

ADMINISTRATIVE AND INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM CHANGES FOR 2011-12

Changes in the MPS administration and the International Program were announced to the faculty and staff on April 15th by school President, **Sr. Mary Ann Bader, RSM.**



Sr. Mary Ann Bader

will become the Director of our International Students. Sr. Mary Ann stated, "No matter how long you or I think someone should continue in a particular job, we have to allow that person to step back, take stock and have the freedom to try something different." Although this is a different role for Ms. Aste, it is not an unfamiliar one.

on April 15th by school President, **Sr. Mary Ann Bader, RSM.**

Ms. Peggy Aste, who has served as our principal for the last 13 years,



Paul Cancilla

Current assistant principal for grades 9-10 and athletics, **Mr. Paul Cancilla**, will claim the role of assistant principal for grades 11-12 and academics, currently held by Mrs. Laughlin.



Ed Curtin

Replacing Cancilla, and becoming the "new face" on the administrative team, will be **Mr. Ed Curtin**. He is the current Department Chair and teacher in the Theology Department.

The role of Director of International Students, previously held by **Sr. Michele Marie Schroeck, RSM**, was newly formed in 2010. Sr. Michele Marie, who left MPS in June, will become the director of The House of Mercy.

Ms. Nordia Brusola, a Sister of Mercy candidate and our part-time bookstore manager, will spend the other half of her work day working with Admissions Director, **Mrs. Marcia DiTullio**.



Deborah Laughlin

as a "creative, capable, approachable administrator, willing to give 100% and more to make sure that what she does is done well and for the good of MPS."

Current assistant principal, **Mrs. Deborah Laughlin**, will assume the role of principal next year.

Sr. Mary Ann described her

2011 SUMMER HOURS:

June 13-August 19:
8 AM-12 PM

July 4:
Closed (official holiday)

August 22-23:
In-service

August 24:
Normal hours 8AM-3:30 PM



Mercy heritage recognized

Foundation Day, observed on December 12th, celebrates the founding of the Sisters of Mercy by Catherine McAuley. To recognize this annual event, our local Sisters of Mercy are invited to a special luncheon held at the school that is also attended by our faculty and staff. **Sr. Teresa Okonski, RSM**, Campus Ministry director, organizes the event.

Our guests are treated to a musical medley performed by our Show Choir, under the direction of **Mr. Art Martone** and **Mrs. Maryanne Mager-Dombrowski**. This special affair is a unique opportunity to celebrate our Mercy heritage and thank the Sisters of Mercy for their priceless contributions and vision in establishing Mercyhurst Prep as the area's largest Catholic co-educational high school.



Dear friends of MPS,

As I write this message to you, I find myself reflecting on the recent 2011 MPS Baccalaureate Mass and graduation exercises. Each year I marvel at the amazing accomplishments our seniors have achieved. Ten graduates completed the rigorous studies required to receive an International Baccalaureate diploma. Dozens more earned IB certificates in one or more subject areas. This is no small feat.



In addition to our fine local colleges, members of the Class of 2011 will also continue their studies at Harvard, Cornell, the University of Chicago, Vanderbilt, Penn State, Xavier University, Boston College, Rochester Institute of Technology, Dickenson, Rutgers, Villanova University, and Syracuse University, to name just a few. Impressive isn't it? Our teachers take their role as educators very seriously. Preparing students for their future is a skill in which they are well-versed.

Imparting the *knowledge* that will serve students well no matter where their future takes them is only part of what we do at MPS. Our chaplain, Fr. Michael Allison, often ends our Masses with a blessing that always stays with me long after the closing song. It speaks to the heart of what we as a Catholic Mercy high school strive to impart to our students.

"May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart.

May God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain in to joy.

And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done."

A graduating class with an average number of 50 service hours per student each year says to me that God will indeed bless them with these gifts.

Now, may God bless each of you and your families for your faithfulness to and support of MPS.

Sincerely,

Sister Mary Ann Bader, RSM
President



News conference with **Sr. Mary Ann Bader, RSM**, announcing the exclusive affiliation with PIA

International Students add cultural diversity

As Northwest Pennsylvania's only International Baccalaureate School for grades 9-12, Mercyhurst Prep has offered this prestigious educational opportunity to area students as well as students from around the globe. Interest and desire for international students wishing to obtain a Mercyhurst Prep education has been rapidly increasing in recent years but a facility to house international students has been lacking. Until now.

A year ago, Mercyhurst Prep developed an exclusive affiliation with the Pennsylvania International Academy. PIA is a Residential and Student Administration Organization with the goal of guiding International coed teen students through a journey that starts with their high school career and ends with their ultimate acceptance into some of the top Universities and colleges in the United States.

This new affiliation enabled 37 international students from 12 different countries including China, Mexico, Korea, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, India, Poland,

Taiwan, Uganda, Rwanda, and Pakistan to attend MPS this year. Numbers for the 2011-12 school-year are expected to be even bigger.

Students will have individualized access to Ms. Peggy Aste, who will take on the role of Director of International Students next year. Specialized classes include English as a Second Language and Educational Cultural Competence.

International students can immerse themselves in the MPS experience and are able and encouraged to participate in athletic, co-curricular and/or social events as well.

The enrichment of having students in the classroom from other countries only enhances the educational experience for all students. As the world becomes more global, the opportunity to learn various world languages, develop international friendships, and learn about different cultures can better prepare all students for the world of the future.

Newly named principal, **Mrs. Deborah Laughlin** stated, "For decades Mercyhurst Prep has sought to foster a global perspective among our students in many ways, chief among them the International Baccalaureate program, which seeks to promote intercultural understanding and respect as an essential part of life in the 21st century. With the advent of our international student program, we have been able to leap forward in this arena, providing myriad social and intellectual opportunities for our American students and staff to learn from, share with, and appreciate students from all over the world. In turn, our international students have had a reciprocal enriching experience."

International students have the opportunity to attend Mercyhurst Preparatory School as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior student for one, two, three or four years. Visit www.mpslakers.com or www.piacademy.org for additional information.

mpscapades

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MPScapades is published two times a year for the Mercyhurst Prep community. We welcome your articles, suggestions and comments. Please direct your correspondence to its editor, **Marcia Izbicki Gensheimer**.

From the desk of Alumni President, *Pat Genung*



Pat Genung

gave us a terrific insight into the changes that accompanied the decision to go co-ed. We also interviewed a member of the Class of '67, the first class to graduate after four years in the new school. This year we will concentrate on Seminary students, those who made the transition from the Seminary to the Prep School, and then the post-1980 grads.

On **Saturday, September 24th**, we will gather again at the school for the **Annual Alumni Recognition Dinner**. In addition to terrific food, we will have entertainment from some talented MPS students. **The Honorable Elizabeth K. "Libby" Kelly '76** and **Arthur "Art" Martone '80** will receive our 2011 Distinguished Alumni Awards for Career and Service respectively.

The Sisters of Mercy will receive our Presidents Award for long term service to the school. We will recognize the alumni who were part of the 1986 State Champion girls basketball team, the 1991 girls and boys State Champion basketball teams, and **Kelly Ervin**, 1986 individual girls tennis State Champion, on their 20 and 25 year anniversaries.

This is a great opportunity to get together with classmates and former teachers and enjoy a mini reunion. **We do the organizing; you just come and enjoy.** What could be better?

This year eight classes will be celebrating reunions. This is a wonderful way to reminisce high school days.

We are rapidly filling the positions on our expanded Alumni Association Board of Governors. Three new members join us this year: **Amy Baushard '01**, **Jessica Jelinek '05**, and **Suzanne Schaaf Lichtenwalter '87**. It's great to see the post-2000 alumni coming on board. Other BoG Members include **Dennis Borczon '70**, **Tony Bruno '02**, **Natalie Dwyer-Haller '70**, **Pat Genung '67**, **Tim Klan '90**, **Sr. Joan McCabe '51**, **Patty Pedano '58**, **Ken Regenor '81**, **Judy Rosatti '80**, and **Kerry Sedelmyer '91**, **Marilee Warner '78**. Additionally, the current MPS Senior Class President, **Lydia Lathe '12**, is an ex-officio member of the BoG as is **Marcia Izbicki Gensheimer '71**, Director of Public Relations and Alumni Affairs. Our BoG represents the many parts of the MPS family – parents of current students, faculty members, alumni from every decade since the 1950s, the Sisters of Mercy, and current students.

