

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR Jacqueline M. Izzo, Mayor

Rome City Hall, 198 N. Washington Street Rome, New York 13440-5815 Phone: 315-339-7676 Fax: 315-339-7667 mayor@romecitygov.com

November 4, 2016

Rome College Foundation Mary Faith Messenger, President 139 W. Dominick Street Rome, NY 13440

Dear Mary Faith:

On behalf of the citizens of the City of Rome, I would like to congratulate the Rome College Foundation on its 50th Anniversary.

The Rome College Foundation was established to help facilitate postsecondary education in the City of Rome. The Rome College Foundation's signature achievement was the establishment of a branch campus of Mohawk Valley Community College. Today, MVCC having commenced classes in temporary space at Griffiss Air Force Base in the 1970s, will soon christen a \$30 million enhancement to its campus on Floyd Avenue in Rome. The Rome College Foundation is to be applauded for their unwavering support of postsecondary education for students, not only in the City of Rome, but all of Oneida County.

Furthering its mission of supporting higher education throughout Oneida County, the Rome College Foundation also awards scholarships annually to students attending MVCC, Utica College, SUNY Polytechnic Institute, Hamilton College and the Utica School of Commerce.

Additionally, the Foundation also recognizes senior high school students from Rome Free Academy and the NYS School for the Deaf through the Student/Teacher Achievement Recognition (STAR) Program.

In 1984 upon my graduation from Utica College of Syracuse University, I accepted a Staff Assistant position at the Rome Area Chamber of Commerce and part of my duties was to provide staff assistance to the Rome College Foundation. Through this association, I was able to play a small part in the history of this great organization and would like to recognize all those who have served as Foundation members over the 50 years for their tireless dedication to our City schools and institutions of higher learning throughout Oneida County, as well as the Rome Area Chamber of Commerce's continuing staff support of the Foundation.

Again, my sincerest Congratulations on your first 50 years and hopefully Godspeed toward 50 more!

Best Wishes,

lacqueline M. Izzo

Mayor