Misericordia today

WINTER 2014

Misericordia University

CELEBRATES 13th presidency

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Charisms spring to life through actions and deeds of alumni … Pages 16-24

Nursing pass rates exceed state and national averages

Nursing students who graduated from the Bachelor of Science degree program achieved a pass rate that was 16 percentage points higher than the national average for pass rates on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN) for baccalaureate degree students during the past year.

Recent BSN graduates achieved a 98.08-percent pass rate for first-time test-takers who took the NCLEX-RN examination between Oct. 1, 2012 and Sept. 30, 2013. Graduates exceeded both the average national pass rate of 82.07 percent and the average pass rate in Pennsylvania of 85.31 for baccalaureate degree programs. It marks the third year in a row that the nursing program's pass rates surpassed the state and national averages.

The pass rate percentages are particularly significant since the exam was made more rigorous, as seen by a 10-point decrease in the national average for baccalaureate programs. The complexity of the exam also resulted in the state average dropping by 5.48 percentage points, from 90.79 in 2012 to 85.31 in 2013. MU's pass rate decreased just slightly more than two-tenths of a percent from 98.3 in 2012.

In addition, the May 2013 graduate degree nursing students in the Nurse Practitioner Program also received a 100-percent pass rate on the American Academy of Nurse Practitioner Exam.

The first class of students in the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies Program received white coats at a special ceremony.

PA Program holds inaugural white coat ceremony

The first class of students in the Master of Science in Physician Assistant Studies Program (MSPAS) received their white coats at a special ceremony.

More than 100 family and friends attended the event, which included welcome messages from Scott Massey, Ph.D., PA-C., professor and founding chair and program director of the Physician Assistant Studies program, and Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., president. The 20 students were presented with their symbolic white coats and recited the pledge of a physician assistant, promising to adhere to the core values of honesty, integrity, altruism, and empathy of the profession.

The MSPAS degree is offered through the College of Arts and Sciences. It is an intensive 24-month, year-round program designed for students who hold a bachelor's degree and meet other entrance requirements or are enrolled in the MU Bachelor of Science in Medical Science (BSMS) 3+2 program.

The white coat ceremony signifies the completion of the didactic year of study. The students, members of the inaugural Class of 2014, then moved into the clinical phase of their training.

The students will don a longer coat when they graduate and take the Physician Assistant Professional Oath, which reminds them to always put the health, safety, and privacy of their patients first and to act in a professional manner at all times.

First-year students are accepted into the BSMS program at Misericordia each fall in cohorts of 20. To receive the BSMS, students complete a curriculum of 125 to 131 semester hours. In the upcoming clinical year, this class of students will perform nine five-week clinical clerkships in a variety of professional settings to ensure that they amass a wide range of learning experiences.

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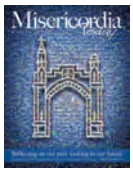

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Have a story to share? Contact *Misericordia Today* by calling **(570) 674-6372** or by e-mailing at **editor@misericordia.edu**.

33 William desRosiers '09, '11 is the external affairs coordinator for Houston, Texas-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., which is extracting natural gas reserves from the Marcellus Shale in Susquehanna County, Pa.

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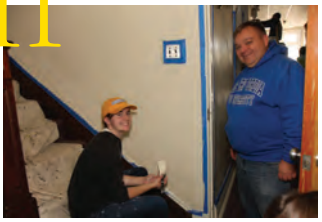
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Friedman Art Gallery bringing Pablo Picasso limited edition ceramics to campus in May.

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ON THE COVER

John Metz, chair of the Misericordia University Board of Trustees, places the Presidential Chain of Office on President Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., during the inauguration of Misericordia University's 13th president on Friday, Nov. 15.

Inauguration Week reveals exciting future

We recently completed one of the most exhilarating and exhausting weeks of my life with my presidential inauguration. It was all that I had hoped for – and more – as we celebrated the many accomplishments of Misericordia University over the years and looked forward to the excitement of the future.

The week featured a wide range of scholarly activities, beginning with the Dr. Midori Yamanouchi Lecture Series featuring Ishmael Beah, a former child soldier from Sierra Leone. Mr. Beah's inspirational message of how his spirit, and the gifts of many who supported him in his move to the United States and away from war, provided him with both the physical and psychological space to recover fully his humanity and sense of purpose. Many of us were also rewarded with original poetry and the presentation of scholarly works by both students and faculty. Students also highlighted the week with presentations of their service projects and a day of service at the Catherine McAuley House, Habitat for Humanity, and Mery Services Center. Finally, the Tambur Family and the Tambur Family Foundation were recognized for dedication to the University at the 2013 Trustee Associates Gala and Inauguration Celebration dinner.

Our students were active on campus as teams of student chefs competed against my team in a culinary competition. Although our creations were wonderful, we failed to prevail against the students – an outcome that was repeated in a student video game competition. We all enjoyed the visit by Father Leo Patalinghug, host of *Grace Before Meals*, who taught us about how to make extraordinary pasta with vodka sauce along with lessons of how to strengthen our community with shared meals. Add in several dinners and receptions, and we can be sure that all were fed well and content.

Friday's inauguration day began with a liturgy that featured the wisdom of Monsignor Jack Bendik, a former Misericordia chaplain and member of our Board of Trustees. The inauguration ceremony, featuring our campus community in full force and spirit, was joined by more than 50 delegates from other colleges and universities. I was so pleased to have my family in attendance, as were friends dating all the way back to my grade school days and early years of my professional career. In my address, I attempted to capture the spirit of the Sisters of Mercy and the four charisms: Mercy, Service, Justice, and Hospitality. We are a young University, with challenges and successes, struggles and victories, and are just learning how to expand our reach beyond the borders of our campus and our local community. My hope is that we can continue to talk with each other, and more importantly listen to each other, as we find our way into an even more exciting future.

In closing, I am so grateful to the Misericordia University community for the warm welcome they have given to my family and to me. We are very blessed to be a part of this wonderful community.

President Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D.

Couple's generosity 'solidifies' their relationship with MU

Frank '93, '03 and Liz Kovalchik Carden '03 completed multiple "tours of duty" at Misericordia University.

Frank earned his bachelor's and master's degrees 10 years apart separated by an enlistment in the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps as an infantryman deployed around the world. Liz competed in both field hockey and lacrosse, earning selection to the athletics Hall of Fame for field hockey in 2013.

Now, they feel it is their duty to give back. "It's as if it were a thank you – a thank you for the life lessons we were taught and what Misericordia has done for us as people," says Liz, who works as a behavioral marketing strategist.

The interest in giving to MU started early. "I've given since I first graduated, and put funds toward business department efforts. As a couple, we've expanded our giving to more MU projects," says Frank, who works for the federal government.

Liz cites her involvement in athletics as formative. "Coach (Robyn) Fedor (Stahovic) and the field hockey team helped instill the values that I use today. I cannot thank them enough. Giving back financially is one way to help do that."

Frank is quick to point out the impact of donor recognition. "We have donated a bench in the Shakespeare garden, and we have two pavers on campus. Seeing them helps to solidify our relationship to Misericordia," he says.

Liz believes MU still maintains its traditional strengths. "The faculty members provide personal attention. They do not just check off a box to say a student completed a course. They set you up for future success," adds Liz, who earned a B.S. degree in biology.

Frank '93, '03 and Liz Kovalchik Carden '03 reside in the Lehigh Valley, near Allentown, Pa., with their son, Michael.

Frank's first "tour of duty" at Misericordia came as the son of long-time business faculty member Mary Carden '62. "I no longer live in the area, but every time we visit campus we never feel like strangers. People are genuinely interested in how we are doing," says Frank, who earned his undergraduate degree in accounting and his master's degree in organizational management.

Alumna helps others to realize their dream

Nancy Smith Lynch '68 has plenty of reasons to be thankful.

It was her aunt who provided her with the guidance and direction to seek a career as an educator. That career path enabled her to meet her husband and fellow educator, A. Robert Lynch, in 1969. They married in 1971.

"I knew I wanted to be a home economics teacher," says Lynch, whose aunt also was a teacher and she respected her tremendously.

Lynch realized her dream and lived it for 33 years, teaching home economics in the middle school of the Jericho Public Schools on Long Island, N.Y., before retiring in 2001. Her husband taught sociology, psychology and economics to high school students in the same district.

Through the years, the couple remained somewhat engaged with Misericordia as they established their careers, furthered their educations, and built a life together as a married couple in Glen Head, N.Y. Lynch continued to exchange Christmas and birthday cards with some of her classmates and she routinely made an annual donation to her alma mater.

Nancy Smith Lynch '68 and husband, Robert.

After she retired, the relationship between Misericordia and Mr. and Mrs. Lynch began to blossom as she contacted the college to make a generous donation. A few years later, though, a serious health scare reminded her about what makes the Misericordia family so special. "I needed hip replacement surgery and ended up for some time with a MRSA staff infection," she recalls. "Bettsi found out I was sick and word went out and I received gifts, Mass cards and get-well cards. Every class should have a Bettsi Jaeger ('68). She is the one who holds us together to this day."

Since then, Lynch joined Council Misericordia (CM) in 2009 and has remained truly engaged in a leadership and philanthropic role. She worked with fellow classmates to establish the Bettsi E. Jaeger '68 Scholarship, and continues to offer guidance and support worthy initiatives in her role on CM.

Misericordia was an all-women's college when Lynch and her classmates formed that lasting bond. MU's influence has grown considerably since then as a record number of male and female students work toward their degrees today. The demand for an MU degree may have grown, but the mission on which it was founded remains true.

"I think of the goodness and generosity of everybody on campus throughout my four years," Lynch says, recalling her fondest collegiate memories. "The students just look happy and content to be there. I would not have enjoyed the success I have without Misericordia. We have been very fortunate and this is an opportunity for us to say, thank you."

CAMPUS VIEWS

Two elected to Board of Trustees

Misericordia University and the Conference for Mercy Higher Education elected Marjorie Henry Marquart '85 of Dallas Twp., Pa., and Mary Helen Nugent, RSM of Dallas Borough, Pa., to the Board of Trustees.

Marjorie Henry Marquart '85

Ms. Marquart graduated magna cum laude from Misericordia with a Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education in 1985. She also graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in business management from the University of Tampa, Tampa, Fla.

Mary Helen Nugent, RSM

Sister Mary Helen has been a member of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas since 1989. She holds a Doctor of Ministry in pastoral counseling from the Graduate Theological Foundation, South Bend, Ind.; a Master of Science in community counseling from the University of Scranton, Scranton, Pa.; a Master of Arts in health care administration from the University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, and a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology from Saint Mary's College, Notre Dame, Ind.

Medical imaging student earns national scholarship

Samantha Weikel '15 of Shamokin, Pa., was awarded a competitive 2013 Lambda Nu Scholarship, the national honor society for the radiologic and imaging sciences. The scholarship award will assist Weikel in completing the 18-month certificate program in diagnostic medical sonography at MU after earning her bachelor's degree in medical imaging.

More information about the medical imaging program can be found at *www.misericordia.edu/mi*.

The Department of Physical Therapy graduated its first class from the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program during the 3rd annual winter commencement ceremony in December. Members of the Class of 2013, first row from left, are Marrianne Mullarkey, Rego Park, N.Y.; Samantha Dunleavy, Dunmore, Pa.; Renee Noll, Hopewell Junction, N.Y.; Joshua Hundley, Binghamton, N.Y.; Leah Conant, Exeter, Pa.; Marcie Cusatis, Hazleton, Pa.; Meghan Kane, Mullica Hill, N.J.; Mallory Gagliano-Barnhart, Sciota, Pa., and Mailee Haas, Nanticoke, Pa.; second row, John Giampietro, Dallas, Pa.; Cassandra Fumanti, Peckville, Pa.; Jennifer Brown, Hawley, Pa.; Amanda Stahl, Sunbury, Pa.; Megan McClary, Sayre, Pa.; Erin Schaller, Stroudsburg, Pa.; Sarah Hanlon, Scranton, Pa.; Kimberly Swartz, Frackville, Pa.; Emily Getz, Kunkletown, Pa., and Christine Clark, Stroudsburg, Pa.; third row, Alexandra Goble, Bradford, Pa.; Jeffrey Clark, Middletown, N.Y.; Gregory Massie, Stroudsburg, Pa.; Gary Koncewicz, West Wyoming, Pa.; Timothy Dymond, Dallas, Pa.; Justin Huff, Montrose, Pa.; Neil Dorman, Larksville, Pa.; Michael Holder, South Orange, N.J., and Nathan Powers,

ASHFoundation presents national scholarship to graduate SLP student

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Foundation (ASHFoundation) has awarded one of 16 graduate student scholarships to Midori Rodriguez '14 of Stroudsburg, Pa., a second-year graduate student in the Speech-Language Pathology Program.

The ASHFoundation presents 16 scholarships annually to audiology and speech-language pathology graduate students across the country. Most of the recipients are doctoral students from major research universities.

Rodriguez was one of the few master's level students to receive an award and was the only student to receive a scholarship funded by the ASHFoundation's Minority Scholarship Fund. One-hundred and eighteen applications were received for the prestigious award. Rodriguez received the $5,000 scholarship at the ASHFoundation's Annual Founders Breakfast at the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) Annual Convention in Chicago, Ill.

Among her accomplishments, Rodriguez co-founded the National Stuttering Association's Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter on campus.

With Hunter Manasco, Ph.D., assistant professor, they conducted a

CAMPUS VIEWS

Towanda, Pa.; fourth row, Ashlee Zeigler, Weatherly, Pa.; Mickey Singh, Rahway, N.J.; Ozcan Dalgic, Bordentown, N.J.; Christopher MacIntosh, Toms River, N.J.; Kaila Augustine, Kulpmont, Pa.; Kathryn Hingley, West Chester, Pa.; Rachel Orifici, Miller Place, N.Y.; Marisa Evans, Conklin, N.Y.; Erika Hartzel, Watsontown, Pa.; Jessica Lee, Thompson, Pa., and Katelyn Kilmer, Nicholson, Pa.

First degrees awarded in DPT program

The Department of Physical Therapy at Misericordia University graduated the first class from the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program during the 3rd annual winter commencement ceremony in the Anderson Sports and Health Center on campus.

The Doctor of Physical Therapy program at Misericordia University is a 6½-year professional program in which students receive a bachelor's degree and a doctor of physical therapy degree. Undergraduate students complete the requirements for their bachelor's degree during their first 3½ years of study in programs such as biology, business administration, health care management, psychology, sport management, and more. Students accepted into the Misericordia program as first-year students are guaranteed to progress into the graduate program as long as they are in good academic standing.

Misericordia also accepts transfer students into the doctoral program. Academically qualified students with a bachelor's degree can complete the doctorate degree in three years.

For more information about doctor of physical therapy program, please log on to *www.misericordia.edu/pt.*

study using cutting-edge Motion Capture Technology (MCT) to obtain rare normative data on labial and mandibular movement during speech. The results were co-presented at the 2013 ASHA Annual Convention. They will also present their findings at the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association (PSHA) Annual Convention in Pittsburg, Pa., in April. Later, she developed a proposal to use MCT for stuttering treatment and assessment. MU's Institutional Review Board approved her independent study using human subjects. The results will also be presented at the PSHA Convention.