We have one position left on the BoG. If you are interested in serving, or you know someone you think would be interested, please let us know. This is a great way to serve our Alma Mater.

On May 26th, the **Class of 2011** received their alumni T-shirts and joined the alumni family.

We are looking forward to seeing all the alumni who graduated on or before 1961 at the **Golden Anniversary Luncheon on Friday, August 12.**

Work on **our history of Mercyhurst Seminary/Preparatory School** continues. During the winter we interviewed members of the Classes of '74-78. The "first boys" and the "girls" who were their classmates

gave us a terrific insight into the changes that accompanied the decision to go co-ed. We also interviewed a member of the Class of '67, the first class to graduate after four years in the new school. This year we will concentrate on Seminary students, those who made the transition from the Seminary to the Prep School, and then the post-1980 grads.

THE MERCYHURST SEMINARY/PREPARATORY SCHOOL ALUMNI BOARD OF GOVERNORS

Invites you to celebrate the Traditions in Excellence of our outstanding alumni

Distinguished Alumni Award Recipients:

Honorable **Elizabeth (Libby) Kelly '76** - Career

Arthur (Art) Martone '80 – Service

Presidents Award:

Sisters of Mercy – alumni, current and former faculty, administrators and staff

The following teams and individuals will be recognized on their anniversary years:

25 years - **1986 State Champion girls' basketball team**

25 years – **Kelly Ervin Maslar '87** – **1986 State Champion girls' tennis**

20 years - **1991 State Champion boys' basketball team**

20 years - **1991 State Champion girls' basketball team**

NOTE:

The Alumni Recognition Dinner Saturday, September 24th, 2011 at Mercyhurst Preparatory School



Catholic Schools Week Liturgy

Celebrating our Mercy Catholic heritage

Mercyhurst Prep was very much a part of this year's national celebration of Catholic Schools Week, January 31 to February 4. Central to our school was the traditional alumni/administration participation in an all-school liturgy with **Father Michael Allison**, the school's chaplain, as the main presider, and with the honoring of **Mrs. Maryanne Dombrowski**, a long-serving dance teacher.

Students again responded enthusiastically to a three-day Food Drive which benefited the Second Harvest Food Bank. During lunches students enjoyed special treats of pizza, sundaes, and playing a "Corn Toss" game. The week climaxed with a fun movie in the gym.

Throughout the week, students could purchase a ticket that gave them the right to dress in different, designated, novel ways each day. All proceeds from this ticket sale were donated to Mercy Beyond Borders, a Mercy ministry that directs education for the young women in Southern Sudan.

The entire week of fun and community caring activities followed well our 2011 MPS Catholic Schools Week theme: CATHOLIC EDUCATION: LEADING TO A BRIGHT FUTURE. All served as a reminder of the privilege, thanks to our students' parents, for being a part of the national circle of Christian, Catholic students who learn in a faith-filled environment.

Campus Store

Are you looking for a gift for a friend of family member? Be sure to keep the MPS Campus Store in mind for gift ideas. **Ms. Nordia Brusola**, store manager, has recently ordered many new items including alumni wear.

Photos of items are posted on our website and can be purchased on-line. Check www.mpslakers.com or stop in the Campus Store to look firsthand at the selection.

Summer Campus Store hours by appointment; call 814-824-2069. During the school-year, hours are 8:00 AM -3:30 PM daily.



Mike Amory '05 and Kerry Rovegno Sedelmyer '91 model some of the new alumni wear



- * Basketball Clinics
- * SAT Prep
- * Summer Educational Experience for Kids, (SEEK)

- * High school and middle school remediation
- * High school preparation classes beginning August 1



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for more information
Main line: 814-824-2210

Mark your calendars for an Alumni Art Show

Former Mercyhurst Prep Art Seminar students are participating in an Alumni Art Show at the 1020 Holland Street Gallery in Erie. Over 40 alumni artists from the 1980s until present are participating. Works will be on display from June 17th until the middle of July. Gallery hours are Thursday/Friday/Saturday 12:00-5:00 or by appointment.

Aura Scholarship continues to make a difference



The 2011-12 school-year Aura recipients in each of the four grades will include (front) **Christyann Cosio '15**, **Blanca Ortiz '14**, **Kassandra de Leon '13**, and **Blanca Miranda '12**, and; (back) **Betsy Monsalve**, **Jasiris Boccheciamp '11** and **Marco Monsalve**



Jasiris Boccheciamp '11, (middle) is the first Aura Scholarship student to complete four years of a Mercyhurst Prep education. She presented **Betsy** (far left) and **Marco Monsalve** (far right) with a framed silk screened tee shirt created in **Mrs. Chris Bowler's** art class.

Mercyhurst Prep announced a new scholarship opportunity for Hispanic girls back in December 2006. Through the generosity of donors **Betsy** and **Marco Monsalve**, who provided the initial funding for this scholarship and the Sisters of Mercy, who joined them, one Hispanic freshman girl would be selected each year for eleven years to receive the Aura Scholarship, covering all tuition and fees for four years at Mercyhurst Prep.

The Monsalves stated, "We established the Aura Scholarship to assist Hispanic-American girls to continue their education through college and become dynamic professional women influencing American life. The Scholarship was founded to honor our mothers **Aura Maria Romero de Monsalve** and **Marie Elizabeth Austin Roeback** for the lifelong love of learning that they instilled in each of us."

The first recipient of the of the Aura Scholarship, **Jasiris Boccheciamp**, graduated in May and is most grateful

for the benefits the Aura Scholarship has bestowed upon her. She stated, "This scholarship meant a lot to me. It gave me the opportunity to receive the best education in the city and taught me many life lessons. Without it, I wouldn't be the person I am today or have achieved so much. It was the best opportunity imaginable and I feel very lucky and blessed to have been a recipient of the Aura Scholarship."

Jasiris plans to enter the pre-pharmacy program at Gannon University. She was named to the honor roll and graduated from MPS as an International Baccalaureate (IB) candidate in French and world religions. She also earned three college credits for studies in psychology.

Student candidates who apply for the Aura Scholarship candidates must meet general criteria: the student should be female, 16 years of age or younger with Hispanic heritage and surname, one who demonstrates literacy in spoken and written English, is college-bound, and successfully completes eighth grade and satisfies requirements for admission to Mercyhurst Prep.

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If you're in Erie August 18-21 for the "CELEBRATE ERIE" festival, be sure to walk downtown State Street and look for the Chalk Walk drawing of the Mercyhurst Prep School - Your Bright Future" drawing. This theme has been used in our advertising campaign. Students **Brian Skelly '12**, **Ben Tarcon '12** and **Caleb Payne '13** will complete the chalk rendering under the direction of art teacher, **Mrs. Chris Bowler**.



Mercyhurst Prep athletes and coaches smile proudly after winning the Varsity Cup. L to r (back): **Becca Costello '11**, soccer coach **Pedro Argaez**, soccer coach and social studies teacher **Doug Bakka**; (middle): swim coach and math teacher **Paula Allshouse**, **Marie Georger '12**, **Sara Carlucci '13**, **Lauren Elia '12**, **Sara Kaiser '13**, **Jess Armogast '12**, **Erin Wienczkowski '11**, **Emma Kaiser '11**, **Aaron Horton '11**, **Margo Dailey '11**, Athletic Director and girls basketball coach **Dan Perfetto '91**, **Kaylin Akerly '11**; (seated) **Cassie Geiger '13**, **Kendall Schaetzle '13**, **Stephanie Warner '11**, **Bailey Jordan '13**, **Ally Segel '13**, **Gabby Malone '11** and **Christine Haverly '11**. Photo credit - **ROB ENGELHARDT/Erie Times-News**

Another First for the 'Hurst

The *Erie Times News* headline said it best in its proclamation, "Lakers win big in first Varsity Cup."

