



MERCY

Alumnae

www.mercyhigh.com August 2011

EDUCATING YOUNG WOMEN IN CATHERINE'S VISION

Mercy High School Says Farewell to Class of 2011

On June 1, 2011 Mercy High School said farewell to the Class of 2011 during the school's 45th commencement exercises. The Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, D.D., Bishop of Norwich, conferred diplomas to 170 graduates.

Sr. Mary A. McCarthy, RSM, Principal, thanked the graduates for "four years of spirit, cooperation, and hard work that resulted in amazing college acceptances, well over \$5 million in scholarships and awards, and 100% of the class going on to further education." She urged the graduates to be grateful to their parents and grandparents for giving them the opportunity to experience a Mercy education.

"They have supported you, loved you and given you something that will change your life. You are Women of Mercy! I speak for the faculty and staff when I say congratulations and thank you. We are so proud of you! You are the real thing! Go with our love, respect and affection."

During the ceremony, Sr. Mary also recognized the mothers of 20 of the graduating seniors who are alumnae of Mercy High School or other secondary schools sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy. Vice Principal and Mercy alumna Jennifer Coleman Kensel '71 officially welcomed the members of the Class of 2011



Class of 2011 Valedictorian Julia Kelly and Salutatorian Julia Kannam.

as alumnae, reminding them: "You are and always will be a part of Mercy High School. You will be remembered and you will be loved."

Julia Kannam, class salutatorian, welcomed the graduates and guests to Mercy High School, "our second home for the past four years and our alma mater forever." She remarked that the class received an excellent education at Mercy and "we've made incredible friends that have become more than family and will be with us long after we graduate." Julia will be attending Dartmouth College in the fall.

The valedictory address was given by Julia Kelly, who will

continue her education at Brown University. She spoke of the uncertainty the graduates face in the future, urging them to "leave your comfort zone and take a chance." She added:

"Our time at Mercy has prepared us to face an often harsher, harder real world, where the consequences of our actions can loom larger than in high school. But we know that we can face the challenges ahead because Mercy has instilled in us the self-assurance that we need to do well. This confidence that we now possess will follow us into the future, and help us to try new things, to take some risks, to accept our failures, and to embrace our successes."

Good luck, Class of 2011!!

CONTENTS

Sisterhood in Action.....	2
Betsy Gilmartin Retires	4
Welcome Back Alumnae	5
Life After Retirement?.....	5
Thankful Expressions	6
Class Night 2011	6
Reunion Corner	7
Prayer Shawls	7
Mercy Classic.....	8
Tech Tigers Roar	8
Class Briefs	9

SISTERHOOD IN ACTION

Sisterhood is a tradition at Mercy. As alumnae, you adopt a specific class year of students for their four years here and support them with your annual fund contributions. Donated funds are spent on class-specific needs such as curriculum/classroom support and preserving Mercy traditions and activities.

Girls in the **Class of 2011** are Little Sisters to alumnae who graduated in '67, '71, '75, '79, '83, '87, '91, '95, '99, '03, '07.

This class update was submitted by Daniela Esposito and Jen Larson, Class Moderators.

The Class of 2011 had a wonderful and fun filled senior year. Last summer much of the class attended a leadership conference at St. Joseph's College and became great models of student leaders for the rest of the school. They were the first class to hold Walk-a-Thon on school grounds due to the rain and there was great class spirit as they decorated the halls in anticipation of Christmas.

As they entered the New Year, they began planning for their Valentine Dance. However, due to inclement weather and many postponements, the dance became a Spring Fling! Shortly after the dance, they prepared for their Senior Prom, an event that they had been looking forward to for the four years. At Prom they demonstrated their maturity by dressing and behaving in a most 'Sister Mary appropriate manner.'

The Senior class trip to Boston was held in March. They had a wonderful time bonding with each other as they attended the Boston Aquarium, enjoyed shopping in Quincy Market, and learned about the history of Boston on a tour through the historical city.

As the year drew to a close, the Class of 2011 looked forward to several upcoming events. Because of the many snow days, the schoolwide trip to Quassy Amusement Park was cancelled, however Sister Mary felt it only appropriate to celebrate the senior class with a picnic at Mercy. It was a special event for them.

Class Night was a memorable evening. They laughed and cried together as a class for one last time before graduating.



A bulletin board outside the cafe proudly announces the future plans of our Class of 2011.

Alumnae who graduated in '68, '72, '76, '80, '84, '88, '92, '96, '00, '04, '08 are Big Sisters to the **Class of 2012**.

This update is reported by Diane Santostefano and Lori Flynn, Class Moderators.

Upperclasswomen – Finally! Members of the Class of 2012 returned to school in September ready to assume increased leadership roles within the Mercy Community. Their class officers worked hard to plan a beautiful Ring Ceremony and Dance. Given the significance of this particular Mercy Tradition—the first semiformal dance—the Executive Board's main concern was that their classmates felt included and welcomed at the event. All of their efforts came to fruition and the girls received their rings at a beautiful mass officiated by the Bishop in October. Later in the month, the girls danced with their dates, admired one another's dresses, had their rings turned, and created Mercy memories at their "Arabian Nights" themed dance.

Junior year is also filled with a tough academic load, college searches, and sports. Members of this class are:

- Basketball players on Mercy's varsity team that went to the state championship
- Lawyers and witnesses as part of the Mock Trial Team that won the state championship and traveled to Arizona to participate in the national championship
- Singers and dancers on the award winning "Choralations" show choir
- Engineers who designed Mercy's first robot named "Prima" as part of the newly initiated "Tech Tigers" Robotics Team and were recognized with the "2011 FIRST Robotics Competition Rookie Inspiration Award Connecticut Regional" award at their first competition
- United Nations Ambassadors as part of the Model UN club
- Rotarians serving the community through their participation in the Rotary Interact club
- Government leaders along with other high school students from Connecticut at Laurel Girls' State
- Scholars participating in summer programs at Harvard and Yale.
- And the list continues!

On a beautiful May evening, the girls and their dates spent "A Night on the Boardwalk" for their Junior Prom. In addition to dazzling gowns, coordinating tuxedos, and mega-watt smiles, this event included made to order popcorn and cotton candy and a caricature artist! The girls and their dates had a wonderful meal and danced the night away.

The Class of 2012 continues to stand out as a warm and friendly group full of Mercy spirit! We look forward to welcoming them back in the fall as seniors.

The **Class of 2013** are Little Sisters to alumnae who graduated in '69, '73, '77, '81, '85, '89, '93, '97, '01, '05, '09

Moderators, Sanchita Maitra and Gianna Iannucci, submitted the following report:

It has been another amazing year for the Class of 2013, and once again they have demonstrated their generosity. When it came time for the Junior Ring Dance, a plethora of cookies and sweet treats flowed into the building. The Executive Board served at the dance with punctuality and a professional attitude. They repeated their stellar performance with the help of subcommittee members who volunteered their time to serve at the Junior Prom.

In spite of the rain during walkathon this year, the class of 2013 brought in the most pledges. They decorated for Christmas and their theme "Island of Misfit Toys" won first place! The 2013 sophomore class also raised the most money for Cake Auction.



Encouraging generosity is a major aspect of the Mission of Mercy. In the spirit of Mother Catherine McAuley, the class of 2013 have given unstintingly. They are a unique Class with colorful personalities and a sharp wit (also in the spirit of Catherine McAuley). In order to have mercy for others, you must first learn your own strengths and abilities. The class of 2013 is well on their way!

Alumnae who graduated in '70, '74, '78, '82, '86, '90, '94, '98, '02, '06 and '10 are Big Sisters to the **Class of 2014**.

Moderators, Daria Fitzgerald and Meg Malafronte, submitted the following report:

Hailing from over 40 towns throughout Connecticut (and a town in Russia as well!), the Class of 2014 is already steeped in the Mercy tradition: sixteen students are daughters of Mercy alums, and 23 girls have sisters who are also Mercy alums or current students. Here are a few highlights of their first year at Mercy.

