

Get to know our keynote speaker:



Sherry DePerno

Sherry DePerno, the keynote speaker for the 2015 Women's Career Experience, has a passion for business, American manufacturing and making a difference in the lives of others.

Sherry is the president/chief executive officer of Advanced Tool Inc., founder and CEO of Sherry DePerno: Business Consulting & Training and also the founder and executive director of ALS of Utica.

She has been the recipient of the Faxton Cup award, Volunteer of the Year award by The Genesis Group and The Medical Societies, Excellence in Small Business award by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

She also was recognized in Washington, D.C., as a STEP Ahead honoree by the Manufacturing Institute. This award recognizes women in manufacturing in leadership roles that involve science, technology, engineering, a production.

Inspirational quote:

"Always remember that dreams are put inside of you for a reason. Follow them and be unstoppable."

What is the Women's Career Experience?

Female students in grades 10-12 in the 10 Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES component school districts are encouraged to attend the Women's Career Experience to start thinking about their career opportunities, employability and independence.

The event takes place from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 19, in the lobby at Herkimer BOCES.

The keynote speaker is Sherry DePerno, and the breakout session speakers are Theresa Corr, Kathy Contino-Turner and Andria Heath. Learn more about them in this brochure.



Pictured here, the guest speakers for the first Women's Career Experience in 2014, talk with local students.

Herkimer-Fulton-Hamilton-Otsego BOCES

315-867-2076

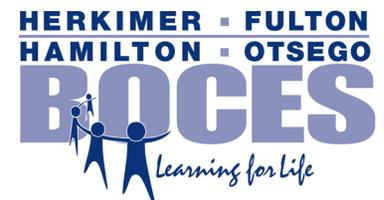
352 Gros Blvd. in Herkimer



Women's Career Experience at Herkimer BOCES



In the main lobby at



352 Gros Blvd. in Herkimer

Get to know our breakout session speakers:



Theresa Corr

Theresa Corr, a 2005 graduate of New Hartford High School, will be one of the event's breakout session speakers.

Theresa went to the Rochester Institute of Technology for two years and left when she realized she wasn't sure if she wanted to be an engineer or if she didn't like RIT.

Theresa went to Mohawk Valley Community College while deciding if engineering was really for her. She graduated with her associate degree in mechanical engineering technology. She then finished her bachelor's degree - graduating in 2011 from the SUNY Polytechnic Institute.

Theresa has worked at Trenton Technology for six years - part-time while in school and full-time after graduating. She is a manufacturing engineer at Trenton. That basically means she very rarely does the same thing on a daily basis. There are days she is fixing machines and other days she is working with the assemblers on the floor.

Being able to do different things every day is what she loves about her job. She never knows what the day is going to bring.

Inspirational quote:

"The harder we work, the luckier we get."



Kathy Contino-Turner

Kathy Contino-Turner started her career out of college as a reporter at WUTR-TV. Within weeks, she was anchoring, and by 1984, she became the youngest female television news director in the United States. During her time at WUTR, ratings increased, finally competing with WKTV and beating the station in several

key demographics. She left the on-air side of television in the mid-1990s with two small children to raise. She then worked in the sales end of TV until the death of her husband from a brain tumor. With two young children to raise, she chose to enter the healthcare field for the first time as the director of clinical marketing at the Sitrin Health Care Center. She also was an adjunct instructor at Herkimer College for three years, teaching "intro to mass media" and "intro to advertising." In 2005, she was approached by the Stevens Swan Humane Society to become executive director there. During her tenure, the society got the facility back on track, the financial house in order and initiated a variety of fundraising and community outreach initiatives. In 2008, she was approached by the Masonic Care Community and took the position of director of communications and marketing, and she still works there today. She received several awards including the YWCA Salute to Outstanding Women and the award in communications, was selected as an outstanding New Yorker by the New York State JayCees and is involved in a number of non-profit organizations. Her two daughters are graduates of the former Ilion High School. Alysa is the marketing director for the Synetic Theater in Washington, D.C., and Erin works for Nestle in metropolitan New York.

Inspirational quotes:

"You will make all kinds of mistakes, but as long as you are generous and true, and also fierce, you cannot hurt the world or even seriously distress her." - Winston Churchill

"Every now and then, life provides us with a defining moment that allows us to prove to ourselves and to the world that we are who we say we are." - Anonymous



Andria Heath

Andria Heath has vast leadership experience with the Utica Zoo, American Red Cross of the Mohawk Valley, Heritage Health Care Center, Folts Homes and the YWCA.

She currently is the executive director of the Utica Zoo, where she is involved with fundraising, financial management, personnel, animal husbandry and more.

Andria served as the executive director of the American Red Cross of the Mohawk Valley from 1997-1999 and 2001-2011. She developed and managed a \$920,000 annual budget to insure quality service delivery while maintaining a zero deficit. She also led a team of 15 paid staff and more than 450 dedicated volunteers, while using a management style that unites employees into a cohesive team with common corporate goals.

Between her two stints with the American Red Cross, Andria worked in the health care field - spending one year as director of volunteers for Folts Homes Health Center in Utica and one year as director of development for the Heritage Health Care Center in Utica.

Prior to joining the American Red Cross, Andria served as director of the YWCA rape crisis/child sexual abuse and domestic violence secondary victim services.

Her college and graduate education includes Herkimer College, Utica College and Syracuse University. She also has been involved with many other professional and community organizations.

Inspirational quote:

*"Treat the world well. It was not given to you by your parents. It was loaned to you by your children."
~Kenyan Proverb~*