The Varsity Cup is a new award initiated by the *Erie Times News* to recognize outstanding high school athletic programs. Mercyhurst Prep claimed the inaugural Varsity Cup by accumulating the highest point total of 355 in the three-seasons total. The next closest contender had 340 points.

Scoring for the Varsity Cup included points for teams that qualified for District 10 postseasons: five points for qualifying, five points for each successive win until the championship round. Teams earned 50 points for winning a district title or 25 points for being runner-up. If a third place- or lower-finishing team qualified for PIAA postseason play based on District 10 finish, that team was awarded 10 points. The six teams from each school that scored the most points were used to reach the final standings.

Other nominations for Varsity Cup categories included "Team of the Year," "Rookie of the Year," "Coach of the Year,"

"Fan Favorite," "Comeback Player of the Year," and "Male & Female Athletes of the Year."

MPS won three categories: "Female Athlete of the Year" - **Marie Georger '12** for swimming, "Team of the Year" - girls soccer team (tied with Villa Maria's girls basketball) and "Coach of the Year" - **Pedro Argaez** - girls soccer coach.

We had three of the six nominations for "Male & Female Athletes of the Year" - **Becca Costello '11** (soccer), **Marie Georger '12** (swimming) and **Aaron Horton '11**, (football), who was also nominated as "Fan Favorite."

"The Phantom of the Opera" extraordinarily successful

Our Performing Arts Department proudly presented the Erie premier of "Phantom of the Opera" in April. The massively successful production included a cast/orchestra of over 110 students, who performed to sell-out crowds.

This undertaking was technically, vocally, and instrumentally challenging, according to **Mr. Art Martone**, Performing Arts Chairperson and Director of Phantom and alumnus. Additionally the set made use of two trap doors, a giant staircase, and a 300 pound chandelier, especially ordered for the show.

Rave reviews were issued nightly and phone calls were received at the school from numerous theatre-goers who compared the MPS performance to one they had seen on Broadway and/or Toronto!

Many alumni were involved in this most famous and longest running musical of all time including **Brandon Moffatt '04** (facial make-up), **Emily Olszewski '10** (costumes), **Rachel White '04** and **Kyle Lane '06** (orchestra) **Theresa Tonelli '01** (set) and of course the director and musical director.

Major kudos to **Mr. Art Martone '80**, musical director and teacher, **Mr. Mike Miele '03**, and dance teacher and choreographer **Mrs. Maryanne Mager-Dombrowski** for their professional direction and enthusiastic labor of love in heading up this enormous undertaking that proved most successful.



Jillian Johannes '13 played the part of Christine and **Eddie Baxter '11** was cast as The Phantom

2011 GRADUATES

Bishop's Excellence Award



Christine Haverly

McAuley Awards



Edward Baxter



Bethany Woll

MPS Award



Andrew Bell

Jennifer Adams
 Kaylin Akerly
 Jeffrey Annunziata
 Lauren Aronica
 Kerri Barron
 Jenna Bauer
 Edward Baxter
 Jenna Bekeny
 Andrew Bell
 Sara Benczkowski

Edinboro University
 John Carroll University
 Mercyhurst College
 Penn State University Park
 Allegheny College
 Penn State University Park
 Kenyon College
 University of Chicago
 Clemson University
 Daeman College

Julia Bensur
 Jasiris Boccheciamp
 Ian Borczon
 Kayla Brewington
 Kelley Brown
 Julie Burger
 Allison Burke
 Carling Burke
 Philip Cacchione
 Meaghan Cafferty
 Gianna Carlotti
 Angela Carlucci
 Tiffany Carrier
 Erin Carroll
 Rachel Clark
 Morgan Clelland
 Danielle Comer
 DeAndre Connor
 Rebecca Costello
 Hannah Cross
 Kelsey Cross
 Brandon Czerwinski
 Lindsey D'Andrea
 Margo Dailey
 Nicholas Decker
 James Desin
 Amanda Dougherty
 Alexis Fagley
 Jordan Felice
 Caitlin Flatley
 Dana Formaini
 Florence Fournier
 Nicole Franz
 Connor Frawley
 Samantha Fugagli
 Alethea Gaarden
 Tarynn Garnon
 Justin Giannamore
 Elizabeth Gilkinson
 Nancy Greenleaf
 Nicole Grychowski
 Alain Habimana
 Christine Haverly
 Kelly Hedderick
 Samantha Heller
 Brian Hendrickson

Cornell University
 Gannon University
 Xavier University
 Penn State University Park
 West Virginia University
 Mercyhurst NE
 Penn State Behrend
 Clarion University
 Gannon University
 Penn State University Park
 Edinboro University
 Edinboro University
 Gannon University
 Gannon University
 College of Wooster
 Waynesburg University
 Gannon University
 Gannon University
 Edinboro University
 Allegheny College
 Edinboro University
 Penn State Behrend
 Mercyhurst College
 Michigan State University
 Penn State Behrend
 Capital University
 North Carolina State University
 Gannon University
 Gannon University
 Mercyhurst College
 IUP
 Xavier University
 Gannon University
 University of Indianapolis
 Penn State University Park
 Mercyhurst College
 Edinboro University
 Edinboro University
 Mercyhurst College
 Southern Methodist University
 Robert Morris University
 George Mason University
 Boston College
 Kent State University
 Gannon University
 Gannon University

Congratulations

Evan Herdzik	Slippery Rock University	Nathaniel Ropski	Gannon University
Bradley Hesch	Penn State Behrend	Shane Saginak	Fort Lewis College
Lal Hnamte	Rochester Institute of Technology	Christopher Say	Penn State Behrend
Grace Holland	John Carroll University	Liam Schober	Rutgers University-New Brunswick
Rachel Honard	University of Rochester	Christopher Schwartz	Clarion University
Aaron Horton	Eastern Carolina University	Maria Scrimenti	Penn State Behrend
Jordan Jaskiewicz	Mercyhurst College	Caryn Sennett	Dickinson College
Elizabeth Kager	Slippery Rock University	Alex Shaloiko	Clarion University
Emma Kaiser	Duquesne University	Angela Simora	Kent State University
Adam Kelly	Duquesne University	Nicole Skarupski	Gannon University
Robert Kennedy	Penn State Behrend	Lauren Skrypzak	Gannon University
MacKenzie Kitcey	Edinboro University	Mariah Spagel	Clarion University
Alexandra Kleckner	Cleveland State University	Alexis Spoden	Mercyhurst College
Justine Koehler	University of Pittsburgh	Lindsay Stamp	Mercyhurst College
Hillary Krill	Denison University	Zofia Stark	Villanova University
Christopher Kurzik	Youngstown State University	Piotr Stepniak	Penn State University Park
Jongyoon Lee	University of Indiana	Riley Stetson	Penn State University Park
Constance Lyons	Edinboro University	Emily Swanson	Grove City College
Sharon Maas	Slippery Rock University	Victoria Tarcson	Slippery Rock University
Hailey MacDonald	Edinboro University	Jordan Taylor	Mercyhurst College
Amy Majewski	Cleveland State University	ShaQuyena Thrower	Mercyhurst NE
Adam Malinowski	Cleveland State University	Erin Tighe	Penn State Behrend
Gabryel Malone	IUP	Matthew Tobin	Mercyhurst College
Celeste Marcoline	Duquesne University	Carly Toscano	Edinboro University
Jocelyn Masci	Edinboro University	Simone Warner	Gannon University
Kaila Matlock	Edinboro University	Stephanie Warner	Harvard University
Andrea Mazzocchi	Rochester Institute of Technology	Branden Wawrzyniak	Syracuse University
Jesse Medina	Gannon University	Gina Wawrzyniak	D'Youville College
Richard Mielnik	Penn State Behrend	Erin Wienczkowski	Baldwin-Wallace College
Renae Mittelmeier	Mercyhurst College	Amanda Wiertel	Penn State Behrend
Kyle Mohr	Thiel College	Philip Wilcox	Mercyhurst College
Estrella Molina	Gannon University	James Williams	Mercyhurst College
Daniel Mulindwa	Kukkiriza undecided	Carla Winschel	Edinboro University
Kathleen Murzynski	Penn State Behrend	Bethany Woll	Edinboro University
Zachary Murzynski	Penn State University Park	Julia Yurkovic	University of Rochester
Jae-Joon Nam	SUNY at Buffalo	Michael Yurkovic	University of Rochester
Ryan Naylor	Penn State University Park		
Demi Nguyen	University of Southern California		
Nathan Nitzczynski	Thiel College		
Emily Ott	Kent State University		
Zachary Palmer	Allegheny College		
Elenora Pertz	Vanderbilt University		
Daniel Pollock	Mercyhurst College		
Andrew Pregler	Syracuse University		
Tyler Pullium	Slippery Rock University		
Anthony Rentz	undecided		
Jessica Ridge	Clarion University		



Employees with their student graduates



L to r: Theology teacher **Mrs. Judy Johns**, **Carly Toscano '11** and **Emily Ott '11** with math teacher **Mrs. Jen Ott**.