The Opening Mass and Freshwomen Pin Ceremony welcomed the Class of 2014 to Mercy. Each member of the freshman class, and their respective big sisters from the Class of 2012, were announced and formally introduced to the entire Mercy Community. As one freshman commented: "During the first Mass, I was amazed the most about the blessing....I will remember my first blessing (at Mercy) for all my life."

Another longstanding tradition, the schoolwide Christmas hallway decorating contest, was truly a class effort! This year's theme for the class was "Christmas Around The World." In addition to a life size nativity scene, our hallway was decorated with a map of the world and posters depicting Christmas traditions in many countries—one created by each and every member of the Class of 2014!

For this year's schoolwide retreat, we were honored to have Immaculee Ilibagiza, Rwandan genocide survivor and world renowned author and speaker, as our guest. The Class of 2014 was so inspired by her message of forgiveness and reflected on what a spiritual, nurturing day their first Mercy retreat was for them.

Before long, it was time for the freshman to experience Mercy Spirit Week events, including the Cake Auction. As part of their Religion final, the Class of 2014 was asked to reflect on what they learned, and how they had changed, over the course of their first year as Women of Mercy. They reflect on a year of learning, living, and growing as women of Mercy:

When I was younger, I was never really close with God, ever. When I was a freshman, my religion teacher made God seem real. I am now really close with him. God is one of my great heroes!

To me, Mercy is home. It is where I want to be, it is where my friends are, and it's the place where I did a lot of growing up.

You have the support of friends and teachers who will get you through. They are the reason I was able to get up at 5:00 am every morning for nine months straight with a smile on my face.

The Class of 2014 is looking forward to sophomore year, as they continue to learn, to live, and to grow as Women of Mercy.

MISSION STATEMENT

Mercy High School, a Catholic diocesan high school for young women, is committed to providing an educational experience that responds to individual needs. In the tradition of the Sisters of Mercy and their foundress Catherine McAuley, each student is challenged to grow, to realize her full potential, and to provide service to others within an atmosphere that fosters a spirit of community and compassion. Founded by the Diocese of Norwich, Mercy gives preference in admission to young Catholic women residing in the diocese; however, enrollment is open to all who qualify regardless of religion, race, or nationality.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES (2010-2011)

Mr. Carl Carta
Ms. Alissa K. DeJonge '95
Mrs. Maureen Trigo DeRing '96
Mr. Jack Driscoll
Mr. George Dunn
Mr. Jack Gastler
Mr. Joseph Kask
Sr. Kathleen Kelly, RSM
Sr. Mary Alice Kline, RSM
Mrs. Marie Kalita-Leary
Mrs. Maureen Longo
Mr. Jack M. Lutz
Rev. Gerard Mulvey O.F.M.Cap.
Ms. Denise O'Brien '72
Mrs. Tayna Oliver-Perry '78
Ms. Teresa Opalacz '76
Mr. Hugh Pearson
Atty. AnnMarie Cienava Rocco '79
Mr. Thomas J. Ryan
Dr. John Shine
Mrs. Joan Fung-Tomc
Sr. Georgeann Vumbaco, RSM (Chair)
Atty. William B. Wynne

Sr. Mary A. McCarthy, RSM
Principal

Betsy Gilmartin, Athletic Director, Retires



Betsy Gilmartin started teaching at Mercy High School in 1983, when athletics was almost an afterthought for girls. Twenty-eight years later, including Gilmartin's last 17 years as Mercy's athletic director, things have changed!

Gilmartin officially retired as Mercy's athletic director effective July 1, and handed over the athletic program to basketball coach Tim Kohs.

"I'll always be a part of Tiger Nation," said Gilmartin, who plans to still help out with ticketing at home basketball games.

Gilmartin's favorite part of her time at Mercy?

"Watching all the kids grow," she said. "You see freshman who aren't too sure of themselves, and they grow with practice and coaching. They end up being such good athletes. Some of them even made it in to the Middletown Hall of Fame.

For almost half of her life, Ms. G. watched Mercy students grow into a society that increasingly and positively reinforced the idea of female athletes.

Everybody's opinion of women in sports has changed. There's so much students can learn from playing sports, and it's a good starting block for leading. Sister Mary McCarthy, Principal at Mercy, had the highest praise for Ms. Gilmartin:

Small but mighty aptly describes this woman who has been a force to reckon with within these walls and beyond. Hers is the voice of calm in situations that could be otherwise. Hers was the passionate speech at a strategic planning session that left the principal and board members trying to figure out how we would build a new gym ASAP. Hers was the voice of encouragement for faculty as she chaired their phase of the Capital Campaign. For all these years, Betsy, you have shared with all of us your humor, your professionalism, your dedication to our students and your friendship. You will be missed by students and colleagues. Thank you for your commitment to this school and, particularly, for all you did to build Mercy's athletic program so that it is today, one of the most respected programs in the state for young women athletes!



It is clear to see that the students loved Ms. G !

Welcome Back Alumnae!

This year we welcome two alumnae to the faculty and staff at Mercy. One called Mercy her second home a few years ago; the other is from the 10th graduating class of Mercy High.



Epoch Photo '04

Lauren Daniels, formally of Portland, graduated Mercy in 2004. She continued her education at Sacred Heart University where she majored in History and minored in Italian and Political Science.

Her graduate degree is from UCONN in European Studies. She will be teaching World History and Italian.

One of Lauren's favorite classes at Mercy was Mr. Brickley's U.S. History class which is why she chose to major in history and become a history teacher. She also loved Mrs. Psoter's Anatomy and Physiology and Ms. Marceau's language classes.

Teaching at a Catholic High School is not new for Lauren. She was a faculty member at St. Bernard School in Uncasville, CT. She plans to convey to her Mercy girls the same words of wisdom she shared with students at St. Bernard's, "The sky is the limit! Be positive about yourself and what you are capable of." Lauren knows that having confidence is so important in shaping who teenagers will become and the education of Mercy's students continues after the last school bell rings. She plans to be involved in extracurricular activities and clubs and bring lots of new ideas to Mercy.



Epoch Photo '76

Marie Kalita-Leary joined the Mercy staff in June. Marie has not been a stranger to Mercy, having served on various committees and boards since her graduation in 1976. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from

Southern Connecticut State University and a Master of Science from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. As Director of Communication and Public Relations, Marie will be working with the Admissions Office, Alumnae and Development, and Mercy's Administration. She is responsible for Mercy's website, marketing, press releases, newsletters, and publications.

Marie still calls Middletown home where she resides with her husband Al, a Xavier alumni, and her son, EJ. Marie owned Dancercise, a retail store located on Main Street in Middletown, for 19 years. When the demands of motherhood and retail store owner didn't coordinate because of time, she decided to close her business and spend time with her family. Before coming to Mercy, Marie was the Director of Middletown's Downtown Business District. "I truly enjoyed working on Main Street," Marie stated. "However, when I became aware of this job position at Mercy, I knew I wanted to apply," she continued. "I have experienced Mercy's academic excellence, I know its mission and I cherish its traditions." Those factors, along with her education and career experience, make her a perfect fit.

Both women commented that their time and education at Mercy was beneficial in shaping the women they have become and know they wouldn't be the same if they had not attended Mercy. Being on the staff is a chance for them to give back to Mercy and to enrich the lives of current and future students. Lauren and Marie join the fifteen Mercy graduates, now employed here, that still call Mercy their second home.

Life After Retirement?

Written by Former Mercy High teacher, Eleanor Ubaldini

After retiring from Mercy in 2009, with thirty-nine very active years of teaching history, sociology, and psychology under my belt, I now have the time to write religious songs, conduct a small choir at my church, and evangelize at various places using our songs.

For many years, I enjoyed visiting the Middlesex Health Care Center on Randolph Road in Middletown with my students. We loved to sing with the residents as I played the piano. For me, music is my way of communicating with others, a bridging of our similarities or differences, a way to bring joy and peace to others as well as to myself.