She made two presentations, entitled, *Funding for Stuttering: How to Use Your State's Vocational Rehabilitation Agency to Pay for Services for Persons who Stutter* and *Starting a University-Based Stuttering Support Group: A Sustainable Approach*, at NSA's 2013 Convention in Scottsdale, Ariz. The latter also was presented at the ASHA Convention. She also submitted a research paper about the establishment and sustainability of a university-sponsored stuttering support group to the journal, *Perspectives on Fluency and Fluency Disorders*, for peer review.

Midori Rodriguez '14

The Princeton Review recommends MU

Misericordia University has been recognized as one of the top colleges and universities in the northeastern United States, according to The Princeton Review.

MU is one of 226 institutions of higher education The Princeton Review has recommended in its "Best in the Northeast" section of its website feature, "2014 Best Colleges: Region by Region," that is posted at PrincetonReview.com.

U.S. News rankings recognize Misericordia

Misericordia University ranks in the top tier, 43rd out of 139 colleges and universities, in the Best Regional Universities – North category of U.S. News and World Report's 2014 edition of Best Colleges, which includes institutions of higher education in the northern United States that offer master's degrees.

The University's 43rd ranking is up 24 places from 2007, including a four-point improvement from 2013. In the latest rankings, MU is included in a tight grouping of 11 colleges and universities that are separated by two points for the rankings of 37 through 43, respectively.

'Best Bang for the Buck' awarded by magazine

Misericordia is ranked among the top 39 percent of all master's degree-granting institutions in the country by Washington Monthly magazine in a survey that stresses community service and social mobility of students.

MU is ranked 264th overall among 684 other colleges and universities that were recognized in the "2013 Master's Universities" category. The rankings appear in the September/October issue.

In a separate "Best Bang for the Buck" listing, MU is ranked 233rd overall and 97th among master's degree granting colleges and universities in the nation.

In the traditional rankings, Misericordia ranks 13th in the nation for student participation in service.

Martha Hanlon RSM, Ed.D.

Board of Trustees

Educators shape lives and thereby shape the future. Misericordia Trustee Martha Hanlon, RSM, Ed.D., '60 knows this well. A combined 40 years as an elementary school teacher, principal, college administrator, and college faculty member have given her opportunities and insights to help shape the future of Misericordia University and its students.

"As a Sister of Mercy, I believe in the mission and goals of Misericordia University. I strongly support the charisms," says Sister Martha.

A 1960 graduate of College Misericordia, Sister Martha spent years as a classroom teacher before ascending the ranks to become principal of St. Kevin's School in Flushing, N.Y. Many alumni will remember her as Misericordia's dean of students between 1978 and 1989. She held a leadership role with the Sisters of Mercy regional community for eight years before spending nearly a decade as an associate professor of education at King's College in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. She earned a doctorate in education from Lehigh University and a master's degree in elementary education from the University of Scranton.

"As a board member I have an opportunity to contribute with other trustees who believe in quality education," she says. "Just as in the past, today's board members continue to contribute time, money and talent to Misericordia and, in turn, to society."

Sister Martha sees an important leadership parallel between the founding of Misericordia and where the University stands today. She referred to several important historical details as described in *At the Edge of Centuries: College Misericordia 1913-1999* by Dr. Regina Kelly, RSM '43 and Dr. Agnes Toloczko Cardoni '69. The Sisters of Mercy had the vision and drive to found College Misericordia, the first four-year institution in Luzerne County. However, they needed the support of business leaders in the community.

"The Sisters could not have done it by themselves. It was the Sisters who came forward with the idea to start the college, but it is important to note that we have always counted on the support of the men and women in the community. We still count on the businessmen and businesswomen of the area to provide support and leadership for Misericordia," Sister Martha says.

At the college's founding, The Sisters of Mercy were meeting the needs of society by providing opportunities for young women to escape the city and find "true beauty and nature." Although the student population has changed much since 1924, Sister Martha says MU is still effective in creating societal change and preparing students to succeed in today's fast-paced world.

"Misericordia links the needs of society with the educational offerings at the University, all in an academic climate of leadership," she says.

Sister Martha has retired from her duties at King's College, but is a leader in the community. She volunteers at Catherine McAuley House, the Ethics Institute of Northeast Pennsylvania, Sisters of Mercy Sponsor Council, McGlynn Learning Center, and the planning committee for the Nativity Miguel School in Scranton, Pa.

When asked about her thoughts on the future of MU, she shared a keen vision. "Misericordia needs to continue to enable students to study for their chosen profession. However, we should never lose sight of our liberal-arts based, high-quality education. As a University, I hope we can expand the fine arts, reach out more to international students, provide for students to engage in international-learning experiences, and provide online learning with an emphasis on quality," Sister Martha adds.

"Misericordia links the needs of society with the educational offerings at the University, all in an academic climate of leadership."

– Martha Hanlon, RSM, Ed.D.

John C. Metz, chair of the Board of Trustees, left and center, officially inaugurates Dr. Botzman by presenting him with the Chain of Office. President Botzman, right, begins his inaugural address.

Inauguration celebrates founding principles and reimagines the future

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Misericordia University inaugurated Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., during a formal installation service on Friday, Nov. 15 before more than 1,000 faculty, students, staff and honored guests in Lemmond Theater in Walsh Hall and in classrooms on campus via simulcast and by streaming on the World Wide Web.

"Inaugurations are important in that they symbolize a new beginning," said John C. Metz, chair of the Board of Trustees. "The ceremony gives us time to pause, to reflect on the past, and to imagine the future. We use tradition and ceremony to remind us of the important work of the University and the trust we place in its leadership."

Dr. Botzman's inaugural address was a celebration of the principles on which Misericordia was founded in 1924, what it has become, and what it can become. He provided a glimpse of his vision for the not-too-distant future and somewhere down the road for alumni, students, faculty, staff and neighbors. In his remarks, he recognized Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, and the countless sisters who have continued her mission "to serve people who suffer from poverty, sickness and lack of education."

Beyond Harmony performs at the inauguration ceremony for President Botzman.

His address reflected upon his undergraduate years and how a lesson learned long ago can be applied to his first presidency. The ill-chosen words, "learning is suffering," still resonate with President Botzman to this day. He took that statement and turned it into a theme

Continued next page

Inauguration Week — Nov. 11-16

Misericordia University held the following events for Inauguration Week:

MONDAY, NOV. 11
The Dr. Midori Yamanouchi Lecture Series: Ishmael Beah – *A Long Way Gone: A Story of Redemption and Hope.*

TUESDAY, NOV. 12
Student Cooking Competition – President Botzman and his team of chefs competed against teams of students.

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 13
Presentation of Student Service Projects – Students revisit volunteer efforts locally and internationally.

Poetry Reading – Faculty members read excerpts of their latest writings.

THURSDAY, NOV. 14
Scholarly Work – Students and faculty presented highlights of their research and scholarly work.

Father Leo Patalinghug – Host of *Grace Before Meals* used a cooking demonstration to show meals can strengthen families and communities.

FRIDAY, NOV. 15
Inauguration Liturgy – Monsignor John J. Bendik and Father John Dakes celebrated Mass.

Dignitary Luncheon – Special reception for delegates, trustees and ceremony participants.

Inauguration Ceremony – Formal ceremony was in Lemmond Theater in Walsh Hall.

Inauguration Reception – Campus community and friends greeted President Botzman following his inauguration.

SATURDAY, NOV. 16
Inauguration Day of Service – President Botzman, students, faculty and staff volunteer at a Habitat for Humanity building site, Mercy Services Center and at the Catherine McAuley House.

Trustee Associates Gala and Inauguration Celebration – University honored Tambur family and the Tambur Family Foundation with the Trustee Associates Award and commemorated the inauguration of President Botzman.

Misericordia inaugurates 13th president

Continued from page 9

for moving forward with the Misericordia mission.

"Perhaps we can learn a little from thinking about learning and suffering," he said. "In just a few months, I've observed students teaching children, providing food to those in need, sharing concern for the rights of immigrants, visiting the elderly, supporting returning veterans, and demonstrating the charisms in a number of ways.

"They see the challenges and often witness suffering. So, perhaps, the clearer view is that *suffering is learning*. It is my hope that we can learn to live the charisms at Misericordia University and then take our good works into the world to address the suffering of others," he added.

President Botzman also outlined goals for each of his initiatives – expanding opportunities to provide service abroad and to those most in need, advancing scholarship support, and imagining the future of higher education.

"This is a safe place," he said. "However, our history and mission call us to take risks, to walk away from our safe place in the service of others. It is a joyous day for me when I get to hear from our students about their adventures beyond the borders of campus, some in nearby Noxen or Plymouth, and some far away in Guyana or Jamaica. My hope is that we can continue to strengthen our work outside the campus borders in service and in learning."

To accomplish those goals, it will require the University to reinforce its core programs through the study of foreign languages and to provide more opportunities for international and off-campus study, he said.

The second part of his vision relates to opportunities in higher education. He wants every academically qualified student to be able to reap the rewards of earning a college degree – no matter their financial circumstances in life. In order to realize that dream, Misericordia must continue to build its endowment so it can provide additional institutional aid.

"If we want Misericordia University to continue to be the place where all are welcome, we will need to build an endowment that provides the long-term base for scholarship support," he said.

"Our work is to join together to ensure that the success continues far into the future. That success is, in part, financial and facilities."

His third vision is more idealistic and vague, but no less important. He asked the Misericordia community to look ahead, to use their imagination to dream a little, and to ask themselves, "What should higher education become?"

President Thomas J. Botzman, above center, prepares to process to his inauguration with state Rep. Karen Boback '73, left, and the Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., Bishop of Scranton; and, at left, he receives congratulations from well-wishers. To watch the ceremony, please log on to http://bit.ly/botzmaninauguration.

"Misericordia University is, by many measures, wildly successful at what we do," he acknowledged. "Our students graduate at levels beyond those of many other higher education institutions. The students log countless hours of service to others. Our faculty colleagues publish and teach and mentor and do anything and everything in support of our students. I note that many of those things that we do, and do well, were not even envisioned when College Misericordia was founded."

Therefore, he stated the Misericordia community needs to challenge itself "to build capacity for the future that exceeds our present levels of success." How does he propose to accomplish that? He wants Misericordia to provide the best possible facilities in support of scholarship; dare to explore new fields of inquiry, and to seek truth in ways that are new and unclear at present, he said.

"That's a very roundabout way of thinking of what higher education is and what it should become, a space where we can think about things that we have not thought about yet," President Botzman said. "Our imagination of the future, guided by our storied past, is both exciting and enticing."

President Botzman assumed office July 1, the beginning of the 2013-14 academic year. In a few short months, he made a lasting impression."You have already proven yourself as an advocate for the students," said Catie Becker '14, president of the Student Government Association. "You want to hear us, to know our names and our concerns, and help in any way you can."

In attendance at the ceremony were delegates from more than 54 educational institutions and associations, including representatives from the regional colleges and universities, as well as from around the country, and the University of the Americas in Mexico City, Mexico. Sixty-nine other colleges and universities sent greetings of congratulations to President Botzman and the University.

Inauguration Week photo sets capture volunteerism, academics — **http://bit.ly/MUinauguration**

Getting right to work

University's values on display at Inauguration Day of Service

BY JIM ROBERTS

Being a college president is a challenging job.

Now, add some additional manual labor to the to-do list and what do you have? Answer: a president of a Sisters of Mercy-sponsored institution of higher education setting an example for others to follow.

Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D, president of Misericordia University, spent the morning after his inauguration ceremony volunteering with dozens of Misericordia students, faculty and staff.

"As a University, we are responsible for enriching the lives of our students through effective and engaging academics. As a community founded in values, we also have a responsibility to help our local and international communities become better places to live and work," says Dr. Botzman.

The morning of service began with an early stop at a Habitat for Humanity home in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Dr. Botzman and MU students hung drywall and installed insulation in the home, laboring side-by-side with the future homeowner.

Dr. Botzman shuttled to his next stop, the Catherine McAuley House in Plymouth, Pa., where MU representatives spread out over three floors with paint, brushes, and rollers to give a fresh look to the facility that provides services to women and children in need.

The service tour concluded with a visit to Mercy Services Center in downtown Wilkes-Barre. The center provides structured after-school tutoring and mentoring for neighborhood children. Misericordia students serve there in various roles. Dr. Botzman ate lunch with the children and many of their parents. He answered questions from the group, sharing a friendly perspective on college life overall and life as a college administrator. After a light-hearted conversation about the popularity of macaroni and cheese, Dr. Botzman offered to host the children on campus for another get-together featuring that lunchtime staple.

Librarian Hilary Westgate, far left, paints with Dr. Botzman at the Catherine McAuley House.

Students Katerina Kindig '17, Alyssa Lieberman '17 and Giuliana Mucaro '17, top, prepare to work on a Habitat for Humanity house.

Anna Parsons '18, far left, and Casey Saylor '18 volunteer at the Catherine McAuley House.

Caitlin Day '14, a physical therapy major at right, uses a power drill at a Habitat for Humanity house in Wilkes-Barre.

Gina Grant '15, far right, a speech-language pathology major, and Aaron Orchard '13, a health care management major, prepare lunch at Mercy Services Center.

More than 30 members of the campus community joined newly inaugurated President Thomas J. Botzman for a day of service at the McAuley House shelter for women and children in Plymouth, Pa.

Students welcomed New York Times bestselling author Ishmael Beah to campus for the Dr. Midori Yamanouchi Lecture Series during Inauguration Week. From left, are Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., president; students Samantha Presti '18, Caitlin Emmett '16 and Abriel McCann '17, Beah, Dr. Yamanouchi, lecture sponsor; and students Jennifer Mathiesen '16, Courtney Garloff '16, and Margaret Guarnieri '18.

Third Annual Dr. Midori Yamanouchi Lecture Series

A group of Misericordia students had the opportunity to meet author Ishmael Beah, who chronicles his life as a former child soldier in Sierra Leone, West Africa, in his New York Times bestselling book, *A Long Way Gone: Memoir of a Boy Soldier*. Beah, 32, was the featured speaker at the third annual Dr. Midori Yamanouchi Lecture Series. The students were selected to participate in a dinner prior to the lecture.

In his book and lecture, Beah described how he was orphaned by the civil war, forced to become a child soldier, and then how he struggled to regain his humanity and reenter the world. He fought for more than two years with the government army before UNICEF removed him from the conflict. After completing rehabilitation, he won a competition to attend a conference at the United Nations in New York City to talk about the effects of civil war on children in his country.

Student Service Projects

Misericordia has a storied history of serving people in need, particularly those who have been marginalized by society. The tenets of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality are identified easily in the service trips and service-learning projects members of the campus community participate in on an annual basis.

Service begins on Day 1 at MU, as first-year students participate in the Orientation Day of Service in the local community. It quickly expands. Annual spring break service trips take students to the inner cities and rural landscapes where they share their time and treasure. The University also features annual service trips to Guyana and Jamaica, and has participated in special efforts in Peru and other parts of the world. Through photo albums, slide shows and personal stories, students shared their experiences helping others at a special exhibit for Inauguration Week in the lobby of the Banks Student Life Center.

Student Sean Vitale '15, center, talks to fellow students, Christina Tucci '15, left, and Kirsten Fisher '14 and Kayleigh Morein '16 about service efforts.