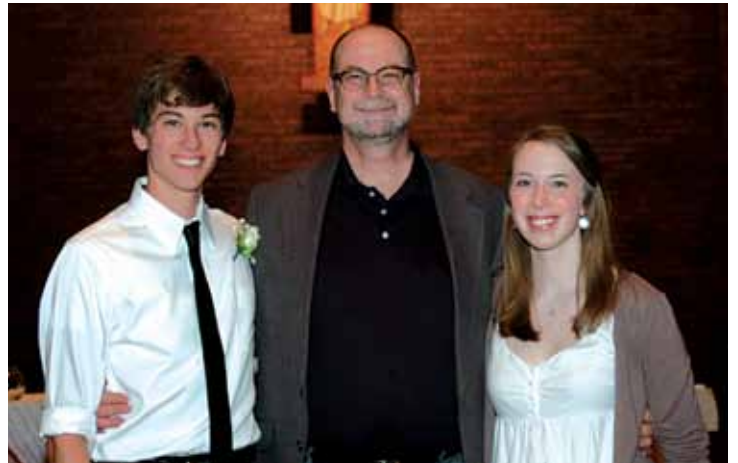


Metz employees who work in the MPS Dining Hall
L to r (front): **Yvonne Wawrzyniak** and **Pattie Kuzma Taylor '90**;
(back) **Branden Wawrzyniak '11** and **Jordan Taylor '11**

Alumni with graduating seniors



L to r: **Alicia Bekeny '06**, **Erika Bekeny del Nido '02**, **Jenna Bekeny '11** and **Judy Skrzypczak Bekeny '07**. All four Bekeny women were Valedictorians of their graduating classes.



Ian Borczone '11, **Dennis Borczone '76**, and **Eileen Borczone '10**



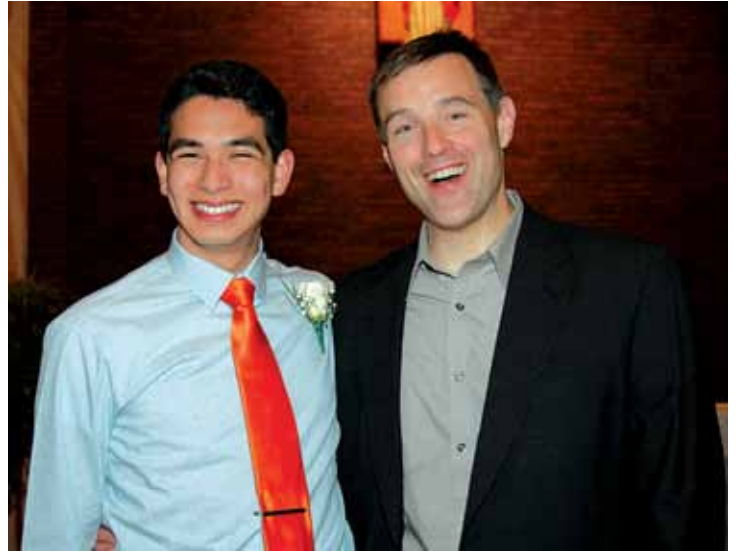
Christine Alexander Brown '82 and **Kelley Brown '11**



Dina DiStefano Burke '80, **Ally Burke '11**, **Carling Burke '11**, and **Stephen Burke '82**



Judy Dahlkemper Dailey '77 and Margo Dailey '11



Andrew Pregler '11 and Dr. Frank Pregler '80



Stephanie Wieczorek Forish '83 and Evan Herdzik '11



(front): Shelly Buterbaugh Say '86 and Jillian Say '12; (back): Sean Say '08 and Christopher Say '11



Jay Honard '86, Rachel Honard '11 and grandmother Rose Marie Aquino Bihler '60



(front): future MPS student Rebecca Skrypzak; (back): Steve Skrypzak '81, Linda Kuzma Skrypzak '85 and Lauren Skrypzak '11



Pattie Kuzma Taylor '90 and Jordan Taylor '11



Gina Wawrzyniak '11 and Chiara Purvis Wawrzyniak '79



Richard Wienczkowski '81, Erin Wienczkowski '11 and Janell Harrington Wienczkowski '82



Michael Yurkovic '11, Deborah Piasecki Yurkovic '78 and Julia Yurkovic '11

NOTE: Missing from photos were *Mark Adams '79, Jennifer Adams '11 and Laura Howells Kitcey '84 and Mackenzie Kitcey '11*



International Baccalaureate Diploma Candidates for 2011 include (l to r):
Liam Schober, Christine Haverly, Jenna Bekey, Nora Pertz, Eddie Baxter, Samantha Fugagli, Mike Yurkovic, Caryn Sennett, Julia Bensur and Zofia Stark

REUNIONS 2011-2012

If your year of graduation ends in a "2" or a "7" this is an anniversary year for your class but any year could be a "reunion" year! Class officers typically plan reunions, but anyone is encouraged to gather a group and plan a gathering. If you have questions, please contact Marcia at mgensheimer@mpslakers.com or call **814-824-2067**.

established an Email account just for the class of 1976. Please send your current information; address, email, Facebook, etc. to mercyhurst1976@yahoo.com or connect with me **Lynne Karle Wright** through my Facebook page. We are hoping for a great turnout and are looking forward to seeing everyone. So save the date, dust off your old school photos and plan on joining us.

CLASS OF 1951 – 60TH ANNIVERSARY – AUGUST 12

Friday, August 12

Class will celebrate along with the Golden Anniversary class (see below) We're looking for **Maureen Reagan Trippe '51**. Please contact **Marcia Bailey '51** at eriegirl@aol.com.

CLASS OF 1961 - GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON – 50TH REUNION – AUGUST 12

Friday, August 12

10 a.m. tour of Mercyhurst Prep
11 a.m. Mass at the Motherhouse
12:15 p.m. Lunch at the Erie Yacht Club
RSVP by August 5 to 814-824-2067

CLASS OF 1968 – 43RD REUNION, CELEBRATING 60! JULY 1 & 2

Calling all grads from the Class of '68 ... how about a 43 year reunion to celebrate 60?! Interested? We're looking for **Christine Kanoza Aftewicz, Mary Claire Dwyer Bohrer, Terry White**. Send all current information to **Anne Bressan Francani** at afrancani@aol.com or 814-450-5703. Reunion questions go to **Jeannie Musarra Behan '68** jeannebn@aol.com or 814-449-7193.