A couple of years ago, I took eight songs that I had written and with my Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church "Eight O'Clock Choir," we made our first CD, entitled: "Pure and Simple: Jesus Is Your Savior!" That CD will soon be re-released. Now, after about eight months of weekly sessions with Mike Arafeh, owner of The Coffeehouse Recording Studio in Middletown, we have just finished our second CD, "He's a River of Strength and Consolation." There are sixteen songs (13 originals) which are songs of comfort and encouragement that are both Christian and Gospel and that transcend all denominations.

Surprisingly, I am as busy now as when I was teaching, but it has helped make the transition from work to retirement much easier.

Eleanor's latest CD can be had for a donation of \$12 online at www.shilohmbcmiddletown.com or sending a check to: Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, 346 Butternut St, Middletown, Ct. 06457 or to Eleanor Ubaldini, 762 Wadsworth St., Middletown, Ct. 06457. All proceeds will go to benefit the church's Elevator Fund.



Thankful Expressions – Thanks from 2011!

Dear Big Sisters:

Our first day as Seniors was a beautiful fall day at Mercy. Leaves were swirling against the front doors as we filed in, talking and laughing. It was hard for us to believe that we were already seniors and able to wear white socks!

The traditions we nervously became part of as Freshwomen fully belong to us now! We have dressed up with our Dads for the Father Daughter Dance, competed with other homerooms to raise money for Walkathon, and celebrated the story of Catherine McAuley. At our beautiful Junior Ring Ceremony we received our shiny new class rings, turned 112 times (once for luck) with blessings for our futures.

One of the best things about Mercy is

the unbroken circle of Mercy that connects students, faculty, and alumnae. We love to meet alumnae and discover how much we all have in common. It's fun to hear some of the same questions (Yes, Sr. Mary is still in charge!). Already we see our place in the long line of women who have come through our school. At the packed open house, we couldn't help but share our experiences with younger girls who may join us next year. And so the circle of Mercy continues!

Thank you for your gifts to Mercy. We have grown and thrived here because you supported our education. Without your generosity and love, Mercy would not be the amazing place that it is. Thank you, on behalf of the Class of 2011.

Senior Breakfast 2011

Written by Debra Ann Muniz Pennuto '87

It was an honor for me, Anne D'Orvillers '71, and Donna DiMauro '67 to attend and represent all Big Sisters to the Class of 2011 at their Senior Breakfast and Farewell Mass on May 24th. I agreed to prepare some remarks for the girls and as I walked up the sidewalk to enter the building, I could feel the butterflies in my stomach. It was like the first day of high school all over again. The memories just came flooding back. It was so nice to see that certain things haven't changed in over 25 years... the young ladies sitting in the hallways finishing up last minute homework, taking the last sip of their coffee before entering class, and watching them all look up at once as the "visitor" entered the building!

Speaking on your behalf, I encouraged the seniors to take a moment and reflect on the past four years - to remember the teacher that changed the way they learned, a Mass given where the Word spoke so profoundly that it changed them from the inside, or a friend they have that has been a constant since Freshwoman year. I encouraged them to remember the smells of the corridors, breaking rules, and learning from their mistakes.

I told them about Esther. Her story is a Book in the Old Testament. She was orphaned and brought up by her cousin, Mordecai. He marked her life - educating and teaching her the Word of God. It was because of those teachings that she went on to become the Queen of Persia and was able to save her people from impending doom.

The girls in Mercy's auditorium on May 24th are no different. By and through the mission and vision of Mercy, they have been provided a level of empowerment that not all young women receive as part of their education. I encouraged them to cherish it and understand how privileged and special they really are.

Class Night 2011

Written by Margaret Bishop Haight '67

I hadn't stepped inside Mercy for 44 years, and so Senior Class Night - May 25th, Class of 2011 was a delight. I joined forces with Sandy Petrella Miller '87 and Loretta Tomasiello '71 representing all alumnae who served as Big Sisters to 2011 to get a peek into the Mercy life of those young women.

First, the building is holding up well, the new gym is impressive, and you recognize the distinctive Mercy smell as you walk the corridor. You could close your eyes and think you were back there in uniform.

There were activities going on besides seniors arriving for dinner - a group practicing for try-outs and other after school activities wrapping up. The school felt alive and bustling.

Class night was entertaining. Unlike the very first one back in '67, it's clear the seniors own the event and have made it their celebration to each other. They had put together a slide show from all the photos available thanks to cell phones, gave an overview of each year's highlights, and gave out lots of awards in all types of categories - some inspiring, some serious, plenty



Future alum and Senior Class Executive Board member, Sophia Panaccione, addresses her fellow classmates.

of humorous awards, a couple even bordering on edgy. Their thank yous and gifts to class mentors and other staff were sincere and gracious. As I write this, I'm wearing the Mercy tee they kindly gave us alums. They did a great job on their night.

My niece is a member of the graduating class, which made this class night special for me. If you get the chance to go some time, you'll feel old and young at the same time, reaffirm that we were fortunate to attend a really good school, and be comforted that these "kids" are getting ready to take their place out in the world and do good things.

Reunion Corner

Volunteers are still needed to help plan a reunion for the Class of 1971. If you would like to help, please email the Director of Alumnae, Barbara Miller at bmiller@mercyhigh.com. You may also call her at 860-347-8957.

CLASS OF 1976

The Class of 1976 is planning a joint reunion with their Xavier counterparts. Plan to join us on Saturday, September 17, at Esca Restaurant on Main Street in Middletown. The cost per person is \$30. Cash bar. Invitations and reservation information will be in the mail shortly.

CLASS OF 1981

The Class of 1981 will celebrate their 30 year reunion on Saturday, September 10, at Esca Restaurant in Middletown. Save the date!

CLASS OF 1986

The Class of 1986 will celebrate their 25th Class Reunion at Foxwoods on Saturday, October 15, 2011. More information to follow!

CLASS OF 1991

Save Saturday, October 8, 2011 for a brief tour of Mercy High School before heading off to a cocktail party at Esca Restaurant on Main Street in Middletown. Those interested in the tour of Mercy, will meet at 4:00 in the main lobby of the school. Mercy alumnae and restaurant owner, Elisa Bramato '01 will be ready to greet all of you at Esca beginning at 5:30. Information to follow.

CLASS OF 1996

The Class of 1996 will celebrate their 15th Class Reunion on Oct. 8th at Mezzo Grill. Save the date!

CLASS OF 2001

The committee working on the Class of 2001 reunion had to revisit plans previously made for their reunion. Please stay tuned for updated information.

CLASS OF 2006

The Class of 2006 partied into the night at the Mezzo Grille. With the upstairs room to themselves for the first hour, the girls had time to catch up and relive old memories before the DJ arrived and the real party began! Reunion booklets were available at Mezzo and will be mailed to those who could not attend. Thanks to Madeline Christensen for getting (and keeping) the ball rolling on this reunion.

MERCY IN BOSTON

Boston area Mercy grads met and mingled at the home of Mari-Kim Bunnell '81 in late April. Alumnae from the 1980's through the 2000's shared memories and Mercy spirit – proof positive that Mercy bonds are strong, regardless of class year. Thank you, Mari-Kim for hosting!

ATTENTION FAIRFIELD, CT AREA ALUMNAE AND STUDENTS!!

There will be a gathering of Mercy alumnae of all ages who live or go to school in the Fairfield area on Sunday, August 27, from 10:30-12:30 at the home of Sheila Speight Iacono '90. Thank you, Sheila! Plan to join us for brunch and a visit with Sr. Mary. Invitations will be in the mail soon. Until then, Save the Date!

ATTENTION NYC AREA ALUMNAE AND STUDENTS!!

Mercy hits Manhattan! Watch your mail and online for information about a Mercy gathering in NYC. Date and time are yet to be determined.

Prayer Shawls – The Best Medicine

Recently, a basket filled with free shawls and blankets made by members of the Mercy Shawl Ministry Group was placed in a local coffee shop in Durham. Katie, the owner of *Perk on Main* in Durham, was very willing to have the basket of shawls in her restaurant. To date, at least 30 prayer shawls have been taken from the basket and given to those in need of prayers, comfort, a smile, a joyful moment, etc.