Ultimate Campus Chef Competition

The Cooking Monsters claimed first place in the Ultimate Campus Chef Competition that was held during Inauguration Week in John and Mary Metz Dining Hall. Participants each received gift cards to the Cougars Den.

Cooking Monsters, from left, Sierra Hairston '16, Andrew Casanova '14, and Bridget Guarnieri '15, prepare chicken casserole, and at right, the Munchies' Bobby Dickinson '14, Luke Atkins '14, and Aaron Gehrt '14 made their own sauce for their spaghetti dish.

Andrew Casanova '14, Alexandria Smith '15, Bridget Guarnieri '15, and Sierra Hairston '16 assembled the winning menu, which featured chicken casserole with assorted vegetables and sausage, spinach flatbread with tomatoes, mozzarella and parmesan cheeses, and a "cherry yum-yum," a special concoction of vanilla wafers, cream cheese, whipped topping and cherry pie filling.

President Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., Eric Nelson, M.B.A., vice president, finance and administration; Sister Jean Messaros, RSM, vice president, mission integration, and Matthew Nickel, Ph.D., assistant professor, English, captured second place with their chicken and sausage Dijon over pasta, and stuffed mushrooms.

The Munchies, featuring Bobby Dickinson '14, Aaron Gehrt '14, Luke Atkins '14, and Corey Honabach '16, placed third with their spaghetti, sausage and meat sauce dish. They also made chocolate rain, a dessert that featured chocolate covered strawberries, walnuts and candy corn.

The competition was judged on taste, presentation, originality and dish name. The deans of the three colleges, Russ Pottle, Ph.D., Glen Tellis, Ph.D., and Fred Croop, Ed.D. served as judges for the annual contest.

Tambur family and Tambur Family Foundation receive Trustee Associates Award

The Misericordia University Board of Trustees honored the philanthropy of the Tambur family and their Tambur Family Foundation by presenting the family with the 2013 Trustee Associates Award on Nov. 16 at the Trustee Associates Gala and Inauguration Celebration.

Trustee Award recipients Robert L. Tambur, his wife, Virginia, and their children, Robert Tamburro and Liza Tambur-Rolland have supported higher education and health care initiatives with their entrepreneurial spirit and generosity through the Tambur Family Foundation.

In April, the campus community and the family came together to officially dedicate Tambur Field, the home of the Cougars baseball team. The $520,000 ballpark is located on about four acres of land adjacent to the John and Mary Metz Field House in the Anderson Outdoor Athletic Complex. "We are proud to be able to support Misericordia's mission of providing quality academics, service leadership and professional preparation to its students," said Mr. Tambur. "We are honored to be named the recipients of the Trustee Associates Award. It has been our pleasure to work together with so many wonderful people at Misericordia and in northeastern Pennsylvania to make our community a better place to live."

The award is given annually to friends of the University who have demonstrated outstanding dedication, service and generous support to MU.

The Misericordia Board of Trustees honored the philanthropy of the Tambur family and their Tambur Family Foundation by presenting them with the Trustee Associates Award. Participating in the awards dinner, from left, are Robert L. Tambur, Virginia Tambur, Robert Rolland, Liza Tambur-Rolland, Megan Ruane '08, and Robert Tamburro.

Father Leo Patalinghug and 'Grace Before Meals'

Father Leo Patalinghug, an internationally renowned conference speaker, author and TV host, presented an interactive cooking demonstration on Nov. 14 as part of Inauguration Week activities. He held a book signing after the event.

Father Leo is the founder and host of *Grace Before Meals*, which was established as an apostolate to strengthen families and communities around the dinner table. He has appeared on ABC, CBS, PBS and The Food Network, sharing a message of hope and bringing people together one meal at a time. Father Leo is also known for defeating a world-famous chef in the cooking competition show, *Throw Down! With Bobby Flay*. *Grace Before Meals* is centered on one fundamental concept: the simple act of how creating and sharing a meal can strengthen all kinds of relationships.

Father Leo.

Presentations of Scholarly Work

Faculty and students presented their scholarly work to the campus community. Seated from left, are Dr. John Mellon, President Botzman, Dr. Cynthia Mailloux, Vanessa Pannunzio-Mayorowski and Kathleen M. Sheikh; standing, Joseph Layman '13, Dan Kimbrough, Callen Clark '14, Dr. Melissa Sgroi and Dr. Hunter Manasco.

Faculty Poetry Reading

Misericordia University faculty members, from left, Tom Simko '07, Dr. Matthew Nickel, Dr. Richard Hancuff, Dr. Amanda Caleb, Dr. Rebecca Steinberger, President Botzman, Sara Hando and Dr. Bryan Dewey, presented a series of poetry readings.

Sister Jean Messaros, RSM, has been appointed vice president of Mission Integration at Misericordia University.

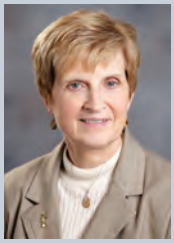
Sister Jean Messaros named VP of Mission Integration

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

After more than 30 years of overseeing student services and student activities at Misericordia University, Sister Jean Messaros, RSM, has been appointed to a new leadership role.

The former vice president of Student Affairs was named vice president of Mission Integration. She is responsible for mission and Mercy integration throughout the University community. In her new position, she works closely with faculty, staff and students to strengthen the University's commitment to and understanding of the institution's Catholic and Mercy traditions. Founded by the Religious Sisters of Mercy in 1924, Misericordia is one of 16 colleges and universities that comprise the Conference for Mercy Higher Education (CMHE).

A member of the Religious Sisters of Mercy for 47 years, Sister Jean began her service to Misericordia as assistant to the dean of students in the 1980s. Taking time to serve in a leadership role for the Dallas Mercy Community, she returned to Misericordia as assistant dean of students and later dean of students. Since 2006, she has served on the president's executive cabinet as vice president of Student Affairs, overseeing all areas of co-curricular student services, including student activities, orientation, athletics, judicial affairs, campus ministry, residence life, counseling services and career services. While vice president, she also served for two years as the part-time director of Mission Integration.



Sister Jean Messaros, RSM

In 2000, Sister Messaros established the Women with Children Program, an innovative program that provides academically qualified, single mothers with an opportunity to realize their dream of earning a college degree while living on campus with their children. The program was expanded and renamed the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program in 2011.

Pohlidal to lead Women with Children Program

Katherine M. Pohlidal

Katherine M. Pohlidal, M.Ed., M.B.A., L.P.C., C.A.D.C., C.C.D.P., has been named the director of the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program.

A licensed counselor and certified addictions counselor, Pohlidal served for the past eight years as a faculty advisor and counselor for the Wellness Center at Ursinus College, Collegeville, Pa. She provided group and individual counseling services along with crisis management for students on campus and functioned as a clinical consultant for administration, faculty and staff.

Pohlidal previously served as clinical director for The Caron Foundation's adolescent treatment center, an addiction treatment program for teens and young adults in Wernersville, Pa. She also was employed as a drug and alcohol counselor at the Evelyn Brandon Health Center in Rochester, N.Y., and at the State Correctional Institution, Dallas, Pa.

Pohlidal holds a M.Ed. in counselor education and a B.A. in sociology with honors, along with a minor in psychology, from The Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pa. She earned an M.B.A from Alvernia University, Reading, Pa.

She is licensed by the State of Pennsylvania as a licensed professional counselor and a certified addictions counselor. She also has received the Certified Co-Occurring Disorders Professional Credential from the State of Pennsylvania.

Please call (570) 674-6728 or log on to misericordia.edu/wwc for information.

Alumni live charisms of *Mercy, Service, Justice* and *Hospitality* through their actions and deeds

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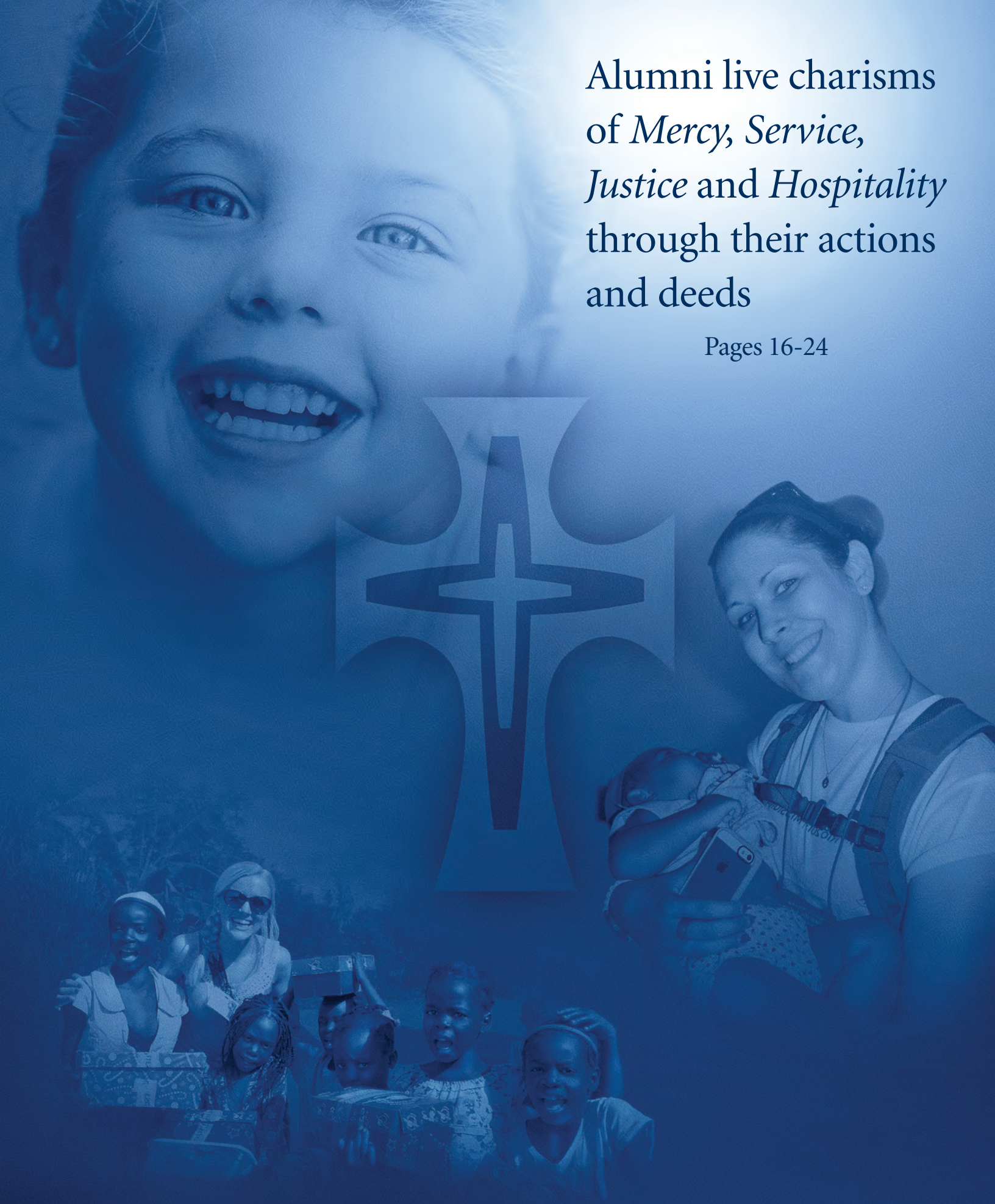


Running for Piper

Alumna raises money for stroke research after daughter is afflicted with disease in utero

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

"Before you were conceived, I wanted you. Before you were born, I loved you. Before you were here an hour, I would die for you. This is the miracle of love." — Maureen Hawkins, author

Four-year-old Piper Walsh is like many children her age. She is enrolled in preschool and enjoys playing soccer and practicing to become a prima ballerina. Her talkative nature reveals a witty and fun-loving personality, according to her proud parents, Paul and Megan Weber Walsh '02.

Looking at her bright blue eyes and engaging smile, it is hard to imagine the journey that Piper and her family have had to take in order to get to this juncture in their lives. Thirty-five weeks into her pregnancy, the soon-to-be mother feared something was wrong in utero. The seizures she began to feel in her womb had become more frequent. Were they hiccups, she thought to herself? An obstetrician later would reassure her that she simply was experiencing Braxton-Hicks contractions.

It was a typical late summer morning in Estero, Fla., the day Piper was born on Aug. 18, 2009. The combination of high heat and humidity made it difficult to be outside as another heat wave had taken hold of the Sunshine State. Nevertheless, the Walsh family was eager to welcome their second child into the world as they drove to Healthpark Medical Center, Ft. Meyers, Fla.

Several hours after a seemingly routine delivery for both mother and daughter, Piper was fighting for her life after a series of seizures caused her oxygen levels to drop dramatically, and for her to stop breathing and require CPR en route to the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit.

"It became very clear that we were not bringing our baby home, but we didn't know why," says Weber Walsh, who earned her Master of Science degree in physical therapy from Misericordia University. "She was initially in my room at the bedside, and I had noticed her twitching periodically, and thought, 'ah she must be cold,' so I swaddled her tighter and held her closer."

Instead, on the third day of her life a neonatologist told Piper's parents that she had suffered a rare infarct or stroke on the left side of her brain in the left middle cerebral artery, which is the area of the brain that controls speech and other motor skills. Perinatal stroke occurs in 1 in every 2,700 live births, according to the Kaiser Pediatric Stroke study.

Quick Info

Megan Weber Walsh's daughter, Piper Walsh, 4, had a stroke in utero. Her mother is running in the Boston Marathon on Monday, April 21 as a member of Ted's Team to raise money for the American Stroke Association. She has set a goal of $10,000. To make a donation, please mail checks made out to the American Stroke Association to Walsh at 21655 Berwhich Run, Estero, FL 33928. You can follow her ambitious journey by logging on to http://tedysteam2014.kintera.org/walsh.

"On the fourth day, I rocked my baby and she opened her eyes," says Weber Walsh. "Though she was heavily medicated, she locked eyes with me and smiled. Somehow, in that moment I knew that everything would be alright … and it was, and it is."

What would transpire next for the three-week old baby would be intense physical therapy sessions over the next year of her life. Instead of playing with her newborn, Weber Walsh did stretching exercises and worked on Piper's core, as well as her right hand and leg. A certified adult hemiplegia neuro-developmental treatment physical therapist, Weber Walsh also broke down and cried privately when Piper could not reach certain milestones that her two-year-old sister, Fiona, had reached easily.

"She was on an apnea monitor anytime she was out of our arms for fear that she would seize and stop breathing," she recalls. "It went off all through the night. I lived in fear of losing her without warning and it deeply scared me, as I put on a brave, hopeful façade that made everyone around me feel better."

Thankfully, the resiliency and neuroplasticity of newborns also played a significant role in Piper's recovery. Today, she has mild right-sided spasticity that mainly manifests itself in her right leg during growth spurts. Piper wears a night splint to stretch her right calf while sleeping because she catches her toes periodically, causing her to fall. For the foreseeable future, Piper will require annual checkups, physical therapy and follow-up medical tests, but overall her rehabilitation has been nothing short of a miracle – and a shining example of how much a tight-knit family's love and their never-ending hope can accomplish.