July 1

casual get together @ Calamari's

July 2

4 p.m. tour of Mercyhurst Prep
5 p.m. Liturgy at Mercyhurst College -
Fr Mike Allison celebrant
Dinner at the Yacht Club

CLASS OF 1971 – 40TH REUNION – JULY 1-3

Friday, July 1, 2011

7 p.m. Informal gathering at Calamari's

Saturday, July 2, 2011

4 p.m. tour of Mercyhurst Prep
6 p.m. Erie Yacht Club

Sunday, July 3, 2011

10:30 a.m. Mass at the Motherhouse
(444 East Grandview Blvd.)
Check Facebook for additional information. **Contact Janice DiLuzio** at JMDULIZIO@aol.com or **Marcia Izbicki Gensheimer** at mgensheimer@mpslakers.com or 814-824-2067

CLASS OF 1976 – 35TH REUNION - AUGUST 13

Hear Ye, Hear Ye..... Graduates of the Class of 1976! Believe it or not 2011 will mark 35 years since we graduated! We can hardly believe it ourselves! The date is set and the reunion will be on **August 13th, 2011**, at the Erie Yacht Club. For the past 10 months the committee has diligently been collecting information on all of our classmates. We have

CLASS OF 1981- 30TH REUNION – JULY 8 & 9

7 p.m. **July 8** Plymouth
7 p.m. **July 9** Dinner at Jr's on the Bay
Contact **Ken Regenor** at **814-490-2108** or **Annette Vacanti Cullen** at **814-397-6956**

CLASS OF 1986 – 25TH REUNION – JULY 15-17

July 15, 16, 17

July 15th

7 p.m. Casual gathering at Calamari's.
July 16th Dinner at The Maennerchor
July 17th 9 a.m. tour Mercyhurst Prep.
Mary Kroto Anderson – 630-450-4923

CLASS OF 1991 – 20 YEAR REUNION – JULY 22 & 23

Pre-event – July 22

Calamari's
8-11 p.m.

JULY 23, 2011

7-11 p.m.
Lawrence Park Golf Club
Dinner & dancing
Invitations will be by evites. Please send email addresses to **Kerry Rovegno Sedelmyer** – ksedelmyer@mpslakers.com for more information.

2011 ALUMNI RECOGNITION DINNER, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 AT MERCYHURST PREP

2011 BLACK FRIDAY BASH FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, (DAY AFTER THANKSGIVING) AT CALAMARI'S

CLASS NOTES:

Big news, little moments or just a friendly hello...we would like to hear from you. If you send us the birth notices, we will send your baby a special MPS tee. Email mgensheimer@mpslakers.com.

1950s

SR. JOAN MCCABE '51 will be celebrating her 60th Jubilee on the morning of September 24th. Congratulations!

1960s

SUSAN VEIHDEFFER VOGT '65 recently published her 4th book titled "Parenting Your Adult Child: Keeping the Faith (And Your Sanity)". The book has been published by St. Anthony Messenger Press. Susan said, "It is about the life transitions that young adults make and how their parents can be supportive without interfering. Visit www.SusanVogt.net for additional information.

KATE FEEHLEY ALLISON '69 was selected by Mercy Center for Women as one of the Dynamic Dozen of 2011 at the 19th Women Making History program held in April.

1970s

JULIA DEMARCO PERSINGER '70 and husband Joseph were blessed with two grandchildren in February, Michael Lisa II and Madeline Persinger.

KAREN BUKOWSKI '75 is a certified instructor by the Ladies Professional Golf Association and the Professional Golfers' Association. Karen turned pro five years ago.

Laurie Root '75 is back in Erie and working as the Vice President of Major Gifts and Planned Giving at the United Way. Previous jobs have taken her to Washington, DC, Seoul, South Korea, Brussels, Belgium, and Fairfax, Virginia.

KATHLEEN POLANSKI NOCE, PH.D '78 was chosen by Mercy Center for Women as one of the Dynamic Dozen of 2011 at the 19th Women Making History program held in April.

1980s



Jodi Hutchison and Scott Wiley

JODI HUTCHISON '86 and **SCOTT WILEY '80** were two alumni selected out of 206,000 employees at United Technologies, to attend a 10-day executive leadership course at The University of Virginia's Darden School of Business. They were among a class of 53 UTC executives during the 2011 Spring semester. Wiley, director, Global Product Management for UTC's Fire and Security division and Hutchison, director, Communications, Hamilton Sundstrand, lead their organizations in Florida and Connecticut, respectively

and met during the welcome reception at Darden. Both Scott and Jodi have thanked MPS for their superb educations and strong foundations.

DIANA PALOTAS '83 is the co-host and producer of "The CEO Hour" on WS Radio.com and community relations coordinator for Monroe County's District Attorney's Office in Rochester, NY.

MICHELE STROMENGER SULLIVAN '87 and husband David are proud of daughter, Bailey, who placed second at the Punt, Pass & Kick Kansas City Chief's Team Competition. She qualified by winning both the Gretna competition and the regional competition in Lincoln, NE. As a result of her qualification, Bailey also participated in a passing exhibition at halftime of the Chiefs and Broncos game and had her name and picture announced over the Jumbotron screen.



Bailey Sullivan

1990s



(l to r back): Steve Potthoff (Angie's father), Sammy Hogan (nephew); (front): Maria Potthoff (mother), Ellie (daughter) and Angie Potthoff

ANGIE POTTHOFF '92 was honored as the Woman of the Year at the Erie Chapter of the Notre Dame Club. The banquet was held at the Erie Kawkwa Club in Erie. Angie was a star player on the MPS and Penn State basketball teams. After college she played for the American Basketball League and the Women's National Basketball Association. In 1999, she was named Erie Times News Female Athlete of the Century. Angie just completed her third season as assistant to Notre Dame women's coach, Muffet McGraw.

MIKE MOSKALCZYK '93 is a senior network support specialist at St. Vincent Health Center.

KERSTI MINOR MENCHACA '94 graduated 1st in her class in May from the Basic Diversion Investigator training program at the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Training Academy in Quantico, VA. The DEA is a federal law enforcement agency under the United States Department of Justice. As a diversion investigator, Kersti will be responsible for managing extensive regulatory and criminal cases. As the highest ranking member of her class, she was able to choose where she would like to work. She will be assigned to California and then Phoenix, Arizona.

JOE FALLON '99 is the new fleet and commercial specialist at Dave Hallman Chevrolet in Erie. He and brother Brian '96 own FBI Landscaping.

EMILY GENSHEIMER '99 married **JARED FERKO '01** on July 10, 2010 at St. Stanislaus Church in Erie. **Beth Gensheimer '03**, sister of the bride, served as maid of honor. **Kara Frankhauser Rourke '99** served as matron of honor. **Justin Ferko '99**, brother of the groom, was best man. Emily attended Carnegie Mellon University and graduated from Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design in 2003 with a BSA in industrial design. She is employed at Remington in Madison, WI, as a products industrial designer for women's global hair care. Jared served two tours of duty in Iraq as a satellite communications team leader in the United States Army. He graduated cum laude from DePaul University in May with a BS in network technology. Emily is the daughter of **Marcia Izbicki Gensheimer '71**, public relations/alumni director at MPS.



Emily and Jared Ferko

EMILY MATSON '99 received a Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters award for Outstanding Public Service Campaign, WICU's (local affiliate television station) Officer of the month series in May. The television station had teamed with the Erie County District Attorney's Office since 2009, to recognize Erie County Law Enforcement Officers. Emily accepted the award in Harrisburg, PA.



Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters 2011 Hall of Fame inductee Joe McGranhan and Emily Matson



Laura and Dustin Whitney

LAURA LEE VEIHDEFFER '99 and Dustin Warren Whitney were married on Saturday, August 28, 2010 at St. Luke Church. The reception was held at the Bayfront Convention Center. Family and friends came from 22 states and 5 countries; many of whom Laura and Dusty have met over their many travels. Laura is a graduate of Indiana University of PA with a bachelor's degree in studio art. She earned a master's degree in mass communications from San Jose State University and she is currently

pursuing a doctorate in organizational leadership at Argosy University. Dusty is a graduate of Indiana University of PA where he earned a bachelor's degree in communications. The couple honeymooned in Punta Cana and is currently residing in Pittsburgh, where they are both employed at Education Management Corporation.