People from many parts of the US stopped by Perk on Main for a cup of coffee, breakfast or lunch during the Christmas holidays and left notes of thanks and the names of people they wanted remembered in prayer. One lady left a note saying that she had several friends in need of prayer but that she would only take one shawl and wrap it around herself and pray for all of her dear friends.

If you are in the Durham area, stop by Perk On Main and pick up a shawl for someone in need. Shawls may also be requested through Robyn Fortier, Development Associate at rfortier@mercyhigh.com. We would be happy to send out a shawl to you for your particular need.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a group of faculty, students, and alumnae who come together once a month throughout the school year. If you would like to participate, please contact Barbara Miller at 860-347-8957 or via email to bmiller@mercyhigh.com.

If you are interested in helping Mercy alumnae in your city connect with one another, or if you've recently moved and would like to locate alumnae in your area, contact the Alumnae Office at 860-347-8957 or bmiller@mercyhigh.com

Mercy Classic Benefits Scholarship Fund



Mercy alumnae representing classes from 2009 to 1967 participated in the Mercy Golf Classic.

The 19th Annual Mercy Classic Golf Tournament, to benefit the Mercy High School Scholarship Fund, was held at Lyman Orhards Golf Course on Monday, June 13. The rain held off for the mix of alumnae, parents, parents of alumnae and friends to enjoy a good day of golf and camaraderie. Alumnae from the Class of 2009 won the Women's Division for the second year in a row.

Playing on that foursome were Kaitlyn Guptill, Kathryn Satagaj, Molly Scott and Katie Mischke. Many other alumnae joined as golfers, volunteers, or committee members.

Plans are underway for next year's golf tournament. **If you would like to help,** contact Barbara Miller at 860-347-8957 or via email to bmiller@mercyhigh.com.

Mercy Volunteer Corps

Mercy Volunteer Corps, a volunteer program sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, invites you to spend a year or two serving in one of their eight locations in the US or in Guyana, South America. As graduates of Mercy High School, you have been rooted in the spirit of Mercy and know the importance of service to society. A year of service with Mercy Volunteer Corps is an opportunity for you to enter into relationships with people who are economically poor and marginalized while living a simple and spiritual lifestyle in community. Placements are available in social service, health care and education.

Mercy volunteers receive room and board, a personal stipend, transportation, health insurance, an AmeriCorps Education award (U.S. placements), professional and personal growth, school loan deferments, and retreat opportunities. To learn more, please contact the Mercy Volunteer Corps office at 215-641-5535 or visit their website at www.mercyvolunteers.org.

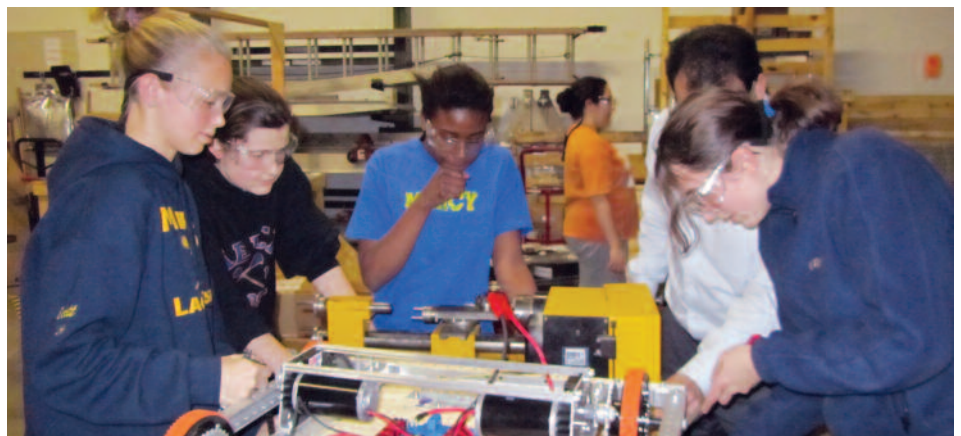
Tech Tigers are Roaring!

By Becky Ouellette '12

The Tech Tigers are off to an amazing start in their rookie year! They are Mercy's very first robotics team who are proud and mighty with their stripes.

The team was given two containers of wires, batteries, motors and a computer. Instructions not included! Working with the guidance of professional engineers on this rigorous challenge, the Tech Tigers have already created a name for themselves. At the practice round in Suffield, the Tech Tigers robot was one of the very first robots to be able to maneuver around the field.

The team has 18 members and all students have women power in them! They spent six hard weeks building a robot they named Prima. Most girls knew little to nothing about robots when joining the team, but that can't be said today.



Our robotics team was successful in part for all of the help and support they had from volunteer mentors, including Anne D'Orvilliers '71. The FIRST robotics program is very involved and is planned to help educate students in more than just technology. **We need mentors** who have skills in business, communications, marketing, fundraising, organization, hospitality, etc. as well as computer programming, metal work and engineering. If you are interested in helping, contact Barbara Miller, Director of Alumnae, at 860-347-8957 or via email to bmiller@mercyhigh.com. A wish list of needed supplies and resources can be found under announcements on the school's website, www.mercyhigh.com.



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Join us on Facebook and stay up to date on the latest happenings at Mercy, including student activities and accomplishments!

CLASS OF 1969

Barbara Warzecha Puffer MA, ABC, Associate Professor, University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Communications Studies & Professional Writing, has been selected to receive the 2011 UMUC Teaching Recognition Award for the School of Undergraduate Studies. Barbara, a retired corporate communications consultant since 1998, has been teaching for UMUC since 2002. She teaches online in the undergraduate program and for the Graduate School of Management and Technology. She is also undergraduate Communications Course Chair.

CLASS OF 1970

Carmen Catalano is a Physician, on the Medical staff at Hartford Hospital and is a preceptor at Middlesex Hospital in Integrative Medicine Fellowship program. She earned a BM degree from the Hartt School of Music; a MM degree from the UCONN School of Fine Arts and a BS and MS degree from the NY College for Health Professions. She enjoys organic gardening and antiques, and is on the Physicians Council for Responsible Reform. Carmen lives in Middletown and has a son, Marcellus. • Tcm1doc@aol.com

Mary Margaret Shaw lives in Martinsburg, WV and has four grown children. She earned her BA degree from Bates College, her MS degree from Syracuse University, her MA from the University of New Orleans and her PhD from the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill. She is a Principal Urban Planner. • marymshaw@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 1972

Claire-Louise Deshaies Cerrigione and her husband Martin live in Enfield. She has 3 grown children; Michelle, James and Andrew. She is a Business Analyst for Pratt & Whitney, and enjoys perennial gardening and jewelry design. "Sister Catherine Egan was my favorite teacher as she believed that I could accomplish great things. She bolstered my confidence, and encouraged my interest in historical research." • Seeds2weeds@msn.com

CLASS OF 1973

Mary Martin lives in Charlotte, NC and is a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at Salisbury Psychiatric Associates. She earned her undergrad degree from SCSU, a graduate degree from Long Island University and her MSN, APRN from Yale University. • Martin.Mary55@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1974

Lorelei Arnold Sola and her husband Chris live in Moodus. She has a grown daughter and she is a Distribution Clerk at Middlesex Hospital. She enjoys gardening, camping and most of all, pleasing God. "I realize that work and possessions are easily lost and gained, while we only have one chance to live our life the best we can and give to others along the way." Her message to classmates: "Thank you, all of you, for being part of my life. I love you all!" • Isola@sbcglobal.net

Elaine Kessell lives in Hudson, FL and is a Clinical Assistant at Apria Healthcare. "I am a Reiki Master, a Prayer Chaplain, and I also do Sacred Healing Meditation. I enjoy family, photography and spirituality." • lightship@netzero.net

Lena Seipel earned her degree from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences and is a Landscape Architect employed by Norconsult. She lives in Göteborg, Sweden with her husband Lars-Ake Eriksson and 16 year old daughter, Nora. She enjoys tennis, traveling, skiing and spending time with her family. • erikssonseipel@telia.com

CLASS OF 75

Diane Hughes DeLauro earned her BS degree from the University of New Haven and her MBA degree from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and is the owner of Diamond Mortgage Group, LLC. She lives in Waterford with her husband Anthony. • didelauro@ct.metrocast.net