It also spurred the family into action in the name of Piper and other victims of stroke. An avid runner for most of her adult life, Weber Walsh joined Train to End Stroke in February 2013 to raise money for the American Stroke Association (ASA). She trained with the program and recruited sponsors over a period of months so she could participate in a marathon or a half-marathon. The program raises funds for stroke research and also educates the public about the nation's number one cause of disability, according ASA.

Weber Walsh completed the first leg of her journey on June 23 when she finished the Kona Marathon in Kona, Hawaii. She raised almost $7,500. "With that, I feel that Piper's stroke has made a difference in the lives of others," she says. "It also healed me."

The Walsh family continues to raise money for stroke research and education. They are in the preliminary stages of establishing Piper's Run, a 5K run in their local Florida community. Weber Walsh also was one of only six runners selected out of 150 applicants to join Tedy's Team, which was formed by former New England Patriots linebacker Tedy Bruschi after he suffered a stroke during his playing career.

The stroke that Piper (at right) had in utero made the Walsh family, Piper, 4, Fiona, 6, Paul, Megan and Ellis, 2, stronger, and made them spring into action to raise money in support of stroke research and awareness.

"Every aspect of my life has been touched by stroke," explains Weber Walsh, "through my physical therapy career and in my home, with my daughter. Running is a positive outlet for the stress that it causes. Now I am running to make a difference, not just for me, but for many."

On April 21, Weber Walsh will be among 36,000 athletes participating in the Boston Marathon as a member of Tedy's Team. She has set an ambitious goal of raising $10,000 to benefit the ASA. Supporters can make a donation by logging on to her website, http://tedysteam/2014.kintera.org/walsh, which also has important information about the warning signs of stroke and updates about her journey to Boston, Mass. Checks can also be made out to ASA and mailed to Megan Walsh, 21655 Berwhich Run, Estero, FL 33928

"Before I had Piper, I didn't know that babies could have strokes," Weber Walsh acknowledges. "Now I know that anything is possible. Because Piper's stroke happened while I was still pregnant, it was almost like it was our stroke. The damage to Piper was visible, but the damage to me and our family was invisible. The most important thing to have when recovering from stroke or any illness is hope. Never give up. Never stop reaching and trying. Hope fuels hope. It's contagious and healing.

"I know that the sky is the limit for Piper. I look forward to seeing what great things will come in her life. She is dynamic. She can do absolutely anything she sets her heart and mind to. And so can I. And so can you," Piper's mother offers.

Jodi Kozlevcar Gaunt '08 poses for a picture with children in Ndola, Zambia after distributing gifts from Operation Christmas Child.

Boxes of Cheer

Operation Christmas Child benefits children in need around the world

BY TOM VENESKY

Jodi Kozlevcar Gaunt '08 found more than a career during her time at Misericordia University. She discovered a passion.

Gaunt, 28, is a 2008 graduate with a master's degree in occupational therapy. She works in the field today, serving as an occupational therapist for the Methacton School District in Eagleville, Pa., near her home in King of Prussia.

While Gaunt's degree from MU landed her a career, the University's passion to help those less fortunate instilled in her a deep commitment for the cause. A year after Gaunt graduated she volunteered with Operation Christmas Child, a nonprofit organization that delivers shoeboxes filled with gifts to children around the world. The group works with local churches and civic organizations to donate the shoeboxes as a means to "share God's love around the world," she says.

For the Misericordia graduate, Operation Christmas Child was a perfect match. "It really fits with Misericordia's mission," says Gaunt, who personally collected 236 gift-filled shoeboxes in 2013. "Through the shoeboxes, we can show God's love in a tangible way and we can take it to all areas of the world – 130 countries, regardless of race and religion."

Last May, Gaunt experienced that firsthand when she was selected to join a group of volunteers and travel to Ndola, Zambia to distribute the gift-filled shoeboxes. Gaunt spent a week in Zambia and said it was a life-changing experience. "One day we went to a children's hospital where every patient was being treated for AIDS or HIV. That was very humbling," says Gaunt, who married her husband, Peter – a banker with Wells Fargo and a 2007 graduate of the sport management program at MU – in 2010. "It makes you realize how blessed we are."

Each box is filled with school supplies, hygiene items and toys. For many of the children, it represents their first gift – ever, according to Gaunt.

The children, though, are not always the only ones on the receiving end. One of the poorer communities that Gaunt and her group visited was so thankful for the gifts that the leader of the village decided to show their gratitude by giving the group several sacks of grain and nuts along with a live chicken. To turn down the gifts would have been an insult, Gaunt said, so the group accepted them and donated everything to their driver who had a large family.

QUICK INFO

Operation Christmas Child has given more than 100 million boys and girls shoebox-gift gifts since 1993. Overall, 6,549,826 shoes boxes were assembled in the United States in 2012.

To make a donation, please e-mail Gaunt at kozlevcj@yahoo.com

Zambian children wait to receive their shoeboxes from Jodi Kozlevcar Gaunt '08.

"This was a village that really had nothing, yet they chose to give us what they could," says Gaunt, a community relations specialist for the Operation Christmas Child team in the Philadelphia, Pa., area. "That meant a lot."

The Zambia trip was not the first time Gaunt has traveled far from home to help others. While at Misericordia, she joined a group of classmates in Gulfport, Miss., and assisted in the cleanup efforts from Hurricane Katrina.

"After you graduate and leave Misericordia, you establish what you want to do for a job, but you also find yourself wanting to do something in terms of volunteering," Gaunt believes. "I found Operation Christmas Child and it is something that fits right in with the University's mission. I truly love it."

Making SMILES, saving LIVES

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

Kathy Soracco Magee '67 and her husband, Dr. Bill Magee, Jr., help others around the world.

Her work has brought smiles to the faces of more than 225,000 children in 60 countries and earned her accolades from the Dalai Lama, President George W. Bush and the National Academy of Science in Italy.

Misericordia alumna Kathleen Soracco Magee '67, B.S.N., M.Ed., M.S.W., who spends as much as five months each year abroad in service to others, is co-founder and president of Operation Smile, the largest children's volunteer charity in the world dedicated to treating facial deformities such as cleft lips and cleft palates.

A former nurse and clinical social worker, Kathy and her husband, Bill P. Magee, Jr., D.D.S., M.D., a leading plastic and craniofacial surgeon, founded Operation Smile in 1982. What started with a single trip to Asia quickly became their life's mission.

"Bill asked me to go on a surgical trip to the Philippines and when 300 children showed up we realized the critical need," she says. "Cleft deformities are prevalent in the world and sadly one in 10 children born with a cleft palate will die before their first birthday. It was evident that we were creating more than children's smiles … we were saving lives."

Over the next 15 years, she committed herself to establishing diplomatic and medical partnerships, and recruited personnel to provide free surgeries around the globe. The first Operation Smile pinnacle was reached in 1999 when she orchestrated *World Journey of Hope*, a nine-week surgical mission that treated more than 5,300 children in 17 developing countries and 10 U.S. cities.

In 2007, in celebration of Operation Smile's 25th anniversary, Kathy mobilized more than 1,900 volunteers for World Journey of Smiles, the largest simultaneous medical mission ever held that resulted in 4,086 free cleft surgeries in 25 countries in just 10 days.

Kathy's more recent focus has been on securing sustainability for the volunteer efforts they started. She has established 30 centers staffed by medical professionals in the most needy countries, such as China and Vietnam, where there are still 2 million children in need of cleft treatment. She also founded the World Care Program, which arranges treatment for children with more complex medical needs.

The couple's five grown children all have taken part in missions and are active Operation Smile volunteers. Eldest daughter Brigette helps to train a global army of student volunteers who help raise funds and create awareness, while learning how to give back to those in need.

Recognized worldwide, Kathy is the recipient of six honorary degrees, including a Doctor of Humane Letters awarded by Misericordia along with the Alumni Medallion Award in 1997. Her multitude of international awards includes the first $1 million Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize given to her in 1996 for "exemplary and significant contributions to ease human suffering."

Research and education are the next frontier as the Magees work to raise awareness about the causes of the disfiguring ailment. "We believe there is a correlation to the inhalation of smoke and a lack of folic acid and vitamin B6 during pregnancy that leads to cleft deformities in babies," she explains.

With millions of children yet untreated, Kathy's goal is to get more medical professionals involved. "We have tapped out the surgeons who can help so we need to shift tasks to other clinicians. New Misericordia programs, such as the Physician Assistant Studies Program and the proposed Doctor of Nurse Practitioner Program, will add practitioners to the field," she adds.

OPERATION SMILE
3641 Faculty Boulevard
Virginia Beach, VA 23453
www.operationsmile.org

AWARDS:

- Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize ('96)
- Servants of Peace Award, from the Vatican ('97)
- Golden Plate Award, from the American Academy of Achievement ('99)
- Kellogg's Hannah Neil World of Children Award ('99)
- Common Wealth Award of Distinguished Service ('01)
- Antonio Feltrinelli Prize from the National Academy of Science in Italy ('01)
- Medical Mission Hall of Fame ('04)
- The Humanitarian Rose Award, from The People's Princess Charitable Foundation, London, England ('04)
- USAID President's Call to Service Award, from President George W. Bush ('07)
- Unsung Heroes of Compassion Award, from His Holiness the Dalai Lama ('14)

Kathy Soracco Magee '67 has received numerous awards for her service.

Papal messenger

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

Alumna shares Papal message from World Youth Day in Brazil

Shannon Kowalski '12, back row center, and the U.S. delegation visit the Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Shannon Kowalski '12 holds a child from the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help's program that provides medical services to single mothers and their children in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

FUN FACT:

World Youth Day (WYD) is an opportunity for young people from around the world to come together to share their religion through sacraments and prayer. The first official WYD was held in 1986 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Held every two or three years, WYDs have been held in Santiago de Compostel, Spain (1989); Czestochowa, Poland (1991); Denver, Colo. (1993); Manila, Philippines (1995); Paris, France (1997); Rome, Italy (2000); Toronto, Canada (2002); Cologne, Germany (2005); Sydney, Australia (2008); Madrid, Spain (2011), and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (2013).

Shannon Kowalski '12 is willing to tell her story to anyone who will listen. As one of the 3.7 million worshipers selected to participate in the World Youth Day (WYD) events in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in July, the Misericordia graduate more than once stood within 40 feet of Pope Francis, took an active role in Masses, and was humbled and inspired by the new leader of the Catholic church and his message to the pilgrims who participated in the historic event.

"His message was simple," she says with a smile. "He told us how much hope he sees in us … and that as young people we have the ability to not only change the Church but we can change the world."

Kowalski serves as the youth minister for St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Moscow, Pa. She is convinced the outreach work she did through Misericordia's Campus Ministry prior to earning her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies in 2012 led to her selection by the Pontifical Mission Societies of the United States as one of two women from the Diocese of Scranton to take part in WYD. Joining a team of 10 pilgrims from across the country, she spent two life-changing weeks in Brazil.

The first week was designated as a mission week. She spent her time living with a host family in the city of São Gonçalo, outside of Rio. Very few of the people in the Portuguese-speaking neighborhood knew any English, yet her group was able to communicate with gestures and some elementary Spanish.

Kowalski describes the community as so poor that there was no sign of any social services. The only help for those in need came from volunteers within the Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help, the only Catholic parish in the region.

"We learned so much about the reality of being poor in Brazil," she says. "There are no soup kitchens … there are no social services ... there is no place for people to go for help. The people of the church would volunteer their time as best they could to make it better for others."

Despite the overwhelming obstacles, Kowalski says the work being done by the volunteers was surprisingly well organized and successful. "These people were doing the work, not because they were getting paid, but simply because they want to help others," Kowalski adds.

One program reminded her of the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program. It provided physicals and meals to single women with children in the town.

She assisted with a church youth group and also helped with an outreach program to those who had fallen away from the church. Kowalski accompanied volunteers on visits to check in and keep the lines of communication to the parish open. "I was just so overwhelmed by the elation of the Brazilian people to have this event happen in their country," she adds. "They were so happy and hospitable. It did not matter that they were poor … the faith of the people was just so strong and energizing."

Following their week of mission work, Kowalski and her group relocated to Rio for a full week of World Youth Day activities, which had the theme, *Go and Make Disciples of All Nations*. With the crowds swelling from 300,000 earlier in the week to about 3.7 million on the final day when Mass was celebrated by Pope Francis at Copacabana Beach, Kowalski was thrilled to be close enough to twice see the Pontiff nearby in the crowd.

"He would get out of his car and walk sometimes … stopping to kiss babies and catch soccer balls. You could tell he was genuinely happy to be among the people," she explains. "I was close enough to see his enthusiasm – it was so powerful – so exciting. And when he spoke, he spoke to the audience in layman's terms and in a way that young people could understand."

During the week, Kowalski served at two Masses that were celebrated by bishops from English-speaking countries.

What did Kowalski learn from the WYD experience after participating in numerous service trips while a student at MU? "The Pope challenged us to go home, and as he put it, 'Make a mess in our Diocese,' which means to stir the pot and share the message of what we experienced," she explains. "Being a youth minister, my job is to share my experiences with the children in my parish. The Papal focus is definitely on the youth and energizing them. They are the future of the Catholic Church."

Alumna starts Liam's Lighthouse Foundation to raise awareness for disorder that took the life of her son

'Histio'

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

When Michelle Slezak Schulze '01 enrolled as a physical therapy major at Misericordia University, she knew she wanted to help people. She never imagined the turn her life would take and that she would find herself at the helm of a national foundation that works to save the lives of children after the death of one of her own.

Her story of love, grief and carrying on the Misericordia mission of Service to others starts seven years post-graduation. Shelley, as she is known, had earned both bachelor of science and master of physical therapy degrees from Misericordia. She and her husband, Chris, were working and living in Colorado Springs, Colo., when their son, Liam, was born in January 2008.

Their bliss was cut short when Liam began spiking high fevers at four months old. Their life was consumed by emergency room and pediatrician visits, diagnostic tests, and trips to hematology/oncology specialists in search of an explanation for why their baby had a distended abdomen and swollen lymph nodes, was jaundiced, and in inconsolable pain. After 10 months of searching, a bone marrow biopsy finally brought them a devastating diagnosis: Their 14-month old had hemophagocytic lymphohistiocytosis (HLH or "histio"), a life-threatening immunodeficiency characterized by an overabundance of white blood cells that causes the body to attack itself. It is a rare disease that few doctors and even fewer parents know exists.

Desperate for help, the Schulzes traveled 1,200 miles to the Cincinnati Children's Hospital, where Dr. Lisa Filipovich, M.D., a leading expert in HLH, took on Liam's treatment. She attempted to make up for the time Liam went undiagnosed with aggressive chemotherapy and steroid treatments, and eventually a bone marrow transplant. Sadly, of the approximately 13 million people in the world on the bone marrow registry, there was not one suitable match for Liam. Unable to wait, the Schulzes were forced to use umbilical cord blood for the transplant. The process required harsher chemotherapy and lessened the likelihood of success. After contracting a virus that his immune system was unable to fight, Liam, at age 20 months, died in his mother's arms in September 2009.

Schulze was devastated knowing that her child might have been saved had she, Chris and the doctors been more aware of HLH symptoms. She chose to

Michelle Slezak Schulze '01, second from left above, is joined by fellow alumni Kelly Stinelli Lindenberg '02, whose daughter is a histio survivor, left, Jennifer Dessoye '01, and Alicia Rybka Richards '01, far right, at the 5K to Fight Histio Walk/Run in New York City in July 2013.