2000s

NICK ADAMS '01 recently won two Audience Choice Awards for Favorite Diva Performance and Breakthrough Performance. He is starring at the Palace Theatre on Broadway in *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*, playing the role of Adam/Felicia. Go to www.priscillathemusical.com for additional information. Nick's other credits include: Broadway: *A Chorus Line*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Chicago* and *The Pirate Queen*. TV and Film credits include: *Sex and the City 2*, *An Englishman in New York*, "As the World Turns," "Guiding Light," "Dancing with the Stars," "Rosie Live," "The Kennedy Center Honors" and "The Tony Awards." Concerts: Birdland, Erie Philharmonic, Boston Pops, Cincinnati Pops. Training: BFA Boston Conservatory. Nick has been featured in several national media outlets including the covers of *Dance Spirit* and *Instinct Magazine*. Visit www.nickadams.biz for more information.

JESSICA DONATI HORENSTEIN '01 earned her master gardener certificate in PA before leaving for Boston, MA, in June 2010. A Zookeeper at the Franklin Park Zoo in the Avian Department, Jess is also an intern at the Harvard Museum of comparative zoology in the ornithology department. Otherwise you'll find her jogging with "Harriet" the family Irish wolfhound or playing defense for the adult co-ed soccer team "Iliad." Her husband Jeffrey is an emergency medicine resident at Harvard's Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.

ERIK REITINGER '01 was featured in a front page article of the *Erie Times News* sports section on April 18. He is a teacher in Philadelphia and



Erik Reitingers' talents featured on front page

finds time and energy to compete in triathlons and duathlons. He finished 10th overall and 2nd in the men's 25-29 age class of the Powerman Alabama USAT Long-Course Duathlon in March. Erik earned a spot on the U.S. team for the Short Course Dualthon World Championships to be held in Gijon, Spain, September 24-25. Good luck Erik!



Andy and Danielle Banducci

ANDY BANDUCCI '02 married Danielle Traister on March 26 in West Conshohocken, PA. The couple had been dating since college days at Penn State. Danielle is a graduate of the University of Chicago Law School, employed as an attorney with The Tucker Law group in Philadelphia. Andy graduated in 2009 from the University of Michigan Law School. He is currently a Professional Staff Member for the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives.

KYLE BENTLEY '03, a third grade teacher in inner-city Philadelphia, was selected to participate in the NBC News Education Nation, Teacher Town Hall event on June 5 at the National Constitution Center.



Jill Myers and Justin Myers

JILL ECK '03' married Justin Myers on September 4, 2010 during an intimate outdoor wedding in Grand Prairie, Texas, where the couple currently resides. In attendance were **Beth Gensheimer '03** and **Bethany Shaffer '00**, fellow MPS classmates who also reside in Texas.



(far right) **Claire Natale** on the television set of the television series "Body of Proof" with star (middle) Dana Delaney and another actor

CLAIRE NATALE '04 made her television debut on May 10th on ABC's new drama *Body of Proof*. ("Buried Secrets"). Claire played Ella Sherman, a lacrosse player for the fictional Penn Hills College. Claire also starred as Michelle in the short film *Before We Get to Seattle*, which is currently an official selection at many film festivals throughout the country. She attended a screening for the film at the 2nd annual Soho International Film Festival. For more information visit www.clairenatale.com.

ELLEN FISHER R.D., L.D.N., '05 passed the Commission on Dietetic Registration exam in May 2010 and holds several state licensures. She has been working as the corporate staff dietitian for Aladdin Food Management Services, a top 20 foodservice company in the US based out of Wheeling, WV. Most recently during March 2011 for National Nutrition Month, she traveled to a number of the schools where her company oversees the food service in nine different states, conducting nutrition exhibits and presentations for their students. During the past year, she has also given presentations at several universities her company manages the dining services of as well as at the annual company seminar, and keeps active with medical nutrition therapy in the clinical field.

TIMOTHY KLECK '05 graduated on May 21st with a doctor of pharmacy degree from Duquesne University's Mylan School of Pharmacy. He also received a Pharmacy Management Certificate and is a member of Phi Lambda Sigma, a professional pharmacy honor society. He continues to work at the Pittsburgh area Target stores.

GREG STOLAR '05 graduated in May from Penn State Erie, The Behrend College Black School of Business with his Masters of Business Administration. He accepted a position with GE Transportation as a Materials and Process Technical Advisor.

JOANNA VANVOLKENBERG '05 will soon begin a Baltimore City Teaching Residency, teaching Special Education/Elementary Education in the city.

SARAH BANDUCCI '06 will be beginning a Ph.D. program in Psychology at the University of Illinois.

TOM DRASKOVIC '07 graduated from Penn State University in May with a BS in Chemistry and will be entering the Chemistry Ph.D. program at Ohio State University in the fall. At Penn State, he was a John and Elizabeth Holmes Teas Scholar from 2008 to 2010 and a recipient of the Fleming-Meyer Analytical Chemistry Award for the 2010-2011 academic year. He also performed undergraduate research for three years on proton conducting materials for hydrogen fuel cells. During the summer of 2009, he participated in a National Science Foundation Research Experience for Undergraduates program at the Ohio State University Center for Emergent Materials, where his work on nanowires contributed to an article now published in the scientific journal *Applied Physics Letters*. In the summer of 2010, he participated in the National Science Foundation Summer Research in Solid State Chemistry program at the University of Washington in Seattle, WA. In addition to performing research on photoelectrochemical cells for water splitting and enjoying

the beautiful Seattle summer, he was able to travel to the University of Oregon and present his research at Oregon State University. Tom hopes to continue to perform research in materials chemistry relating to energy conversion and storage as he works toward his Ph.D. at Ohio State.

KEVIN MICHAEL HIRST '07, graduated from Syracuse University in May with a double major in television-radio-film and marketing management in the Newhouse School and Whitman School of Management. He also earned a minor in theater in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Kevin was named a Syracuse University Scholar, which is the highest undergraduate academic honor bestowed at the University. As a four-year member of the First Year Players student theater group, Kevin was also an executive news producer at CitrusTV. He served as senior vice president of the Delta Sigma Pi business fraternity and was involved in Newhouse and Whitman ambassador programs and the Pulse Performing Arts student advisory board. His triple interests in marketing, television and theater fueled four internships and five professional jobs, ranging from Wegmans Food Markets to the Tony Awards to the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics. As a Remembrance Scholar, Kevin served as a college marshal for Commencement and is designated a *Scholarship in Action* Scholar. Following graduation, he plans to work on the upcoming Tony Awards, then move to broadcast work in New York City at the SpotCo entertainment advertising agency.

CAROLYN LEARY '07 was accepted into Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education program. It is a service teaching/masters program enabling students to attend classes in the summers at ND and teach during the school year in a poor Catholic school. Carolyn was assigned to 2nd grade at Immaculate Conception in central Los Angeles. She will earn a masters in education after two years.

MIKE STOLAR '07 was named Second Team All-Conference for finishing second in the Duquesne University 2011 Atlantic 10 Championship held in Charlotte, NC, in May. Mike graduated with a BA in digital media arts and a minor in fine arts and will be continuing his Masters at Duquesne in the fall. He qualified for the IC4A's at Princeton in both the 5K & 10K races.



Jessica Annunziata at The Lion Park, near Johannesburg.

JESSICA ANNUNZIATA '08, a student at New York University Tisch School of the Arts, spent the spring semester studying drama and applied drama at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits) in Johannesburg, South Africa. The drama curriculum emphasized a critical approach to performance, creating new work, comedy and Lecoq clowning. She used what she learned to help facilitate workshops at SKY (Soweto Kliptown Youth), one of the oldest youth centers in the Soweto township.

ETHAN JOHNS '08 is pursuing a double major at Mercyhurst College in intelligence studies and computer systems. He received an award for his presentation "Use of Drupal to publish the online version of the *Merciad*," the college newspaper. The award was presented by the Student Technology Forum of the Consortium for Computing in Undergraduate Education, held in March at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

ANDY RETTGER '08 is working on the transport team at UPMC Hamot in Erie.

MARIE CASE '10, a Kent State student, has been named Mid-American Conference freshman gymnast of the year. She is ranked 22nd in the country all-around and is ranked first in the MAC on the balance beam and floor exercise.

NATALIE PERTZ '10, a voice performance major at Mercyhurst College, has been featured in the college newspaper and magazine advertising.