CLASS OF 1977

Mary Bartman graduated from Wellesley College and lives in Italy. • mary.bartman@fondazionesperono.org

Stephanie Tripoli Nelson is the District Office Manager for Genuine Parts Co. She lives in Kensington with her husband David and 17 year old daughter, Elizabeth. • Tripili58@msn.com

CLASS OF 1979

Cathy "Cat" DeBarge lives in Chicago and is a self-employed Gonzo writer. She is a proud lifetime member of the Red Sox Fan Nation. "I participate in neighborhood block cleanups, literacy volunteer, and safe-sex counseling for at-risk young people. I have lived out loud and with conviction. I stand up for those things in which I believe. My favorite Mercy memory is of the plane landing over at Vinal during first period French one morning, and I was the only witness. My telling all three news networks that I was looking out the window because I was bored in French did NOT go over well! I have fond memories of Sister Eleanor, may she rest in peace. She made you learn whether you wanted to or not, and I had no idea how much of an impact taking Latin would have on my day to day life now that I've embarked on what I hope will be a career in writing. I don't believe there is a better high school/college prep education to be had, than Mercy. Period." Cat's message to her classmates: "Well, hello there. Hope this finds you all happy and healthy and at the place in life you had hoped you'd be at this point. I might even make that pesky 35th reunion in a couple years. You never know!" • cujokindafemme@aol.com

CLASS OF 1980

Joanne Casey Foreman is an LPN who lives in Killingworth with her husband and two sons, Matthew, 8 and Michael, 6. • JKCForeman@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 1984

Nadine Ferenc Bailey has two children, Nadeige, 15 and Jarius, 12, and lives in Cromwell with her husband Michael. She is a Sales/Customer Service Consultant at AT&T. "I enjoy cooking/catering and involvement in my children's sports activities, such as track, football, and basketball. I am currently a board member at my place of residence. I have fond memories of the Washington Senior class trip, and history teacher, Mrs. Wallack. I appreciate the special attention a teacher would give you if and when you needed help. Many life lessons were learned at Mercy and so many laughs, good times and friendships were formed. Nadine's message to her classmates is "always remember the red Volkswagen, lol! Also remember Nadine, it's not a road! Thank you for all the good times, tears, and laughter that were shared along the way (mostly laughter)." • Nbailey07@snet.net

CLASS OF 1986

Meghan McDermott Tobin is living in Erieville, NY with her husband John and children Jake, 8, Fiona, 7, Michaela, 5, and Finn, 2. She earned her undergrad degree in Psychology from the University of Vermont, and her MA in Counseling degree from Lesley University. "I enjoy spending time with my family, sewing, sailing, reading, and drama. I wrote and received a grant to direct a theater production about the recovery from eating disorders. My favorite Mercy memory is of the musicals and Mrs. Psoter - her classes were fun and interesting. Also, Ann Derbacher and Marie Grassi taught me that it was ok to be myself. We were held to high standards at Mercy regarding commitment and respect. As a parent, I expect the same from my own children." Her message to her classmates: "Can't wait to see everyone in October!" • megotobin@gmail.com

Maggie Oakes Joyce lives in Fairfield and earned her degrees from CCSU and Sacred Heart University. • magjoy@hotmail.com

Megan Sheedy Nesci, married to Salvatore for the past 16 years, works and lives in Middletown, CT. Her son is a Freshman at Xavier High School and daughter is in 7th grade. • salvatore.nesci@snet.net

Barbara Wade Holloman and her husband Bryant live in Meriden with their children, Parrish, 13, and Courtney, 11. She earned her Associates Degree in Business Management from Albertus Magnus College and her Bachelor in Theology from Christian Leadership Bible College. Barbara is employed as a Compliance Auditor and is also President of the Meriden-Wallingford NAACP, a Board Member for the Boys & Girls Club of Meriden, Board Member for Meriden Children First, and a life-long active member of Shiloh Baptist Church. In her free time she is an event planner/wedding coordinator. "My son was called to the ministry at the age of 4, presented his initial sermon at the age of 9, and entered Bible College at the age of 11. I married my high school sweetheart. I went back to school and received my Associates Degree in Business Management and am now working toward my Bachelor Degree in the same field." Favorite Mercy memories for Barbara include "singing Madonna on the bus after every away track meet, and Sister Mary McCarthy—maybe because of the times I spent in the office with her (hahahaha)—more importantly the continued contact we have to this day. Also, Mrs. Ubaldini...we still have a relationship—we attend the same church. Mercy provided an awesome education for me. Although I didn't understand it then, I now appreciate all of the homework and discipline given to us by the faculty. I was well prepared for college and life." Barbara's message to her classmates is "I've learned that no matter what happens, or how bad it seems today, life does go on, and it will be better tomorrow." (anonymous) • bfortheyouth@aol.com

CLASS OF 1987



LTC P. Anela Arcari, US Army Corp of Engineers, is serving as an Officer in Charge in the Mazar-e Sharif Area

Office, Camp Spann, Afghanistan. Anela is serving a one year deployment to Afghanistan. • anelaarcari@yahoo.com

Sandra Petrella Miller earned her BA in Psychology degree from ECSU and is a Fraud Investigator for Aetna. She lives in Meriden with her husband, John. • bonitabone@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1988

Shelly Mucik Thompson lives in Higganum with her husband Tom. She graduated from CCSU and is an English Teacher. • muciks@aol.com

CLASS OF 1989

Michelle Airo Salafia earned her BS degree in Radiologic Sciences from Quinnipiac College and graduated from the Yale School of Ultrasound. She is a Physician Liaison at Jefferson Radiology. Michelle lives in Middletown with her husband Rosario and children Alyssa, 14, Briana, 12 and Steven, 9. "I have soooo many wonderful memories at Mercy! The friendships are bonds that even after 21 years are still strong! Mercy has helped me become the woman, wife, mother, and career woman that I am today!! Mercy was the BEST 4 years of my life, wish I could go back!!! I'm proud to be a Mercy Alumni!!! '89! I appreciate all the faculty at Mercy; Sr. Mary for her guidance and support as a student and also when I needed someone to talk to even 20 years later! Mr. Brickey for putting up with us in History class;

Ms. Freeman for always being sooo cool with us and Ms. Ceberek for the most memorable Biology Class!! Mercy helped me achieve confidence and self esteem. Mercy taught me to follow my dreams and I would succeed! I KNOW I am where I am today because of Mercy! To The Class of 1989: We were a very unique and distinct class in the sense that we were ALL so different in our interests and as individuals yet we were ALL friends and we all stood by one another. To All that attended our 20 yr reunion, we had a BLAST and hope more of The Class of '89 will be attending our 25th!!!! Mark your calendars ladies.....4 more years!! xoxo "Airo" • Michelle salafiamicha@ sbc-global.net

CLASS OF 1990

Anna Amenta Kluzinski is attending CCSU and is a per-diem lab tech at Middlesex Hospital. She lives in Middletown with her husband and children, Joshua, 3 ½ and 2 year old Ava. • akluzinski@yahoo.com

Erin Hassett is a Supervising Account Rep for Amica Insurance where she has worked for 18 years. She has great memories of graduation and Sr. Eleanor and her sense of humor. Erin lives in Middletown. • Peppy36@sbcglobal.net

Amy Sbrolla lives in Boston. She graduated from Boston College and is a Registered Nurse. • asbrolla@hotmail.com

CLASS OF 1991

Laura Ferraguto graduated from Boston College and lives in Cambridge, MA. Laura.ferraguto@gmail.com

Jordana Zaratiegui Geeser is an Office Administrator for SRLV, The Premiere Business Networking Organization. She lives in Las Vegas, NV with her husband Michael and children, Hannah, 11 and Noah, 8. She enjoys traveling, cooking and being involved with her children's sports. • mjgeeser@aol.com