Michelle Slezak Schulze '01 and her husband, Chris Schulze, at right, share a moment with their son, Liam, age 2, on the day of his bone marrow transplant.

Quick Info

For more information about the foundation Michelle Slezak Schulze '01 and her husband, Chris, established in honor of their son, please go to www.liamslighthousefoundation.org.

heroes

channel her grief into a purposeful mission to increase HLH awareness and to save others from the pain her family had suffered.

The immediacy of the need was soon made clear. Liam's harrowing story had spread through the ranks of Schulze's Misericordia family, including her Cougar softball teammates and fellow alumni. When she heard that the daughter of occupational therapist Kelly Stenelli Lindenberg '02 had also been diagnosed with the disease, Schulze reached out to her. Fortunately, Miranda Rose Lindenberg was able to receive life-saving treatment and is an HLH survivor.

Schulze launched Liam's Lighthouse Foundation (LLF) shortly after Liam's passing. The foundation has a three-fold mission: to bring awareness to doctors and families of HLH and other histiocytic disorders and the need for bone marrow donations; to bring histio families together for support; and to fund research for safer, more effective treatment methods and ultimately, a cure.

"This disease is so highly fatal and so unpredictable that it is worse than most cancers," says Schulze, explaining that because HLH qualifies as an orphan or rare disease, it receives little government funding for research. "Many die without a diagnosis because of its rapid, fatal nature, so we really do not know how rare it is."

With the help of social media, a strong network of friends, and the power of a mother's love, Schulze has grown Liam's Lighthouse Foundation to the international level. Fund- and friend-raising began in 2009 with the First Annual Liam Schulze Memorial Golf Tournament in Drums, Pa.

The awareness campaign went national in January 2010 when three supporters took an LLF banner and poster-sized picture of Liam to the *Today Show* audience in New York City to increase awareness and honor Liam. Several pediatric physicians wrote to Schulze afterward thanking her for helping them learn about HLH.

From this, an annual NYC Histio Awareness Campaign was born and now involves more than 200 histio family members and friends from as far away as Australia, Canada and the United Kingdom. The foundation added its first *5K to Fight Histio* walk/run in New York City in July 2013. It drew 216 participants. The weekend of events included a dinner cruise for families and a battalion of supporters armed with posters appearing in the crowds outside the *Today Show* and *Good Morning America* (GMA). Schulze met with *GMA's* Robin Roberts, herself a bone marrow transplant survivor, and talked to the show's producers about doing a histio awareness story.

The foundation was able to make its first $100,000 research grant to Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center in 2012. They presented a second grant of $50,000 in 2013.

Schulze's Misericordia friends have rallied to help the cause. Softball teammate Jennifer Dessoye '01, O.T.D., M.S., O.T.R./L., is now an assistant professor in occupational therapy at MU. Dessoye, Lindenberg, and health science graduate Alicia Rybka Richards '01 participated in the 2013 race.

"Shelley has always been the most incredible person," says Dr. Dessoye, who lives in Drums and helps organize the annual golf tournament. "After what she has gone through, her actions every day teach us how to make life better. She has made me a better person, friend and mother … and has helped me realize just how important life is."

Fellow alumni Chad Madden '00 and Dr. Joseph J. Young '98 both own their own businesses and are corporate sponsors for LLF events. "I am so touched by the amount of support I have received. I could not be more grateful," Schulze says.

Shelley and Chris are comforted in knowing that Liam's death was not in vain and that good is coming from the efforts that he inspired. They also have good cause to celebrate. Their second son, Callan, born in November 2011, is not a carrier of the genetic mutation that causes the disorder. They are convinced that "miracles" do happen.

Schulze urges all parents to go to their foundation's website and make themselves familiar with the HLH symptoms. Early diagnosis can help save lives.

> "I can't love him in person, but my work with the foundation is the way I love him here on Earth. I need to make sure that he did not suffer in vain."
>
> Michelle Slezak Schulze '01

For the love of Chi

Alumna volunteers in Vietnam and Cambodia

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

In a few short weeks, Erin Moravec '07, O.T.R./L., will return to Vietnam to expand upon an initiative that seemingly began with her first service and service-learning trips abroad during her undergraduate and graduate years at Misericordia University.

"Since my first service trip to Jamaica with Misericordia, I've had a strong desire to work overseas," says Moravec, who also has volunteered in Cambodia since she graduated. "It is fun and hard at the same time, but very rewarding. The work that I started in Vietnam and the long-term goals I have, excite me. I know I make a difference in the lives of the people I work with here in the U.S., but it is a different kind of fulfillment when you get to see and be a part of a child walking for the first time. When I first went overseas last September (2012), I wanted to find a way to truly make a difference and not just spend a month at an orphanage and then leave it all behind."

Her mission trips to Jamaica, Guyana and Romania while at MU laid the groundwork for a life of volunteerism in countries that are desperately in need of health care providers, especially in the specialty fields. "My trip to Jamaica was an eye opener," says Moravec, who is employed as a travel occupational therapist with Advanced Medical in Moab, Utah. "My trip to Guyana introduced me to the idea of long-term volunteerism. Working in Romania was my first opportunity at educating and training caregivers to ensure carryover of the work we were doing."

She will return to Vietnam in late February – the fourth service trip she has made to the country in 18 months – to work with a team of therapists and health care providers in the central and northern areas of the country that are still suffering from the aftereffects of Agent Orange – a powerful defoliant that was used heavily by the United States military during the Vietnam War. In a way, this new assignment is a continuation of the good work she completed about 15 months ago in an orphanage in Ho Chi Minh City.

At the time, Chi was a 15-year-old Vietnamese girl who would sit idly by in the corner of a room adjacent to a therapy playroom in the orphanage. Initially, the language barrier precluded them from exchanging anything more than friendly glances or universal pleasantries. Shortly thereafter, Moravec learned about Chi's plight, and how surgery and poor therapy had led to her barely being able to walk. Chi's feet had become increasingly flexed down toward the floor, and if it continued, she would be unable to stand or walk.

By working in concert with Canadian volunteers and a local orthotics maker, Moravec had Chi fitted for special splints to gradually bring her feet flat with the ground. Two months later, Chi was able to stand for the first time. And in eight months, she started walking with the aid of a walker after strengthening her core at therapeutic sessions.

"I cannot even explain the feeling I had when I walked around the corner and was greeted by her walking towards me," says Moravec. "We both started yelling and I of course starting crying. When she sat down, she started thanking me, but really she was able to progress to walking because the caregivers followed through on her training program and then the Australian students were able to progress her to the next step."

With that image and those feelings fresh in her mind, Moravec will participate in a planning trip in the spring with a Vietnamese physical therapist. Together, they will seek out more remote orphanages and additional children, like Chi, to help.

Chi, at left, is fitted for an elbow brace, while Erin Moravec '07, above, plays with a resident of an orphanage in Ho Chi Minh City.

Quick Info

In February 2015, Moravec will return to Vietnam for another service mission. Anybody interested in volunteering can contact her at erin.moravec@gmail.com

Understanding the FINER DETAILS

Well-rounded education leads alumna to become VP and COO in insurance regulatory industry

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Sister Regina Kelly, RSM, '43, was a stickler for the finer details in class, whether she was teaching Shakespeare, public speaking, or an English course to her students at Misericordia.

Each week, Sister Regina would meet individually with the students who were enrolled in her writing and public speaking classes. She was tough, acknowledges Nancy J. Canarini Stepanski '80, who recalls her professor instructing the class that no one would get an A in the class. "I am often told that I am a great communicator," says Stepanski, who earned a BA in psychology from MU. "I have to thank the Sisters of Mercy for those compliments. The sisters … were quite demanding."

Stepanski never did earn that A from Sister Regina, but the breadth of her collegiate education, and the hard work and determination she has exhibited as a professional have enabled her to thrive in the insurance regulatory industry. Today, she is the executive vice president and chief operating officer of Westmont Associates, Inc., in Cherry Hill, N.J., which provides a wide range of services to clients in 50 states and Washington, D.C.

"Because Misericordia provided a small classroom environment, it facilitated participation in class," says Stepanski, who was the first person in her family to earn a bachelor's degree. "The culture encouraged open dialogue and student contribution was valued and encouraged. The classes were challenging and the work load was heavy. As a result, I became more confident and efficient in my use of time. Because I was in a safe environment, I was able to push my comfort level and to practice becoming a leader without fear of failure.

"Being confident that you are prepared, acknowledging information you do not know, and being willing to learn are important skill sets in any industry," she adds.

Stepanski was born and raised in a large Italian family in Mocanaqua, a small coal town situated along the banks of the Susquehanna River in northeastern Pennsylvania. Most of her extended family lived on the same street, so therefore she was accustomed to large family gatherings and rarely ventured too far from home or from her comfort level.

"Misericordia was a perfect choice for me," says Stepanski, who lives in Wilmington, Del., with her husband, David Stepanski. "Leaving for college was a foreign experience as I had never strayed very far from my family. Misericordia was just far enough from home to cause me to dorm, but close enough that my Noni could send homemade pasta to the college. Because I did have to dorm, I grew as a person.

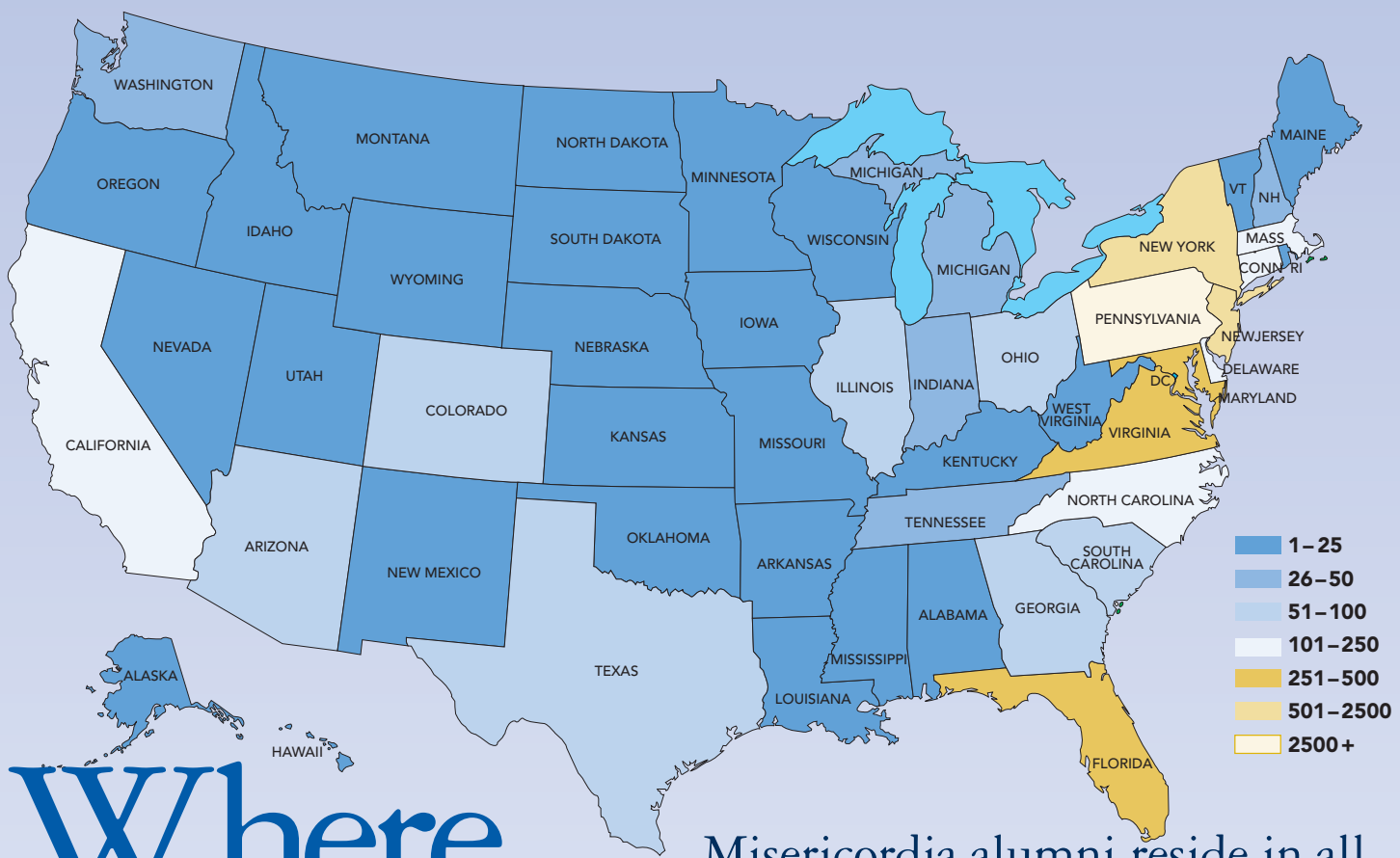
"I learned that people can come from different backgrounds and still relate in many ways. I would never have been able to move to New Jersey and then to Delaware if I did not first have the opportunity to begin to grow in a nurturing environment," she believes.

Stepanski learned early in her professional life that she had to complement her education with a strong work ethic. Within weeks of accepting a clerical position at Beneficial Corp., she was moved to an insurance regulatory analyst position. In six months, she became the supervisor. Twelve years later, a former colleague asked her to head a brand new consulting firm – Westmont Associates, Inc.

Almost 20 years later, Westmont is the most recognized insurance regulatory consulting firm in the United States and supports clients all around the world.

Today, Stepanski remains just as active on campus as she did as a class officer, orientation counselor, and academic club member. She also referred her niece, Sydney Kotch '19, to the 6½-year Doctor of Physical Therapy program through the Misericordia Proud! Program.

"I support my alma mater because it gave so much to me," says Stepanski, who received financial support from MU in the form of a scholarship, grant and a work study job. "Misericordia was integral in forming the person I am today. I want to give back so that other first-generation college students can enjoy a similar experience."



Where are they now?

Misericordia alumni reside in all 50 states and 20 foreign countries

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

From sea to shining sea … and then some! There are more than 16,000 Misericordia University alumni and they have taken up residence in every single one of the 50 United States. They also inhabit 20 foreign countries, including Thailand, Guam, Kenya, India and China.

It is no surprise that more than 10,000 graduates live in Pennsylvania, with just over 2,000 nearby in New Jersey and New York. There are 13 presumably cold weather aficionados in Alaska, while eight prefer the tropical shores of Hawaii. The Great Lakes region is well represented with 229 alumni in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

Holding down the alumni fort alone are our solo residents of North Dakota, South Dakota and Idaho, where there is only one graduate listed in each state.

"It is exciting to see Misericordia reach the milestone of having an alumni representative in each of the 50 United States," says Amy Lingobardo, assistant director of Alumni and Donor Relations. "We recently learned of an alumnus living in Idaho, so we now have every state covered. We are happy to see the Misericordia alumni community grow and share their love of the University with their new hometown communities."

Globally, there are MU alumni residents in six of the seven continents. (Anyone in Antartica?) The farthest distance award goes to Mary Louise Petro Boyle '63, who lives in Victoria, Australia – more than 10,200 miles from campus.