JENNA BEKENY '11 has been accepted into a Summer Study Abroad program at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. She received a full scholarship including tuition, room and board, and weekend tour coverage for this month-long program. In addition, Jenna will be taking a Polish intensive language course and a class on the history of Jews in Poland. She will attend the University of Chicago in the fall and plans to major in biochemistry.



Sister students Julia and Gabriella Bensusur

JULIA BENSUR '11 is being honored as a Cornell Traditions Scholar. The award recognizes significant achievements of very-well rounded incoming freshmen who truly stand out not only in academics but also in service, leadership and commitment to others. Only six percent of the incoming class were selected into the Scholar programs. Julia's sister, **Gabriella Bensusur '08**, was honored as a Cornell Meinig Family Scholar. The sisters might be featured in an

upcoming Alumni magazine as they are the first siblings in the history of the program to both be selected into the program while attending Cornell together.

HILLARY KRILL '11 won the National Interscholastic Swimming Coaches Association (NISCA) Academic All-America award. She is the only swimmer this year to earn a letter all four years, be a 4 time district qualifier, and a state qualifier in her junior year as well.

STEPH WARNER '11 received a \$1000 scholarship from the Society of Manufacturing Engineers in May.

Sympathy

The Mercyhurst Prep community of alumni, students, faculty, staff and parents extends sympathy to the following members of our extended family:

Alumni:

Dorothy Lanagan Manhold '38
Natalie Hall Chisholm '43
Barbara Curtze Gebhardt '47
Judith DeFazio '56
Michael Wisowaty '89
Deborah Ann Burger Giesbrecht '89

Mother of:

Suzanne Lachesky Gallagher '67
Deborah Laird '71
Gail Lubak Casillo '81
Tricia Beals McFadden '93
Dr. Peggy Cebe '66, Dr. Juanita Cebe '70, and Charmaine Cebe, '72

Father of:

Christine Strong Sharer '65
Suzanne Schaaf Lichtenwalter '87
Jamie Krusewicz '03

Son of:

Frances Quinn Buseck '48
Karen Schultz Benzel '71

Husband of:

Patricia Schaeffer Russell '56

Brother of:

Denise Illig Robison '57
Michael Amory '05

Sister of:
Penny Hanes '65

Sister of Mercy:
Former MPS teacher and staff member,
Sister Elaine Sandy, RSM

Other:
Mother of **Ruth Alberstadt**, MPS special
events coordinator

JOB OPPORTUNITY

A part-time, paid position is available in the Mercyhurst Prep Dining Hall. If you are interested, please contact **Diane McCullough** at 814-824-2319 or email dmccullough@mpslakers.com.

THE 2ND ANNUAL JILLIAN ABBOTT SIDS STOMP

August 13, 2011

**Presque Isle State Park
Cookhouse Pavilion**



Event Details:

9:00am-10:00am -- Registration

10:00am-10:30am -- Announcements

10:30am-11:30am -- SIDS Stomp (approximately 3 miles)

11:30am-12:30pm -- Prize Drawings, Food, Beverages, & Entertainment

12:30pm -- Memorial Ceremony

If you are unable to attend, but would like to make a donation, you may do so at www.sidsstomperie.com. All proceeds will benefit the programs of First Candle.

JILLIAN IS THE DAUGHTER OF **RYAN ABBOTT '92** AND WIFE JEN.



To Register or make a Donation please visit
www.sidsstomperie.com



Congratulations

RONALD SWANSON '91 and wife Meike on the April birth of their first child, Gabrielle Elene.

MIKE SCHENKER '98 and wife Michelle on the October birth of McKenzie Grace Schenker. The family currently resides in Lyndhurst, OH. Mike is in Medical Sales and Michelle owns a women's clothing boutique, b. lux boutique, in Hudson, OH.



McKenzie Grace Schenker

DAVID SWANSON '01 and wife Lauren on the May birth of Tinamarie Grace. She joins older brothers, Charlie, Ben, and Jonah. David is a teacher at Central High School in Erie.



Reagan Mayer Bradley

NEIL BRADLEY '02 and wife Melissa on the June 2010 birth of Reagan Mayer. Neil and Melissa are both employed at GE Transportation, Neil as a mechanical engineer and Melissa as a buyer.

HONORS TO OUR MPS CENTENARIAN



Mrs. Priscilla Brandt, from the 1971 Thesaurus

Many earlier graduates will remember the classy, capable **Mrs. Priscilla Brandt**, who served as the schools' secretary for many years.

We congratulate Mrs. Brandt, who celebrated her 103rd birthday on April 25th. She is living in Greensburg, PA, near her son Bishop Lawrence Brandt.

Mrs. Brandt is both physically and mentally well and still loves a day out at the mall. She loves shopping and getting her hair and nails done very week.

According to her daughter, **Dr. Dolores Brandt Fusco**, a 1967 graduate, "In reflecting on my Mother, I'm always amazed that her tiny stature still belies

such strength and spirit even at the tender age of 103. She remains a woman of deep faith, who taught me about the power and significance of prayer. It is she with whom I credit my abiding devotion to St. Therese the Little Flower.

From her, I gratefully inherited a moral compass, shaped by her own steadfast character. Her quiet kindness toward others is legendary - most especially toward those unable to reciprocate. Still, at 103, my Mother teaches and inspires me, constantly reminding me of the things in life that truly matter. While her quick gait has slowed and she, at times, laments being 'an antique,' her sense of humor and easy laughter are still alive, and her blue eyes still twinkle. My Mother is the most honorable woman I know. I am blessed to be her child."



Dolores and her husband visit for a long weekend every three months with their dog, Joey, whom Mrs. Brandt loves a lot. She phones her mom daily and feels most grateful to still have her in her life.

Those of us who remember Mrs. Brandt, feel lucky to have shared our high school days with her.

Winter Athletics

The winter season was another exciting one here at Mercyhurst Prep. We had several District 10 team and individual and State Champions. The boy's basketball team finished the season with a record of 14-12 and claimed second place in region and finished as the District 10 AA runner up.

The girl's finished the season with a 27-3 record and won the Region 6 championship. They also won the District 10 AAA championship and advanced to the PIAA AAA state final game. The swim team had another stellar year advancing many boys and girls to the District 10 swim championships and the PIAA state championships.

Marie Georger '12, who claimed 1st in the 100 yard backstroke in the State Swimming Finals, is the 1st girl in D-10 history to acquire a gold medal in the same event, three years in a row. The cheerleaders did another outstanding job this year in their competitions as well as leading the fans during this exciting season.

Spring Athletics

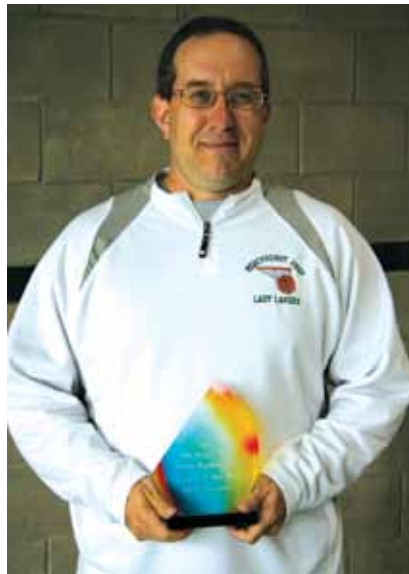
The spring season has come to a close and so has another athletic year here at Mercyhurst Prep. The season was filled with a lot of excitement with District champions and state qualifiers. The boys baseball team won the region championship and claimed the District 10 A baseball championship. They finished as PIAA semi-finalists. They had several players make All-Region as well as all District 10. The crew team had another great year claiming many medals throughout the spring.

The softball team did well this past season advancing to the District 10 AAAA Championship game vs. McDowell. The boys tennis team had a good season sending a few players to the District 10 tournament and they are looking forward to next season.