CLASS OF 1993

Amanda May Sirica earned her Mass Communications degree from Quinnipiac University and works for her own firm, Sirica Marketing & Public Relations, LLC. She lives in Farmington with her husband Robert. "I am the Vice President of the Board of Managers of the Wheeler Regional Family YMCA and a member of CT Women's Council. I have been named Hartford Business Journal's 40 Under Forty Award Winner, Class of 2010. I am enjoying a great work-life balance as a business owner and mommy of my two girls, Avery, 4 and Rowan, 1." Amanda@siricapr.com

CLASS OF 1994

Kimberly Terwilleger Gilleland lives in Marietta, GA with her husband Mark and children Avery, 4, Logan, 2. • Kim.gilleland@gmail.com

CLASS OF 1995

Molly Hubbard Aunger earned her degree from Assumption College and recently moved back to Middletown from Chicago with her husband Mark and year old twins, Hannah and Ethan. "We recently founded Northeast Motor Werks, LLC, a specialty BMW and Mini Cooper repair and restoration shop in Middletown. I have great memories of the Mercy musicals and of Mrs. Psoter for being my homeroom teacher everyday for 4 years. I'll never forget Sister Gertrude for loaning me a pair of sneakers so I wouldn't get a detention! Mercy inspired me with confidence that a woman can do anything if you put your mind to it." • hobbhubb@yahoo.com

Julie Sapia is a Supplemental Education Services Program Manager for students in grade K-3 in Hartford Schools, employed by the Community Renewal Team. She earned her BA degree in English from CCSU and her MS in Elementary Education from the University of Bridgeport. She lives in Middletown with her two daughters, age 1 and 5. She enjoys spending time with her family and working out. • Jsapia0417@comcast.net

CLASS OF 1996

Melissa Emmons is a store manager for ABC Home. She earned a Bachelors of Art History and a Bachelors of Urban and Regional Planning from FAU. She lives in Delray Beach, FL and "has fond memories of the friends I made and of getting a great education. Old friends...please email me! I miss you!" • memmons@abchome.com

Amy Tisdale lives in Chester and earned her BS degree in Natural Resources from UCONN. She is a Consulting Environmental Scientist at TRC Environmental. • atisdale@trcsolutions.com

CLASS OF 1997

Elisa Varni Ottone graduated from UCONN with a BS degree and lives in East Hampton with her husband Greg and year and a half old daughter, Paige. She is a Senior Sales Consultant for Aetna. Rxbabe2001@msn.com

Elizabeth Wormald writes "I graduated in 2001 from Providence College with a BS degree in Marketing and a minor in Spanish. I am engaged to Michael Zigmont and we are getting married in the fall of 2011. I truly enjoy my job at Westfarms as Marketing Coordinator. I plan events that happen in the mall, work closely with our retailers on opportunities, maintain the signage in the center, public relations including fashion/trend segments and fashion shows, etc. I love fashion and I love to shop. I also enjoy going to the gym and going to the beach. I enjoyed being a Mercy/Xavier cheerleader and cheering on our soccer, football and basketball teams." • elizabethmarisa@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 1998

Kelly Annino Shepard is an Events Coordinator for Chester Technical Services. She lives in Middletown with her husband, Allen. • kannino@ctslabs.com

Jennifer Derring Perfetto lives in Moorpark, CA with her husband John and children Kathryn, 8, Noah, 3, Gianna, 2 and Owen, 9 months. Jennifer

works helping to run their pool and spa company, Aqua Artist Pools and Spas, while caring for their children. • jenperfetto@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 2000

Christina Czap lives in Hamden and is a Museum Technician at Yale University Art Gallery. She earned her BA in Art History with a minor in Geography from UConn, and her MA in Art History and MA in Museum Studies from Syracuse University. She enjoys traveling, exercising, cooking and baking. "I am happy that I am actually doing what I went to school for - my masters in both Art History and Museum Studies are a part of my job each and every day. I have fond memories of singing "We are one body" during class ceremonies and masses and how Mrs. Abbott had genuine interest in her students. Miss Ceberek's Biology journal was also one of my favorite class projects. Mercy taught me strict discipline in my studies, which was useful in college. The extra-curricular activities also helped in balancing my social life with school." • Christina.czap@yale.edu

Erin Fortier earned her BS in Business Administration from UConn and is currently pursuing her MBA there as well. She works in the Brand Marketing department at LEGO. "I enjoy traveling the world! This past March I spent 2 adventurous weeks in Southeast Asia, traveling through Vietnam, Cambodia and Thailand." • erinfortier@aol.com

Jillian Marslano Treszi "I was married to my husband Dave on July 3rd, 2010 and we live in Hamden. I work in North Haven in the AV field and am an active member of the ASPCA." • JTreszi@hbgroupinc.com

Lisa Podolski Staron lives in Wethersfield with her husband Matthew Staron, and she is an Attorney, practicing at Barber & Staron LLC. She earned her BA from UConn and her JD from Quinnipiac University School of Law. • lisapodolski@hotmail.com

Nicole Souza earned her BS degree in Criminal Justice and her graduate degree from Sacred Heart University.

She is a Fire and Theft Investigator for Progressive Insurance. Nicole lives in Middletown where she is also a riding instructor at Hackneys Hope Farm. • Nicole226Souza@yahoo.com

Jennifer Wysocki Durbin and her husband Tony bought a house in Old Saybrook where they live with their beautiful 16 month old daughter, Emily. She earned her Business Administration degree from Middlesex Community College and does the data entry, invoicing and clerical work for Goal Sporting Goods, Inc. • jenniferbluecivicsi@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 2001

Elisa Bramato Petruilis earned a BS degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Salve Regina University. She is self employed as the owner of Esca Restaurant & Wine Bar. Elisa lives in Middletown with her husband, Daniel. • Ebramato05@hotmail.com

Heather Morassini Owens was married to Darrell Owens in August 2010 and they reside in Alexandria, VA. • Heather.morassini@gmail.com

Rachel Nathanson Anspach is living in Charleston, SC with her husband Jeremy. She graduated from the College of Charleston and then earned her BS degree in Nursing from the Medical University of SC. She is employed as a Registered Nurse.

Gabrielle Stasiak Pont earned her BGS degree with a focus in allied health from Charter Oak State College and is a Histotechnologist at UConn Health Center. She lives in East Hampton with her husband Joshua. "After graduating from college I hit the books and passed the HTL exam which is an exam that increases my marketability and ability to further develop my skill. I also went to Tucson, AZ for training on new diagnostic techniques. I would not have survived college without my education from Mercy. I believe Mercy made the transition to college classes smooth. Currently, I am looking forward to our first child, Aoife, to arrive this July." • Tigg101717@comcast.net

Kelly Van Deusen Laubenheimer graduated from Bryant University and lives in Abington, MA with her husband Kevin. She is currently a stay at home mom. "My husband and I welcomed our son, Brian Finn on May 24, 2010 - he was born at 11:09 AM and weighed 8 lbs, 10 ounces." • klaubenheimer@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 2002

Kathleen Crescimanno Kominski lives in Rocky Hill with her husband Matt and 9 month old Logan. She graduated from the New England School of Hairdressing and is a hair-stylist. • kekominke@cox.net

Allison Donahue is currently living in Bologna, Italy where she works as a literary translator and English teacher. She is also working with an association that teaches literacy through graphic novels and writing for the Italian graphic novel/comic criticism website Lo Spazio Bianco. A 2006 graduate of St. Michael's College with a Bachelor in English degree, Allison received a Masters degree in Italian from Middlebury College in 2007 and a second Masters degree in 2010 from the University of Toronto in Comparative Literature. In between academic pursuits, Allison lived in New York City writing for several food publications, serving Belgian beer and practicing the art of the cheese monger.