"No matter how far from the campus they are, Misericordia alumni can stay connected through CougarConnect by logging on at CougarConnect.misericordia.edu. It is the perfect way to keep up with activities of fellow alumni and events that are happening on campus," adds Lingobardo.

Misericordia recently named its Cougar mascot, Archie McGrowl. The Alumni Association has circulated pictures of him that alumni can cut out and take with them on their travels around the world.

"We would love our alumni to snap a picture from their home or vacation locale and upload it to our social media sites," says Lingobardo. "If you don't have a social media account, you can e-mail your photo to us at alumni@misericordia.edu.

"We hope to see you soon!"

Keep in Touch: Facebook.com/MisericordiaAlum and Twitter.com/MisericordiaAlum

2013 WINTER COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

More Winter Commencement memories can be found at http://bit.ly/MUWinterComm13

Alumni News

Kelly Spencer McAndrew '79

For more information about alumni events and news, visit the MU website: misericordia.edu/alumni

Where does the time go?

I can hardly believe that this Alumni Weekend – May 29-June 1 – will mark my second anniversary as president of your Misericordia University Alumni Association. It has also been more than a year since we learned Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., had been selected as our 13th president.

There have been many opportunities since then to meet the Botzman family. Another milestone for our alma mater is that our Cougar football team won its first game, 63-40, at FDU-Florham on Nov. 16. We finished our second season on the gridiron at 1-9. Please consider tailgating and joining your fellow alumni and friends next fall for a game.

I am especially amazed that this spring will mark my 35th class reunion year. By now, my fellow classmates from 1979 should have heard from their class agents. I encourage you to reconnect with your classmates on our Class of 1979 Facebook page (facebook.com/groups/misericordia1979) first and then most importantly at our reunion. I am excited to reconnect with you and to show you all the wonderful additions to our beautiful campus. We have a fun weekend planned and it will be a reunion year not to be missed.

Please call our Alumni, Community and Donor Relations Office at (570) 674-6768 or e-mail them at alumni@misericordia.edu if you would like to plan something special for your anniversary class. Remember, this is YOUR Alumni Association. Time does fly by, so please return to campus and make many more fond memories at our beloved Misericordia.

Kelly Spencer McAndrew

Class Notes

Stay in touch with friends and classmates by posting updates about your career, family and other noteworthy accomplishments on cougarconnect.misericordia.edu or facebook.com/MisericordiaAlumni. Please submit *Class Notes* to alumni@misericordia.edu.

'54

Sylvia Vento Perkins '54 published the book, "My Mother's Restaurant," about her widowed immigrant mother's struggles to provide a future for her three children. This true story has everything: tragedy, humor, generational and cultural clashes, all mingled with moments which are pure fun. Mrs. Vento's Italian Garden Restaurant was located at 83 S. Washington St., Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in the 1930's and 1940's.

'58

Cecilia Meighan, RSM, Ed.D., J.D. '58, celebrated her 80th birthday on Oct. 24 among friends at the campus. She retired in 2008 after more than 57 years of dedicated affiliation to the University. Most recently, she served as director of Planned Giving. Sister Cecilia is a member of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Community of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, and is of counsel to the Kingston, Pa., law firm of Gallagher, Brennan and Gill. She served as president of Mount Aloysius College before returning to Misericordia and serving as a valued member of the Board of Trustees for 17 years and as a member of the faculty, teaching law courses in the organizational management master's degree program.

She joined the University Advancement staff in 1999. Sister Cecilia also founded the Institute of Law and Religious Life in 1998.The Board of Trustees renamed the program – Cecilia Meighan, RSM Institute of Law and Religious Life – in her honor on the Institute's 15th anniversary in 2008.

'62

Dolores Nardone D'Elia '62 and her husband, Anthony, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday,

Alumni Award nominations

Every year the MU Alumni Association honors outstanding individuals whose career accomplishments, professional achievements, and volunteer services have contributed to the success and reputation of Misericordia University. If you or a fellow graduate is worthy of such an award, go to CougarConnect at **cougarconnect.misericordia.edu/alumniawards** or go to the Alumni Main page at misericordia.edu and fill out the easy-to-use online nomination form. Help recognize Misericordia's best by making a nomination today! For more information, please contact the Alumni, Community and Donor Relations Office by calling (570) 674-6764 or via e-mail at alumni@misericordia.edu.

Aug. 31, 2013. Their marriage has been blessed with three sons and grandchildren, Alec, Matthew, Abigail and Marissa D'Elia.

'66

Elizabeth Helena Edmunds '66 was awarded the 2013 Family Physician of the Year Award by the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians. She earned a Bachelor of Science in chemistry.

'74

Janet Potoski Serino '74 was named the superintendent of the Wyoming Area School District in September after serving as the district's assistant superintendent. Janet earned her Bachelor of Science degree in elementary education.

'82

Joan Yarnot Timalonis '82 was presented with the Florence Nightengale Award in Academia on Oct. 25, 2013. Joan is a professor of nursing at Cedar Crest College.

'88

Patricia Wysowski Cooper '88 and her husband, Rick, celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary on Oct. 15, 2013. A dinner party was held at the couple's home in Nanticoke, Pa. They are planning a cruise in the spring.

'91

Mark Fung-A-Fat '91 and his wife, Audrey, welcomed their son, Jonah, in May 2013.

Tyron "Ty" Taylor, Jr. '91 was named the associate director of athletics for operations and facilities and head basketball coach at Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pa. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and marketing and played soccer.

'92

Charles Herbert Crane '92 published his new book, "A Christmas Quest: A Young Boy's Unexpected Christmas Vacation," in October 2013 with Trafford Publishing. In his 122-page book, C.H. Crane hopes "to promote the idea that Christmas is more than a time of receiving, but rather more of a time of giving of oneself." His book has been recommended by the US Review of Books, which states, "the author has written a fast-moving, delightful story for middle grade children. This is not just about Christmas, but also about how ordinary actions end up as major events. The author received his Bachelor of Science degree in accounting summa cum laude.

'94

Steven Rhone '94 has been appointed as vice president of patient care services at Beebe Medical Center, Lewes, Del. Steven has nearly 15 years of nursing leadership experience.

Attorney Denise Cuneo '94 and **Attorney Richard R. Brown, Jr. '04**, who are alumni of both Misericordia and Ohio Northern Law School, Ada, Ohio, are practicing law in Elk County, Pa.

CougarConnect - Your link to MU

Staying connected with Misericordia has never been easier! MU alumni each have a Unique ID number that can be found on the address line of the Misericordia Today mailing label. You can use this number to register online for CougarConnect, your alumni link to all things MU. Through CougarConnect, you can receive updates on the latest alumni and University news and events, access online event registration, find classmates or submit a class note. Visit http://cougarconnect.misericordia.edu to get started!

'97

Sally Broadhurst '97 received the Distinguished Alumni Award for the Jack F. Owens Campus of Delaware Technical Community College in recognition of excellence and outstanding achievement in her professional career. Sally is a pediatric occupational therapist at the Cape Henlopen School District, Lewes, Del. She is a resident of Lewes.

'98

Rebecca Durren '98 and her husband, Zachary, welcomed their third child, Joshua Holden Durren, on Aug. 29, 2013. He joins sisters, Emma and Madeline.

Jennifer Snyder '98 and her husband, Jamison, welcomed their second child, Matthew, on Nov. 23, 2012.

Jennifer Borucki Sponzo '98 was named the field hockey state Coach of the Year for 2013 by the Star-Ledger newspaper in Newark, N.J. Jennifer was a member of three conference championship teams in the mid 1990s at Misericordia. At Hunterdon Central, Jennifer led her team to the North Jersey, Section 2, Group 4 title. Jennifer's teams have captured seven sectional championships in her 15 seasons at the helm.

'99

Tiffany Krzynefski '99 and her husband, Joseph Riley, were united in marriage on Sept. 28, 2012. Tiffany is employed as a clinical specialist for Genesis Rehab Services. The couple honeymooned in Niagara Falls, Canada. They reside in Hunlock Creek, Pa.

'00

James Klein '00 and his wife, Angie, welcomed a baby girl, Alexia Grace Klein on April 9, 2013. She joins her big brother, Grady Klein, who is 2½ years old.

'02

Andrea Michelle Slezak '02 and Frederick Hall chose Ann Seton Parish, Swoyersville, Pa., as the setting for their marriage on April 20, 2013. Andrea is employed by Northrop Grumman. The couple honeymooned at the Sandals Resort in the Grand Bahamas. They reside in Plains Township, Pa., and look forward to moving into their new home in Shavertown, Pa., in 2014.

'03

Elizabeth Kovalchik Carden '03 and her husband, **Francis Carden '93**, welcomed their first son, Michael Francis Carden, on July 2, 2013.

'04

Mark Bixler '04 and **Mandy Donmoyer Bixler '03** welcomed their second child, Luke Jordan Bixler, on April 30, 2013. Mandy and Mark are both graduates of the physical therapy program.

Kathleen Collum '04 and Dylan Jones were united in the sacrament of marriage on Dec. 4, 2010. The couple honeymooned in Punta Cana. They currently reside in Wilkes-Barre.

Joseph Castaldo '04 and his wife, Erica, welcomed their first child, Cameron Joseph Castaldo on Oct. 19, 2013.

'05

Christina Henderson '05 and her husband, Christopher Rowe, were married on Sept. 7, 2013. Christina is a crisis intervention specialist at Family Intervention Services in Rockaway Township, N.J. Following a wedding trip to St. Lucia, they reside in Millburn, N.J.

Christopher Gates '05 and his wife, Elsa, welcomed a baby girl, Lilly, on Dec. 26, 2012. She joins big sister, Maya.

'06

Nicole Schultz Cardillo '06 and her husband, Adam, welcomed a baby girl, Addyson, on May 2, 2013. She joins twin brothers, Payton and Parker.

Christen Rose Dick '06 and her husband, Corey Mishura, were married on July 14, 2012. Christen is a middle-school counselor in the Danville Area School District, Danville, Pa. Following a wedding trip to Las Vegas, Nev., the couple resides in Mountain Top, Pa.

Stacy Siglin '06 and her husband, Paul Hovan, were married on June 9, 2012.

Kristal Muto '06 and her husband, Jonathan Sedlak, chose Negril, Jamaica as the setting for their July 28, 2012 wedding. Kristal is a teacher for Pocono Mountain School District, Swiftwater, Pa. Following an extended stay in Negril, Jamaica, the couple resides in Olyphant, Pa.

Sal Carroll '06 and his wife, Kelly Brzozowski, were married on July 20, 2013. Sal is a high school psychology teacher in the Pittston Area School District, Pittston, Pa. The couple honeymooned in Europe. They reside in Exeter, Pa.

Kristin Notarianni '06 and Dr. Chad Zack were married on June 22, 2013. Kristin is a 5th grade teacher at St. Anastasia School, Newtown Square, Pa. They reside in Conshohocken, Pa.

Attorney Ashley G. Zimmerman '06, J.D., joined the practice of Michael E. Weinstein, Attorney at Law in Milford, Pa. She concentrates on family law, real estate, wills/probate estate and criminal state law. Ashley is licensed to practice law in Pennsylvania and New Jersey state courts and in the federal court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. She also is an attorney with the Wayne County Public Defender's Office. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in interdisciplinary studies and her Juris Doctorate in 2010 from Toledo College of Law. Ashley and her husband, Jayson, live in Shohola, Pa.

Jaime Malarkey Dado '06 and her husband, Russell, welcomed a son on, Oct. 16, 2013.

'07

Courtney Marie Coletti '07 and her husband, Daniel Matthew Pentka, were united in marriage on June 22, 2013. Courtney is employed in the Wyoming Area School District, Exeter, Pa.

Janelle Opello '07 and Stephen Statham were married in North Carolina on Oct. 13, 2012. Janelle works in inpatient rehabilitation and acute services at Colorado Children's Hospital, Denver, Colo. They honeymooned in northern California.

Stephanie Sophia Waligorski '07 and Charles John Adzema, Jr. were united in marriage on June 8, 2013. Stephanie is employed as a care manager at United Health Group. The couple honeymooned to St. Lucia. They reside in Lansdale, Pa.

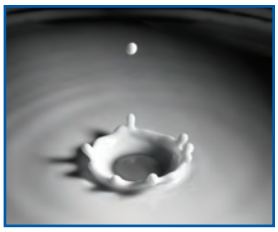
Amy George Feldman '07 and her husband, Andrew, announce the birth of their son, Camden Arthur Feldman, on Sept. 8, 2013.

Erin Lyn McDade '07 and Corey Frank were united in marriage on July 6, 2013. Erin is employed as a claims representative by the Social Security Administration. Following a honeymoon to the Bahamas, the couple resides in Sugar Notch, Pa., with their dogs, Birkenstock and Minniedog.

Catherine Guarnieri '07 and Matthew Pirolli were united in the sacrament of marriage on June 28, 2013. Catherine is working at Rock Solid Academy, Dallas, Pa. The couple honeymooned in Nova Scotia.

Krystle Matthews Krispin '07 and **James Krispin '07** welcomed a daughter on Aug. 12, 2013.

Heidi Jean D'Amore '07 and her husband, Tobi Smith, welcomed their first child, Amelia Faith, on Aug. 7, 2013.



Michelle Leonard '07 had her first solo exhibition of photographs, *A Few of My Favorite Things*, at King's College's Widmann Art Gallery in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in 2013. It included images from her *Milkvaranna* series. Michelle lives in Pikes Creek, Pa., and is an adjunct professor in the Department of Communication Arts at Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, Pa. She earned her BA in business in the Expressway Accelerated Degree Program.

Joe Jelinski '07 established Eruption Athletics in suburban Pittsburgh, Pa., with Chris Engler. Together, they provide athletic training and exercises for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Joe graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in interdisciplinary studies.

'08

Courtney Paulshock '08 and Nicholas Kirch were married on June 2, 2013. Courtney is a registered nurse at Lehigh Valley Health Network in the neuroscience unit. They honeymooned in St. Lucia and live in Breinigsville, Pa.

Rebecca Straub Martin '08, has been appointed clinical assistant professor of physical therapy at Clarkson University, Potsdam, N.Y. Rebecca earned her Bachelor of Science in health sciences and her Master of Science in physical therapy. At MU, she was inducted into the Alpha Chi Honor Society and played track and field, and field hockey. She earned her doctor of physical therapy from Massachusetts General Hospital's Institute of Health Professions.

Michael M. Evans '08, M.S.N., M.S.Ed., R.N., A.C.N.S., C.M.S.R.N., C.N.E., instructor in nursing at Penn State Worthington Scranton campus, has been promoted to assistant chief academic officer. Michael received his Master of Science in nursing with a specialization in adult health and a sub-specialization in nursing education. He lives in Archbald, Pa., with his wife, Stephanie.

Maria Rakowski '08 and Francis Hawk were married on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2013.

'09

Tashara Teart '09 and Christopher Sherpis exchanged wedding vows on June 21, 2013. Tashara is a special education teacher at Daniel J. Flood Elementary School, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. The couples resides in Wilkes-Barre with their shih-tzu, Brady.

Rachel Kahn Sutliff '09 and her husband, Adam, welcomed their first baby, Noah Patrick Sutliff, on July 1, 2013.

