Also on the block were a rocking chair from the 1820s, tickets to the Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, a sunset cruise on the Hudson, gift baskets and artwork; items were valued between $50 and more than $1,000.

Craft Fair Draws More Than 3,000

The Foundation hosted its 38th Annual Craft Fair on Nov. 28 and 29, drawing 3,000-plus visitors and more than 100 artisans and specialty food vendors. Some vendors traveled from across New York state, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and New Jersey to offer their unique items to local residents looking to kick off the holiday shopping season.

Items for sale included fiber arts, fabrics, clothing, candles, soaps and oils, decorative paintings, fine art, toys, collectibles, ceramics, porcelain, jewelry, floral arrangements and works in glass, metal, leather, photography and wood. The event is held every Thanksgiving weekend at the College’s Poughkeepsie campus.

Counseling Association Donates $20,000 for Scholarship

Representatives from the Dutchess County Counseling Association (DCCA) visited Dutchess Community College in February to present College officials with a $20,000 check for the Alexander Cutonilli Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The scholarship, given through the DCC Foundation, was created by Cutonilli’s friends, family and colleagues shortly after his death in 1994. It provides $500 annually to a full-time DCC student from Dutchess County who has demonstrated an interest in community involvement.

A resident of Hyde Park, Cutonilli was a member of the DCC staff for 27 years, working in the Admissions Office and eventually becoming director. He served on numerous committees at the College, and also was an officer of DCCA and a member of the SUNY College Admissions Personnel group, in addition to being active in St. James Episcopal Church.

“We’re very pleased the Dutchess County Counseling Association chose to honor Al Cutonilli with this gift,” said DCC Foundation Executive Director Trish Prunty. “The scholarship fund in Al’s name has helped many students attend Dutchess Community College, and this donation will help ensure many more are able to do the same.”

More Than $6,000 Donated by Dutchess Heritage Quilters

Karen Abramson of Dutchess Heritage Quilters came to Dutchess Community College in December to present a check for $6,300 to President Dr. D. David Conklin and Foundation Executive Director Trish Prunty. The proceeds from the organization’s October 2009 quilt show, co-sponsored by DCC, support the Foundation and its mission.

KeyBank Endows New Scholarship

Early this year, KeyBank donated $2,000 to the Dutchess Community College Foundation for a scholarship intended to help a high-achieving student with a financial need. The award was presented during DCC’s annual pre-graduation Honors Convocation ceremony.

KeyBank selected DCC as the recipient organization because of the College’s reputation for excellence and KeyBank’s mission to support important organizations.
THE MISSION OF DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

is to provide open access to affordable, quality post-secondary education to citizens of Dutchess County and others. As a comprehensive community college, DCC offers college transfer and occupational/technical degree programs, certificate programs, lifelong learning opportunities, and service to the community. The College provides educational experiences that enable qualified students to expand their academic capabilities and further develop thinking and decision-making skills. By providing a full collegiate experience, the College seeks to ensure that all students achieve their individual potential.

DCC alumni who worked on the Chronicle, the student newspaper, reunited on campus last fall to visit the paper’s workspace and meet current Chronicle staff.

Instructor and Fire Science Program Chair David Walsh at a test burn organized with local fire departments to give students the chance to witness firefighting techniques firsthand.

Associate Professor of Visual Arts Pamela Blum presents the Dutchess Heritage Quilters Scholarship to Alteronce Gumby.

Recipients of the Conklin Scholarship for Academic Excellence with Dr. D. David Conklin and Charles E. Conklin.