Amy LaMarre is a FST Therapist for Community Health Resources. She earned both her Psychology Degree and her Marriage and Family Therapy Master of Science Degree from CCSU. Amy lives in Cromwell with her husband, Matthew Lefebvre, Xavier, '02, and their 3 year old daughter, Erin Margaret. "I enjoy reading, exercising, and learning new things and am on the Juvenile Review Board of Haddam-Killingworth. My favorite Mercy memories are too numerous to choose just one. I appreciate Mrs. Garofoli, because she never lost faith in my abilities and Mrs. Montemerlo, because she helped me to have the courage to face the things that scared me. Mercy helped me to have respect and confidence in myself to pursue challenging goals." • Amy.LaMarre@att.blackberry.net

CLASS OF 2003

Bobi-Lee Bomster is a Service Coordinator for Valley Oil and lives in Lebanon. Bobi-lee58@hotmail.com

Jessica Burdick McDowell is a Medical Assistant at Collins Medical, having earned her Associate in Science degree in Medical Assisting from Capital Community College. "I married my high school sweetheart on Sept. 25, 2010. We are living in the house we bought 3 years ago in East Hampton. I currently work full time in a doctor's office and part time for a banquet hall in Glastonbury. I enjoy working and being with my husband and look forward to starting a family in the next year or two!" • Jesssunshine16@aol.com

CLASS OF 2004

Jennifer Baillargeon writes "after graduating as an undergraduate from Central CT State University I taught for two years at Saint Paul Catholic School in Kensington, CT. I am currently teaching English as a foreign language in Seoul, South Korea. I have been living in Seoul for almost one year. I completed my graduate work in Seoul and wrote my final thesis on my Korean students. I will teach here for at least one more year and hope to do some traveling around Asia. Dancing is my favorite hobby. I take ballet, modern dance, and hip hop classes as often as I can. I am also currently teaching a popular new fitness class called Zumba." • spsbailargeon@yahoo.com

Aubree Calamaro lives in Chester and earned her Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Studies from SCSU. "I am a Paramedic Assistant with Middlesex Hospital. I ride with the medics on calls and help with whatever they may need. I have fond memories of Ms. Grassi's "spirit journeys." I also liked the Father/ Daughter Dances and the Mother/ Daughter Brunches. My favorite teacher was Ms. Grassi...I loved this woman. She helped me spiritually with who I am today. She taught me that I can be whoever I wanted to be and also that I am the only one who can plan my future. I also had a soft spot for Sr. Christel. She was a warm hearted person and always

opened her room to me and others when we needed a "quiet" place to think and relax. I miss her! I feel that I am a more well rounded woman and I have goals. Before coming to Mercy I felt that I was lost and didn't know where to turn. I didn't like myself and didn't make good friend choices. After coming to Mercy, I know who I am and I am more goal orientated. I am a "Mercy girl". • Tapper620@yahoo.com

Kaitlin Lechowicz Finn lives in East Hampton and has welcomed two sons into her life, William Paul and Gabriel Richard. "Since Mercy, I have graduated college, married Daniel Finn, had a son, purchased a house in my hometown, had another son, and am enjoying life!" • Kaitlin.lechowicz@gordon.edu

Kathleen McKeever Danilowicz graduated from the University of Rhode Island with a degree in nursing and is a Registered Nurse at South County Hospital. "On June 11, 2010, Matthew and I got married at the breath-taking St. Patrick's Cathedral in Norwich followed by a fantastic reception at the Lake of Isles at Foxwoods. I'm sad that the planning stages are over but I love married life!" Kathleen and Matthew reside in Warwick, RI. • Kmckeever1133@hotmail.com

Carol Michalak lives in Glastonbury and is a RN at Hartford Hospital Emergency Department. • carolannemichalak@gmail.com

Ashley Trama earned her Biology degree at the College of the Holy Cross and is a graduate student at Duke University. She lives in Durham, NC. Ashley. • trama@gmail.com

CLASS OF 2005

Kayleigh Gunnoud graduated from the Catholic University of America with a degree in Art History. She is a Legal Assistant at Doherty Cella Keane and Associates, and lives in Washington, DC. • 50gunnoud@cardinalmail.cua.edu

Kelly Hickey graduated from UCONN with a degree in Human Development and Family Studies and is expecting to graduate from CCSU in 2012 with a School Counseling degree. Kelly lives in Cromwell. • Kelee2405@yahoo.com

Kaitlyn Janicki graduated Summa Cum Laude from UConn with a BA in Psychology, and received a Babbidge Scholar Award. After graduating she conducted research on post-traumatic stress disorder in incarcerated women trauma survivors through the UConn Health Center. She is now attending Smith College School for Social Work, anticipating a 2012 graduation with her Masters in Clinical Social Work. She is a Social Work Intern (Clinician/Treatment Manager) at the Institute of Living in Hartford. Kaitlyn lives in Manchester and is coaching girls youth lacrosse in Rocky Hill. She has fond memories of her days at Mercy playing field hockey and lacrosse. • Kjanicki21@gmail.com

Brittany Liseo lives in Savannah, GA and is the Sales and Catering Coordinator for North Point Hospitality. • Brittany.liseo@yahoo.com

Kathleen Marston is an Instructor Assistant for Guiding Eyes for the Blind. She earned a BS degree in Marine Science from the University of South Carolina and lives in Danbury. "I will be marrying my college sweetheart, Elias Petersen in July in Newport, RI. I enjoy hanging out with my Great Dane, Banjo. My favorite Mercy memory is the cake auction...I absolutely loved it!" • Marston.kate@gmail.com

CLASS OF 2006

Elizabeth Murray lives in Colchester and earned her BA degree in Psychology from Regis College. • Murray.esm@gmail.com

CLASS OF 2007

Sarah Bolasevich graduated Magna Cum Laude from Stonehill College and was featured on their website as one of "the best and brightest from Stonehill's Class of 2011. She spent the Spring of 2010 in Nepal examining Tibetan and Himalayan history and culture as part of the School of International Training (SIT) Study Abroad program. From serving as the student director of the Into the Streets Program to coordinating the College's efforts

with the MainSpring Homeless Shelter in Brockton, Sarah devoted 500 hours to community service as a Stonehill student. This summer, Sarah, who speaks conversational Tibetan, will switch her volunteer focus for the summer to Nepal, where she will help implement education programs in a rural village. In the Fall, she will enter Harvard Divinity School to study comparative religions and ethics while living at the school's Center for the Study of World Religions. From there, she plans to pursue a Ph.D. in mythology and caves/catacombs within the earliest Christian communities as well as within Buddhist traditions." • s.bolase@gmail.com

Brittany Mingione lives in Plantation, FL and anticipates a 2012 graduation from Florida International University with a major in Hospitality Management. • bmingionee@yahoo.com

CLASS OF 2008

Lindsey Sacco, a Junior at Marist College, is spending the Fall semester studying abroad at Lorenzo de' Medici in Florence, Italy. Laura Bentley, Amy Krauth & Maura Brigantico, all Mercy girls, enjoyed a reunion visit in November in Florence and a trip to Venice. "Study abroad is a wonderful, educational experience. Four days of classes during the week gives you three-day weekends to explore Europe. I have visited places like: Italy's Rome, Pisa, Perugia, Bologna, Amalfi Coast; Czech Republic, Prague; Munich, Germany; Monte Carlo, French Riviera; Barcelona, Spain; Dublin, Ireland; and London, England. This has been the experience of a lifetime!"



Lindsay, Laura, Amy and Maura on a bridge over waterway in Venice, Italy, November 2010.

Dear Sister Mary,

I hope this email finds you well! I just wanted to send you a quick note to say a big thank you to everyone at Mercy who contributed to the Blackstone Elementary Library Project. I, along with the rest of my team, would like to extend our gratitude for the hundreds of books donated by students, teachers, and administrators—Mercy made one of the largest contributions to the project of any organization! Blackstone now has a functioning library that students K-5 can use. We are optimistic that this new access to books will increase reading interest and literacy rates at Blackstone, and we are hopeful that this could soon lead to higher test scores overall. I spent this past summer in Boston working with the children who attend Blackstone, and I can already see improvements.



While I am writing this note, I should also add a second thank you to the general Mercy staff for giving me a great basis for my college career during my four years at Mercy. Lately I have been thinking a lot about the classes I took with Mrs. Wallack and Mrs. Corigliano that inspired my interest in American Government and Politics, because I am spending this semester away from Boston College doing an exchange semester at Georgetown University through the Semester in Washington Program. The program entails academic coursework studying the American Political and Legal System, two individual research projects, and an internship with an organization in Washington, DC. I personally am interning in the US Senate in Sen. Ron Johnson's office, which has been a great experience. There are many times when I am walking around the US Capitol and I think, "I never would have made it here without Mercy High."