Kelli Elizabeth O'Leary '09 and **Matthew James Merrifield '08** were married July 6, 2013. Kelly is a registered radiologic technologist at Main Line Health. Matthew is a radiologic technologist at Philadelphia Orthopedic Group.

Lindsay Margaret Smith '09 and her husband, John Michael Stavish, were married May 11, 2013. Lindsay is a physician assistant at Dallas Family Practice. Following their honeymoon to the Turks and Caicos, they reside in Shavertown, Pa., with their dog, Brady.

'10

Susan Bochnovich '10 and **Tyler Anderson '11** were joined by family and friends during their Russian Orthodox wedding ceremony on Aug. 31, 2013. Sue is a physical therapist at Physical Therapy Associates of NEPA in Hamlin, Pa. Ty is a critical care nurse at Geisinger Medical Center.

Susan Marie Thomas '10 and her husband, Paul Brannigan, were united in marriage on Sept, 9, 2013. Susan is employed as a registered nurse with the Pennsylvania State Correctional Institute, Chase, Pa. They honeymooned in Las Vegas, Nev., and reside in Dallas, Pa.

Megan Ann Sallavanti '10 and Jason DiBileo chose Prince of Peace Parish, Old Forge, Pa., as the setting for their Oct. 5, 2013 wedding. Megan is a speech-language pathologist at Bayada Home Health Care. Following a wedding cruise to South America, they will reside in Old Forge.

Alumni welcome first-year students

Misericordia alumni who assisted with Move-in Day 2013 by serving cookies and refreshments to first-year students and their families included, from left, Joe Simon '80, Swoyersville, Pa.; Tom Sweetz '01, Shavertown, Pa.; Sue Simon (Joe's wife), and Carol Williams '67, Tunkhannock, Pa.

Misericordia alumni who staffed the refreshment stand on Move-in Day 2013 included, from left, Sisters of Mercy Barbara Craig, RSM '53, and Constance Kozel, RSM '55, Dallas, Pa.; Maureen Chamberlain '68, Wilkes-Barre, Pa.; Colleen Newhart '75, '99, Plains Twp., Pa., and Nancy Canarini Stepanski '80.

'11

Danielle '11 and **Mario Stetts '11** welcomed their second child, Sofia Marisa. She joins a big brother.

Kaitlyn Huttman '11 has been named marketing director at Belle Reve Senior Living, Milford, Pa. She earned a B.S. in business administration cum laude.

'12

Rose Scott '12 and her husband, Brian Murray, were married on July 6, 2013.

Chelsea Mixon '12 and **Greg Vossler '11** were married on Aug. 17, 2013. Greg is the assistant director of athletics for communication and media relations and is also the head coach for women's swimming at Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pa. Chelsea is the assistant swim coach for Freedom High School, Bethlehem, Pa., and also manages adoptions for China and South Korea through the Pearl S. Buck International Agency. The couple resides in the Lehigh Valley and will travel to the Dominican Republic for their honeymoon in the spring.

Amanda Davis '12 and Michael Borick chose St. Ann's Basilica as the setting for their May 18, 2013 wedding. Amanda is employed at Allied Services. Following a wedding trip to Hawaii, the couple resides in Taylor, Pa.

Janette Raylene Depew '12 and Mario Joseph Migliori were married on Sept. 14, 2013. A reception followed at Fiorelli's Catering in Peckville, Pa. The couple honeymooned in Aruba. They live in Harrisburg, Pa.

James Carpenter '12, a graduate of the NSG Program, was named a 3rd Quarter Super Star from the emergency room at Osceola Regional Medical Center, Kissimmee, Fla. James joined the team on April 8, 2013.

Chase Thompson '12 has been named assistant director of track and field at St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y., where he also serves as an assistant throws coach. Chase was a captain of the track and field team as a senior and also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in sport management.

'13

Dan Nicolette '13 has accepted a teaching position at Altar Valley Middle School in Tucson, Ariz., where he will teach seventh and eighth grade math and coach sports. He will also work alongside other teachers on a STEM committee. He received his BA in math.

Danielle Hogan '13 is employed by Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit, Lewisburg, Pa. Danielle earned her Doctor of PT.

2013 HOMECOMING

October 4-6

More MU Homecoming Memories can be Found at

http://bit.ly/MUHomecoming2013

Alumnus works to build trust in natural gas exploration,

Community BUILDER

William desRosiers '09, '11, top, is the external affairs coordinator for Houston, Texas-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., which is extracting natural gas reserves from the Marcellus Shale in Susquehanna County, Pa. Four completed production wells, above, in another area of Susquehanna County are sending natural gas to domestic markets.

Earth at his family's aggregate mining business and became keenly aware of her bounties and fragilities. In college, the Highland Falls, N.Y., native learned about the inner workings of state government during an internship, and investigated the role of entrepreneurship in Skopje, Macedonia, and as a contestant in the annual Great Valley Technology Alliance Business Plan Competition.

Today, the enterprising spirit he displayed as an adolescent and collegian is benefitting the emerging natural gas industry in the Marcellus Shale's Susquehanna County region, See next page

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

William desRosiers '09, '11 stands along a hillside in Susquehanna County, Pa., where Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., is extracting natural gas from the Marcellus Shale. The site is a one-hour drive from the campus of Misericordia University.

Continued from page 9

about a one-hour drive from the Misericordia University campus he called home for six years. Since 2012, desRosiers has been the external affairs coordinator for Houston, Texas-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., serving as the go-to person for educational, charitable, public and government relations, and workforce and economic development issues.

"My heart was always in natural resource development," says desRosiers, who married his college girlfriend, Jaimie Derr '07 in November 2012. "I love working in an industry where every day natural gas is produced from the Marcellus Shale, the United States is one step closer to energy security. That is something I am very proud of."

SHALE GAS DEVELOPMENT

Out in the Marcellus Shale field, several hay wheels lay idle in a farm field and a single silo splits the rolling hills of picturesque Susquehanna County. The scene serves as a reminder that despite its solitude more than 43,000 people call the rural area home, according to the 2010 census. A few hundred yards away, a 10-acre drilling site is bustling with activity as the natural gas industry pumps cement around steel casing to finish a newly drilled well where hydraulic fracturing soon will stimulate the well, releasing decades' worth of clean burning natural gas. By itself, the site provides daily work for more than 100 contractors and service providers, like Haliburton, Diaz Companies and Patterson-Uti Drilling Co., according to desRosiers.

In a region still scarred by the anthracite industry, some skeptics remain in northeastern Pennsylvania and beyond. One of desRosiers main roles, therefore, is to educate residents, environmentalists, elected officials, and many other constituents about the advantages the technology possesses and how it can cleanly and safely remove trapped natural gas some 6,500 feet below the surface. Together, the natural gas industry and Marcellus Shale are reshaping this corner of the Keystone State and powering a revolution by directly and indirectly creating jobs, and producing significant investments in Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) dual-fuel vehicles, infrastructure, and workforce development.

In Susquehanna and Wyoming counties, Cabot has about 250 natural gas wells and 200,000 acres leased for exploration and production. Together, the active wells produce 1.2 billion cubic feet of natural gas per day or enough to power 26,000 homes annually. Cabot, the industry leader in natural gas and CNG dual-fuel technologies, is the No. 2 producer of natural gas in the Marcellus Shale, which stretches across Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. It also has eight of the top 10 most productive wells, 15 of the top 20, and 18 of the top 25 producing wells in the Marcellus region, according to desRosiers.

"It (Cabot's success) comes down to technological advancements and Cabot's skilled engineers and geologists," says desRosiers, who estimates each well will produce natural gas for about 60 years. "There's not another source on the planet that can

produce like that.

"Cabot's success in Susquehanna County has exceeded expectations and the industry has had to re-examine wells for their productivity. We are confident that this is going to be a 100-year play," he adds.

That success also has benefitted the region and local communities, as Cabot estimates it has had a $2.2 billion impact on the Susquehanna County economy during its brief time in the region. The company also donated more than $2 million in support of the new Endless Mountains Health Systems facility, which opened Nov. 8 in Montrose, Pa., and has provided scholarships for students at the Susquehanna County Career and Technology Center in Dimock.

"We consider ourselves part of this community," says desRosiers, "in large part because this is not a boom-or-bust industry. Cabot has a history of spending generations in an area and developing it – just look at our 40-plus years of operation in West Virginia."

ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

On this late summer morning, Cabot's crew is busy connecting the surface to the formation by drilling the well with a 120-foot tall rig. It takes about 16 to 18 days to drill a new well after site preparation is completed. Then, hydraulic fracturing – a stimulation process that uses a high-pressure mixture of water, sand and chemicals (chlorine, hydrochloric acid and commercial-grade dish soap) to extract natural gas from rock formations – typically takes two to three days per well. After connecting the well to the Williams Pipeline system, natural gas is free to flow to market.

The debate about the advantages and disadvantages of hydraulic fracturing has been raging since the industry announced that bountiful deposits of natural gas could be tapped in the Utica and Marcellus Shale regions. The state of New York continues to maintain a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing, while many smaller communities in the Empire State have amended their zoning laws in an attempt to ban the process all together, according to multiple media reports.

Shale gas development, like any exploration for energy sources, does not come without risks, desRosiers acknowledges. But he believes Cabot and other companies have taken the necessary steps and precautions to mitigate the industry's impact on the environment, especially water sources. "Cabot prides itself on following the Marcellus Shale Coalition's best practices, which guide us in ensuring the environment is properly protected during each stage of development," he says.

At each drill site, Cabot removes the top soil and stores it so it can be reintroduced to the land once drilling concludes, "so the farmer can enjoy planting again, for example, or the aesthetics of the land," desRosiers explains. The company also sets up multiple containment mechanisms to minimize the operational impact it has on the environment by containing any fluid or rock shavings that are introduced into the local environment. On the surface, a closed-loop drilling system collects anything that comes out of the well bore so it is recycled and disposed of properly.

The same care and diligence is given to water sources. "We protect the aquifer multiple ways," says desRosiers, adding that up to 45 different local, state and federal permits are required at each drilling site. "When we are drilling, we elect to use fresh water to drill through the aquifer until we can set a barrier of steel and cement known as the surface casing. Once we are through the aquifer, we continue to set two more layers of steel and cement casings between the bore hole and Earth at different depths."

LEARNING TO SUCCEED

At Misericordia University, desRosiers was a business administration and history/pre-law major as an undergraduate student after finding out about the Catholic university at a college fair in West Point, N.Y. He traveled to Macedonia to study international entrepreneurship, secured an internship in the office of state Sen. Lisa Baker's office, and conducted research for a scholarly paper that was published by a professor during his first four years at MU.

"The educators at Misericordia challenged me to do more than just go through the motions," says desRosiers, who also earned his MBA at Misericordia. "During my freshman year, Dr. (Allan) Austin convinced me that it was possible to double major in business and history since I had a passion for both. Dr. (Brian) Carso's mentoring really set the standard for the student I wanted to be. Dr. (John) Sumansky and President (Michael) MacDowell, not only challenged me to do more, they each spent countless hours mentoring me to make sure I succeeded in the professional world.

"The skills and knowledge, combined with the extra intangibles I learned at Misericordia, are why I am succeeding today," adds the Harveys Lake, Pa., resident.

William desRosiers '09, '11, the external affairs coordinator for Houston, Texas-based Cabot Oil & Gas Corp., talks to Spencer Staley, a well-site geologist for Selman and Associates, Ltd., about drilling bits at a Susquehanna County, Pa., location.

Events of Sept. 11 inspired alumnus to work for Department of Homeland Security

Service to country

BY TOM VENESKY

Michael Falcone '99 could have gone to just about any big university after he graduated from Pittston Area High School. After all, he was accepted to Penn State University, the University of Scranton and Notre Dame to name a few.

In the end, though, the Pittston, Pa., native chose Misericordia University – a decision that has helped him experience an exciting career with the Department of Homeland Security in Washington D.C. Falcone serves as the chief of the Homeland Security Investigations Law Division, overseeing 40 attorneys and support staff at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement headquarters. The division, under his direction, is comprised of three sections: National Security Law, Human Rights Law, and Criminal Law.

The job is demanding, oftentimes resulting in long work weeks for Falcone, who received his Bachelor of Arts degree in history and pre-law at Misericordia. "Sometimes I'd like to multiply myself," he says. "But since I enjoy it, I don't even realize how long the day has been."

Falcone was promoted to his current post in October 2013 after previously serving as a deputy chief counsel in the Washington Office of the Chief Counsel since 2009. He started his career in 2002 as a trial attorney for the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in New York City and quickly was named a senior attorney. In that position, he litigated numerous criminal, national security, and human rights violator cases.

Prior to that, Falcone was a law student at Widener University School of Law, Wilmington, Del., and served an internship with the district attorney's office in Delaware County, Pa. The events of Sept. 11, 2001 compelled him to get involved with the Department of Homeland Security.

"I had interviewed for the INS job (in New York) and decided to take it because I knew there was a national security angle to it," Falcone says. "After Sept. 11, I kind of felt a calling to do something for the country."

It was Misericordia that guided him into the field. Falcone chose his alma mater because he wanted to remain close to his hometown and he knew Misericordia also had a stellar reputation for academics and career preparation.

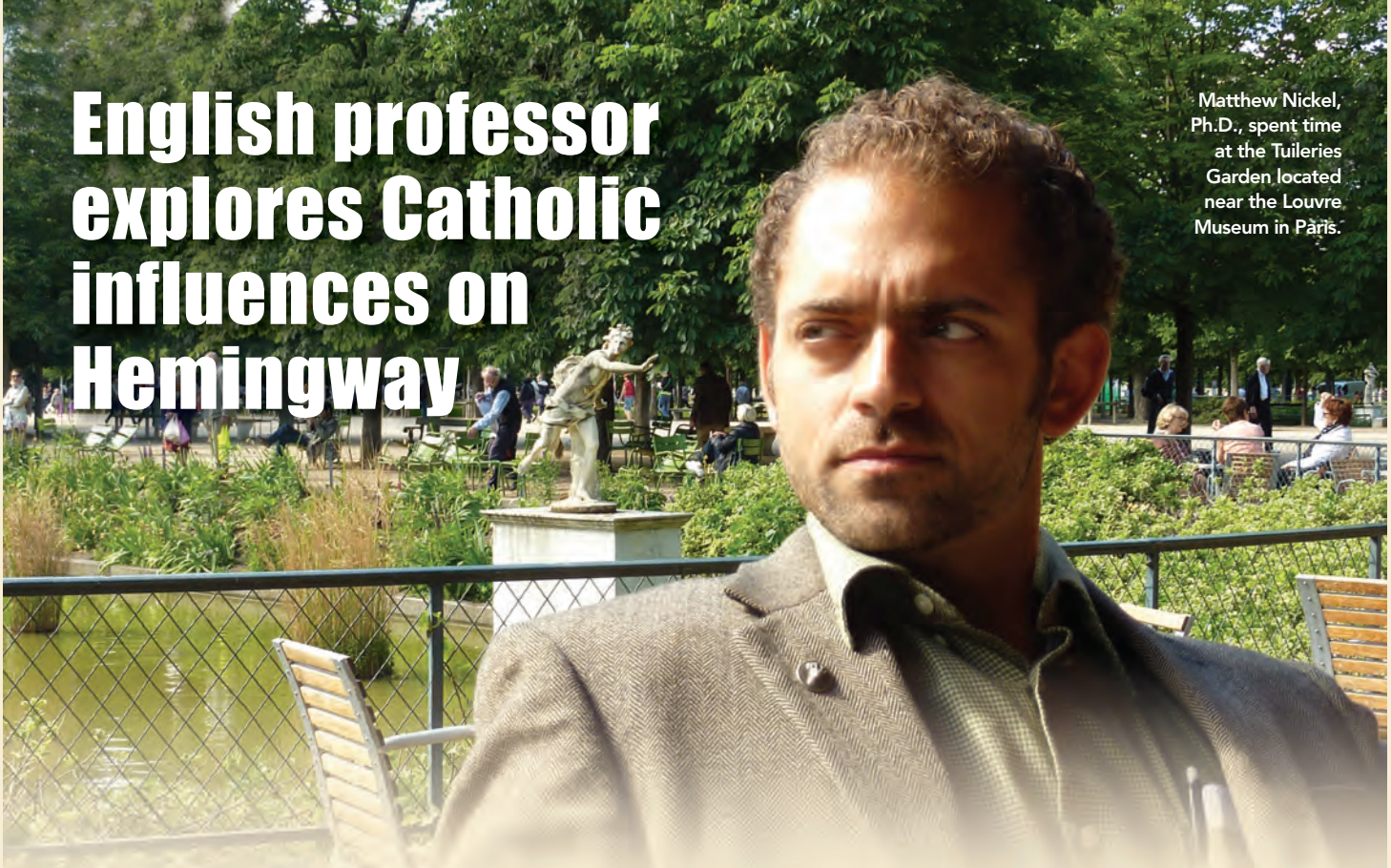
For Falcone, Misericordia lived up to its reputation thanks to the professors in the pre-law program, specifically Rosemarie Savelli, J.D., a former associate professor of political science. "She was amazing and she really prepared me for law school," says Falcone, the son of Tony and Jean Falcone of Pittston. "All of the professors I had at Misericordia instilled a lot of things in me, such as my management style and professionalism – I still model that after them."