The track & field team had another good season. They had several students qualify for the District 10 championships and advanced a relay team to the PIAA State Track & Field championships. The girls relay team won the District 10 Championship and also broke the school record this past season. The relay team consisted of **Christine Haverly '11, Carly Vicary '12, Sarah Kupniewski '13 and Nina Halupczynski '12.**

We want to thank our seniors for another great year and for all they have given to Mercyhurst Prep over the last four years and wish them the best in their future endeavors. I hope all of our athletes have an enjoyable and restful summer and we look forward to the 2011-2012 school year.

Dan Perfetto '92, Athletic director



Dan Perfetto '92, athletic director, was named Coach of the Year by PIAA Class AAA.

A.D.V.O.C.A.T.E.

Advance Dreams Vowing Commitment And Thoughtful Effort

Current ADVOCATES participants have enjoyed knowing they are changing the lives of students and families! Part of any student accepting this financial help is an agreement to let the donor know how they are doing anonymously. This is a rewarding way to keep donors involved in the lives of those they help. Updates and voluntary letters from the recipients create an even warmer feeling of giving. If you're looking for a way to find that warmth, this might be perfect for you!

An ADVOCATE chooses their level of participation. We encourage a four year commitment but a one-time option is also available. All we ask is that you seriously consider the impact on a family. Although any gift of aid is beneficial, many times that aid is still needed the second, third or fourth school year. Please understand the benefits of this worthwhile program will very much resonate throughout a lifetime for both the donor and student. We impress upon every recipient, the chance they have been given and the need to "pay it forward" later in their life when they too, may be in a financial position to do some good.

If you are able, please consider feeling the excitement of making an MPS education attainable to a deserving, needy student. We promise you will experience an incredible heartfelt feeling like no other! The ADVOCATE program is different than our "Dollars for Scholars" program in that you directly see the impact your efforts have on the student and family.

If you're Interested or this sounds like something you would like to pursue further, please contact the **Advancement Office** at **814-824-2408.**



EMILY BAXTER '07 graduated from Dartmouth College magna cum laude on June 12. She was a James O. Freedman Presidential Scholar, she was selected as class historian for Class Day, and she received the James B. Reynolds Scholarship for Foreign Study, which she will use to pursue a Master's Degree at the London School of Economics this fall.

While at Dartmouth Emily continued to participate in the theater, a pursuit she enjoyed at MPS, helping to found the Dartmouth Rude Mechanicals, an all-Shakespeare troupe that has brought the Bard back to the Dartmouth stages for a production every term, as well as taking Shakespeare to the local New Hampshire schools. She participated in several women's organizations, served on the President's Committee on sexual assault, and directed "The Vagina Monologues" for V-Time 2011.



Dartmouth graduate, **Emily Baxter**, presented a copy of her thesis: "Catherine's Daughters and Prophetic Women: An Ethnographic Study of the Lives of Women Religious"

She was a member of a secret senior society, which is "announced" by her carrying a carved walking stick with an insignia carved at the top, as she processes in at graduation. She had been tapped into "Fire and Skoal" as a senior we discovered as she carried in her stick, which is a society of campus leaders who "meet for meaningful dialogue on important issues of the day." And, she also was a leader in OLE (Outdoor Leadership Experience) which is a child-mentoring program with outdoor experiences like canoeing and hiking, etc. She did that weekly with her kids -- junior high students.

Emily graduated with honors in anthropology combining her senior honors thesis in Anthropology and Women's and Gender Studies on the lives of Catholic nuns. She spent last summer living with Sisters of Mercy at the Mercy International Centre in Dublin, Ireland, gathering her research. A bound copy of her thesis, "Catherine's Daughters and Prophetic Women: An Ethnographic Study of the Lives of Women Religious," was presented to **Sister Mary Ann Bader, RSM**, president of Mercyhurst Prep, in June. The Dartmouth College library has chosen to keep a copy of Emily's thesis as well.

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SAVE THE DATE:
Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk

Saturday, October 1, 2011
Registration 8:00 AM
Survivor Reception 8:30 AM
Opening Ceremonies 9:30 AM

The MPS Women in Motion annually participate in this event. If you have any questions, contact **Ms. Carla R. Betti**, Women in Motion Advisor, cbetti@mplslakers.com

**ATTENTION:
FOOTBALL & BASKETBALL
ALUMNI**

Be sure the alumni office is up-to-date on your contact information since we will be celebrating anniversary seasons for both sports this year.

Call 814-824-2067 or Marcia at mgensheimer@mplslakers.com.

**PLEASE REMEMBER
TO CHANGE YOUR
ADDRESS WITH US IF
YOU MOVE OR CHANGE
YOUR NAME.**

Email: mgensheimer@mplslakers.com with "ALUMNI" as the subject line

OR

Call: 814-824-2067

OR

Mail: Alumni Office
538 E Grandview Blvd.
Erie PA 16504-2697

OR USE

FACEBOOK:
Send a message through Mercyhurst Preparatory School or Marcia Gensheimer



Annual Anne Ryan Baltimore Mission Trip

School ended but vacation time became volunteer time for some 30 students, and 10 teachers, alumni, and friends from Mercyhurst Preparatory School. The entourage left on June 12th to partake in the 11th Annual Baltimore Mission Trip, organized by school Chaplain and English teacher, **Fr. Mike Allison**.

The one week mission experience put students to work at Sarah's House, a homeless shelter whose aim is to change families in a positive manner. This safe house is an emergency shelter for as many as 66, and a transitional home for 22 families. The shelter also has an on-site daycare.

Students had the opportunity to glimpse day to day struggles of those in need and learn how their small voluntary contribution have a changing effect. Student travelers were asked to keep a journal and the group met nightly with adult chaperones to discuss and review each day.

Two of the mottos of Sarah's House are "Come in one way; leave another," and "Help those in need so they can help others in need." Ironically, the Mercyhurst Prep students experience these goals in unexpected ways.

Chaperones included: **Steve Nemenz '98, Binh Huynh '02, Liesel Wagner '04, Jessica Jelinek '05, Ryan Grove**

'06, John Woodruff '06, Paula Allshouse, Beth Nichols, Riley Buszek and Julie Walas.

Over 11 years, some 280 students have participated in this life changing mission opportunity.



Two for two this year

It was exciting to receive a phone call from WJET-TV telling us we had another, the second this year, Golden Apple Award JET-TV & Edinboro University teacher recipient.

The news crew arrived at MPS the morning of February 23 with administrators from Edinboro University. Along with our principal, **Ms. Peggy Aste**, our small entourage paraded to the English class of a very pregnant **Mrs. Nicole Wojciechowski** to surprise her with this award.

Mrs. Wojciechowski had been nominated three separate times by **Adam Malinowski, Alexis Spoden** and **Nicole Skarupski**.

Adam stated, "I've never experienced a teacher like Mrs. Wojciechowski in my 12 year school career. And to be honest, I can't imagine they get much better in college. She teaches some of the most boring and complicated things, like Shakespeare and philosophy, yet makes it fun and interesting. She even throws in some of her acting techniques

while reading plays like "Hamlet" and "Macbeth," which is very enjoyable."

In her letter about Mrs. Wojciechowski, Alexis said, "Not only does Mrs. Wojciechowski have an excellent personality but she is also an amazing teacher, I do not think I would understand or even like English literature if it weren't for her teaching."

The third nominator, Nicole, goes on to say, "There is honestly never a dull moment in class. She is one of those teachers that goes above and beyond what she has to do... She is just an amazing teacher and mentor, and she deserves this award."



Mrs. Nicole Wojciechowski accepts the Golden Apple award from principal, **Ms. Peggy Aste**

Receiving this award was an emotional moment for Mrs. Wojciechowski and she kept explaining that the escaping tears were due to her hormones. This was true but it was also obvious that she is in her element in the classroom and that her students admire and appreciate her exceptional talents.

There was more good news the following day; Mrs. Wojciechowski delivered a healthy baby boy, Atticus James.

The other five MPS teachers who received this award include: 2010 – **Ms. Sue Rounsley**-math, 2009 – **Mr. Arthur Martone** – performing arts, 2008 – **Ms. Carla Betti** – social studies, 2007 – **Mr. Ed Curtin** – theology, and 2006 – **Mrs. Jane Fisher** – science (also a finalist).



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