Sincerely,
Jen O'Neil '08

IN MEMORIAM

We are always saddened to hear of the loss of one of our alums or a member of the Mercy community. Each spring, the Mercy Alumnae Association hosts a Memorial Mass, to celebrate the memory of these women and this year it will be held on May 1. If you would like to receive an invitation to this mass, please call the Alumnae Office at (860) 347-8957 or email alumnae@mercyhigh.com. Please remember in your prayers the following Mercy women:

Denise Deshaies Champion, Class of 1971, sister of Claire-Louise Deshaies Cerrigione, Class of '72

Cherie Graham, Class of 1991

Erin Loprinze, Class of 1993

Mary Beth Young Smith, Class of 1982

Nancy Ann Witkowski Smith,
Class of 1971

Please join the Mercy community in praying for our deceased family members:

Richard Anderson, Sr., father of Deb Anderson, '78 and Theresa Anderson Martin, '86.

Jeanne Andrews, mother of Jane Andrews Ryan, '69.

Leone Baroni, father of JoAnn Baroni Foristall, '69.

George Borrelli, father of Karen Borrelli Ramsey, '67, Kathy Borrelli Nadeau, '73, Sandra Borrelli Duncan, '74, and grandfather of Amanda Borrelli, '93,

Leanne Duncan, '97, Rebecca Duncan, '00 and Carey Anne Nadeau, '04.

Michael Brennan, father of Anne Brennan, '10, and husband of faculty member Rosanne Brennan.

Antoinette Campbell, mother of Carol Ann Campbell Daly, '76.

Anthony Catanzaro, Sr., father of Kim Catanzaro Buhler, '75.

Walter "Skip" Cavanaugh, father of Juliet Cavanaugh, '82.

Thomas Cloutier, Sr., father of Cara Cloutier Cassella, '94.

Margaret "Peggy" Cremin, mother of Regina Cremin, '78, Maurette Cremin Fischer, '83 and Celeste Cremin-Endes, '85 and grandmother of Clarissa Cremin-Endes, '12.

Paul Crete, father of Angelique Crete Willette, '89.

Frank Damiata, father of Scarlett Damiata Buckman, '73.

Virginia D'Elia, mother of Teri D'Elia Spadaccini, '73

Aurette Joseph Deschaine, father of Cheryl Deschaine Szarkowicz, '75 and Sharon Deschaine Brown, '75.

Reginald Dobbin, father of Suzanne Dobbin Warner, '71.

Salvatore Dominello, father of Kathleen Dominello Michalak, '71 and Diane Dominello Martin, '73, and grandfather of Christy Michalak, '99, Elizabeth Martin Montano, '00 and Lauren Martin, '02.

Thomas Flood, Jr., father of Colleen Floor Chowanec, '82.

Josephine Formica, mother of Phyllis Formica Certo, '72.

George Fortin, father of Beverly Fortin Kennedy, '67 and Janice Fortin Rosa, '70.

Myron Foster, father of Francine Foster Clawson, '69.

Elena Garofalo, mother of Ann Marie Garofalo Marchese, '70.

Martin Gorman, husband of Stephanie Petras Gorman, '90.

Frank Grockowski, father of Deborah Lee Grockowski, '70.

Francis "Frank" Jablonski, father of Cynthia Jablonski Pashley, '75.

Thomas Johnson, father of Jennifer Johnson San Vicente, '90.

Hope Kachinsky, mother of Faith Kachinsky Fraulino, '76.

Chester Krajewski, father of Ann Krajewski McElroy, '76.

Josephine Kovacic, mother of Louise Kovacic, '70.

Bernice Linderme, mother of Gail Linderme O'Donnell, '72.

Fred J. Lorenz, father of Mercy staff member Marilyn Skoge.

William (Bill) Magee, husband of Diane Otfinoski Magee '68 and father of Alicia Magee Belbin '95.

Corrado Joseph Maltese, father of Terrienne Maltese, '84.

Selina (Pat) Manemeit, mother of Noreen Manemeit Housewright, '87.

Michael Marseglia, father of Kathleen Marseglia, '72, Patricia Marseglia Colonghi, '74, Sharon Marseglia Champagne, '76, Eileen Marseglia Butterworth, '77 and Maureen Marseglia Konopka, '80, and grandfather of Jessica Champagne, 2005, and Emily Butterworth, 2010.

Thomas Marston, father of Jocelyn Marston, '13.

William Martell, husband of Elaine Sinkiewicz Martell, '73.

Joseph Martorelli, father of Catherine Martorelli, '08.

John Maziarz, father of Patricia Maziarz Aivano, '72 and grandfather of Kimberly Smith Boscariol, '90.

Lucille McCarthy, mother of Sharon McCarthy Aston, '78 and grandmother of Kayla McCarthy, '06, Kerri McCarthy, '09 and Abigail McCarthy, '12.

Robert Michalski, husband of Bonette Marcolini Michalski, '69 and sister-in-law of Annette Marcolini Bruno, '71, and Christina Marcolini, '75.

Emma "Wendy" Milardo, mother of Denise Milardo, '68.

Lorraine Milardo, mother of Lori-Jo Milardo DePati, '75 and grandmother of Amanda DePati, '09.

Marie Mularski, mother of Katherine Mularski Leverette, '84.

Horace Onorati, father of Deborah Onorati Bonecutter, '74 and Karen Onorati Burgess, '76.

Connie Pattavina, mother of Paula Pattavina Reid, '82 and Joann Pattavina Schweizer, '84.

Antoinette Petrucci, mother of Lucinda Petrucci Dymarczyk, '69.

Edward Poirier, Jr., sister of Nancy Poirier Melien, '71.

Marie Poirier, mother of Nancy Poirier Melien, '71.

Katie Rau, sister of Amanda Rau-McKenna, '99.

Albina Lorraine Russo, mother of Rose Mary Russo Dennis, '75 and Regina Russo Schoffstall, '82.

Maria C. Saraceno, mother of Giulia Saraceno Lau, '93.

Helen Sauve, mother of Donna Sauve Grisham, '75 and grandmother of Abigail Grisham, '06 and Molly Grisham, '10.

Jennie Sciacca, mother of Donna Sciacca, '77.

Richard J. Smith, Jr., father of Susan Smith, '77, Sharon Smith Harris, '79, Sally Smith Lapadula, '83 and Mary Smith Carta, '84, and grandfather of Heather Harris, '08, Rosemary Harris, '09 and Carly Carta, '14.

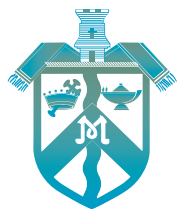
H. Michael Turnage, brother of Patricia Turnage Duguay, '72 and uncle of Tricia Duguay, '00.

Rose Veilleux, mother of Debra Veilleux Ciccaglione, '74, Gail Veilleux Castro, '77 and Lorraine Veilleux Nielson, '78.

Alton Whitehead, father of Marcy Whitehead Lepesko, '77.

Joseph Wyskiel, father of Linda Wyskiel Cahill, '71.

George Zeeb, father of Mary Zeeb Jascha, '82, father-in-law of Linda Lisitano Zeeb, '80, and grandfather of Ashley Zeeb, 2004, and Alyssa Zeeb, 2007.



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 10 – Class of '81 Reunion
SEPTEMBER 17 – Class of '76 Reunion
OCTOBER 8 – Class of '91 Reunion
OCTOBER 8 – Class of '96 Reunion
OCTOBER 15 – Class of '86 Reunion
OCTOBER 22 – Yellow Rose Auction
NOVEMBER 6 – Open House Class of 2016
NOVEMBER 19 – Entrance Exam
DECEMBER 14 – Winter Concert

Don't forget!

Prayer Requests can be submitted through our alumnae facebook page. Search for us (Mercy High School Official Alumnae Page – Middletown, CT) from facebook, click on discussions and then prayer requests.

MERCY WOMEN
KNOW BY HEART