While it's been several years since the Presidential Scholarship recipient graduated from Misericordia, he still visits campus regularly. Most recently, he was a panelist for the University's symposium on homeland security in 2012 that was sponsored by the Government, Law and National Security program.

Even though the long hours and demands of his current post require Falcone to spend the vast majority of his time in Washington D.C., he still gets an occasional reminder of his Misericordia roots even in the nation's capital. "In D.C., I've run into a few people here that went to Misericordia," he says. "And when I do get back there, I'm reminded of just how beautiful the campus is and how important Misericordia has been in my life."

Falcone is engaged to be married to Marni Mankuta.

English professor explores Catholic influences on Hemingway



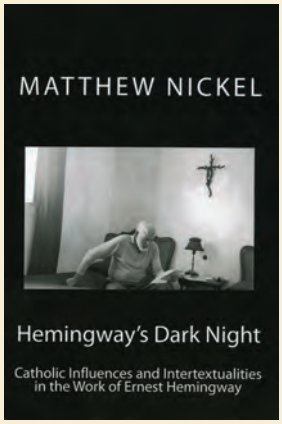
Matthew Nickel, Ph.D., spent time at the Tuileries Garden located near the Louvre Museum in Paris.

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

There is plenty of reason to be proud when you write a book and the forward is written by the leading scholar in the world on the subject.

So it is with Matthew Nickel, Ph.D., assistant professor of English at Misericordia University, whose recently released book, *Hemingway's Dark Night: Catholic Influences and Intertextualities in the Work of Ernest Hemingway*, includes a forward written by his mentor H.R. Stonebeck, Ph.D., who is known as a Hemingway scholar of international distinction.

Referring to Dr. Nickel's writing as impeccable, thorough and insightful, Dr. Stonebeck encourages all scholars of Hemingway to study the *Dark Night* book and keep it on a bookshelf in every classroom. "This volume is a cutting-edge study of the most urgent concerns of our greatest writers," Dr. Stonebeck writes. "Read it and reread it, teach it, live it and relive it with Hemingway."



As a first-year college student at the State University of New York (SUNY) at New Paltz, Dr. Nickel was encouraged to take a literature class taught by Dr. Stonebeck, a Distinguished Teaching Professor of English who had taught there since 1969. After a class that examined *The Sun Also Rises*, Dr. Nickel realized how little he had comprehended reading it on his own. So inspired by Dr. Stonebeck's insights, he read everything written by Hemingway during the following summer and set out on a mission to learn all that he could about the enigmatic author.

His first academic trip was to a Hemingway conference in Stresa, Italy, where he spent two weeks in the area where Hemingway's 1929 book, *A Farewell to Arms*, was set.

"Reading *A Farewell to Arms* in the place where it was written changed me forever," Dr. Nickel admits. "I could feel the emotion. I felt I needed to go to all the places where he wrote to truly understand the man and his work."

He subsequently visited Paris, France, where he stayed on the street where Hemingway lived; Venice, Italy, the setting for *Across the River and Into the Trees*; and Pamplona, Spain, the locale for *The Sun Also Rises*, among others. He also spent time in Key West, Fla., Hemingway's home from 1931 to 1939, and Kansas City, Mo., where the Pulitzer Prize- and Nobel Prize-winning author began his career as a reporter for the Kansas City Star in 1917.

Travelling through Europe opened Dr. Nickel's eyes to the influences Catholicism had on Hemingway's writing. "Although Hemingway always distanced himself from being considered a Catholic writer, Stonebeck had spent time during the 70s, 80s and 90s studying the importance of his devotions," Dr. Nickel explains. "I decided to pursue some of his hunches and ended up charting new terrain, not only about the Catholic Hemingway but about my own beliefs. It was the depth of faith in the places where he wrote that taught me more about Hemingway than anything else I was able to study."

Dr. Nickel's pioneering research was the subject of his doctoral thesis at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, La., in 2011. Dr. Nickel also holds bachelor's and master's degrees in English from SUNY-New Paltz.

Since 2002, Dr. Nickel's writings on American and British literature and poetry have been published widely. He also has presented at more than 45 national and international conferences.

He joined the faculty in 2013 and says he plans to continue writing about Hemingway. He is currently working on a book of his own poems and an examination of the short stories of Southern Renaissance writer Elizabeth Madox Roberts. He will present at the XVI Annual Elizabeth Madox Roberts Conference in April at St. Catharine College, Springfield, Ky.

Learning the ropes of team building

Student Activities adds 18-element Challenge Course at Anderson Complex

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Nestled behind the Anderson Outdoor Athletic Complex stands a 32-foot high climbing wall that has both symbolic and literal meanings for Patrick McKamy, the coordinator of student activities, and the clients who use the new facility.

The imposing structure, constructed of pressure treated lumber, dedicated telephone poles, and steel cables, serves as the focal point for Student Activities' new Challenge Course and the entrance to a series of 18 elements on four acres of land that help individuals and organizations build trust, chemistry and self-confidence, as well as leadership and communication skills while navigating it together.

"We are trying to get people to reach their full potential both for themselves and for their team or their organization," says McKamy, the co-designer of the team-building course. "The real development and the real growth of the group occur as they navigate through each element or challenge that we give them. Each has different aims. There are a lot of overlaps, however, so you can have several aims over the course of several events."

The Misericordia University Challenge Course is available for a myriad of participants, including students, faculty and staff, as well as for clients in the corporate and nonprofit sectors, or simply for fun.

During a phone or in-person consultation, a facilitator will develop a personalized program that is tailored to the needs of the client. The course can accommodate small groups or large parties. Typically, at the conclusion of each challenge, the facilitator holds a debriefing session so "participants can digest and process what they just accomplished," says McKamy.

The highly interactive and experiential programs on the course are designed to focus on teamwork, problem solving, and trust enhancement. Working in tandem, for example, two-person teams can work together on the Giants Ladder to reach the top of the climbing wall and then use the zip line to return to the ground. Larger groups can work together on the Whale Watch exercise as team members build communication skills and trust as they work to balance the group on a 5-foot-by-8-foot platform that is precariously perched atop a center beam. The team also builds important skills during the Porthole activity while lifting teammates over their heads and maneuvering them through tires.

"Every element can have goals in it," McKamy says. "It is how each challenge is given to the group and what type of deliverables we are giving to the group. We develop a program tailored to the organization's needs or wants with the understanding that we have to be able to be flexible in the needs and the change of dynamics of the group."

The Challenge Course offers an opportunity to scale a 32-foot high climbing wall, above, or develop additional skills during the Porthole activity, below.

Fast Facts:

The Misericordia University Challenge Course provides each participant with a helmet and harness. It features 18 elements:

Teepee Shuffle, Wild Woosey, Drop Zone, Mohawk Walk, Two-Line Traverse, Trust Fall, Islands, Whale Watch, Porthole, Spiders Web, Up and Over Beam, 12-Foot Wall, Alligator Crossing, Tire on Pole, High Climbing, High Zipline, High Vertical Playpen, and High Giants Ladder.

For more information, call (570) 674-6411 or e-mail Patrick McKamy at pmckamy@misericordia.edu.

Women's soccer team advances to Sweet 16

Five members of the women's soccer team that advanced to the Sweet 16 were named to the NSCAA Continental Tire Mid-Atlantic All-Region team.

Forward Megan Mahoney '15 and junior defender Erin Roberts '16 were named to the first team, while Maureen Ciccosanti '15 earned second-team honors for the second straight season. Junior Erin McGreal '16 and Megan Lannigan '15 earned spots on the third team. Mahoney also was named a second-team All-American.

Mahoney was named the Freedom Conference Offensive Player of the Year after finishing the season with 53 total points. She tallied 17 goals and a school-record 19 assists. Roberts was named the Freedom Conference Defensive Player of the Year after anchoring a defensive unit that allowed just 14 goals, including the postseason. She was the Elite 89 Award recipient at the Final Four a year ago and was also a third-team all-region selection in 2012.

Ciccosanti posted a 0.58 goals against average and also registered 73 saves en route to a 19-3-2 overall record. She also was named to the Freedom Conference First-Team.

Erin Roberts '16 was named the Freedom Conference and Eastern College Athletic Conference D-III South Defensive Player of the Year.

The victory bell is dedicated by President Botzman, Dave Martin, Lauren Gorney '12, class president; Alisha Nudo '12, secretary, and Brittany Vetrini '12, vice president.

Victory bell dedicated at Mangelsdorf Field

Misericordia held a ceremony during Homecoming Weekend to dedicate the new victory bell at Mangelsdorf Field. The bell is the class gift of the Class of 2012 and is the latest addition to the University's Anderson Sports Complex. The bell is located just outside the Cougars' locker room in the John and Mary Metz Field House.

Each sports team competing at Mangelsdorf will ring the bell upon taking the field and once again following a victory.

"The year we graduated was the year the football program started and we wanted our class gift to be a part of the legacy," said Class of 2012 President Lauren Gorney. "Our Vice President Brittany Vetrini came up with the idea of a victory bell. We have started a new tradition for every Misericordia team of every sport that will play on this field."

Cougars named to MAC All-Academic Teams

Nine fall sports student-athletes were been named to the inaugural MAC All-Academic teams in their respective sports.

They are: Maureen Ciccosanti '15, Megan Lannigan '14, Megan Mahoney '15, Erin Roberts '16, and Nicolette Ruffler '13, '16, women's soccer; Barry Fitzgerald '16 and Dennis Halpin '13, '16, men's soccer; Jeff Puckett '16, football, and Mikael Hause '16, men's cross country.

Student-athletes get postseason awards

Men's soccer team goalkeeper Barry Fitzgerald '16 was named the Freedom Conference Men's Soccer Defensive Player of the Year. He was joined on the first team by teammates T.J. Schaefer '14 and Nick vonEgypt '15, midfielders, and Kevin Matlon '16, a defender. David Malaquias '17 earned honorable mention at forward.

Fitzgerald also was named first-team NSCAA All-Region while vonEgypt made second-team.

In football, John Ameen '16 and Jeff Puckett '16 were named to the All-MAC Football team.

The field hockey team was represented by Angela Pasquini '16, first-team goalkeeper; Lindsay Hischak '16, second-team forward, and Andi Veneziale '17, midfielder, received honorable mention.

Volleyball standouts Meghan Stack '16 and Kellyn Swanson '15 were named to All-Freedom Conference team. Stack and Swanson both earned honorable mention at outside hitter.

Alumni Legacy Connection Program promotes family links to Misericordia University

Of the seven children in her family, Margaret "Maggie" Guarnieri '17 may have had the toughest decision of all in choosing a college. As the baby of the family, all four of her older sisters either graduated or are current students at Misericordia University – Kate '07, Beth '09, Marianne '11 and Bridget '15. Would she go with the flow or branch out on her own?

In the end, there was no question. After visiting the campus for an official visit, the youngest daughter of Dr. Louis and Marie Guarnieri of Pittston, Pa., agreed to extend the family legacy and attend college where her grandmother, Ann Mitchell McGarry '54, and great aunt, Claire McGarry '54, did.

Showing their Misericordia pride, from left are Kate '07, Beth '09, Marianne '11, Bridget '15 and Maggie Guarnieri '17.

The Misericordia Alumni Association is hoping other families will feel the same affinity for their alma mater. The MU Legacy Connection Program provides alumni with an opportunity to enroll their children and grandchildren in MU.

Children ranging in age from infant to 18 years old are eligible to receive special birthday notifications, including *Future MU Alumna* or *Future MU Alumnus* baby bibs, pencil cases, key chains and more. Children 16 to 18 years old are also eligible for the MU Proud Referral Program, where they can receive a $500 scholarship towards their first, full-time semester if referred to MU by an alumna/us.

To enroll a child, complete the form at cougarconnect.misericordia.edu/legacy or contact the Alumni Relations Office at alumni@misericordia.edu.

MU named a top military-friendly university

Misericordia University has been awarded the designation of a Top Military-Friendly University by Military Advanced Education in its 2014 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities. MU is the only college or university in northeastern Pennsylvania to be recognized in the annual publication. The complete guide is available online at www.mae-kmi.com.

Military Advanced Education's 2014 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities provides potential students with information about institutions of higher education that go out of their way to give back to the men and women in uniform, according to Military Advanced Education.

Among the attributes considered in evaluating this year's colleges and universities for inclusion in the Guide are the flexibility of online learning options, transfer credit acceptance, on-campus ROTC, full-time counselors trained in veteran-specific mental health concerns, and more.

Health informatics graduate certificate

The Graduate Admissions Department has introduced an 18-credit graduate certificate program in health informatics in order to meet the growing demand for expertise in the application of information technology in health care.

The 18-credit program prepares future health informatics leaders who understand the complexities among health informatics stakeholders in the community, while also enhancing their abilities to use inter-relationships among health IT, health care delivery, regulatory processes, and information management. It also instills leadership behaviors that emphasize competence, as well as moral and ethical performance.

Professionals can complete the program in as little as one year by taking six credits per semester beginning in the fall.

FACULTY NOTEBOOK

James Siberski, M.S., C.M.C., CRmT, assistant professor, presented his research poster, *Computer-Based Cognitive Training for Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities*, at the 26th annual U.S. Psychiatric and Mental Health Congress Conference and Exhibition in Las Vegas, Nev., in October. The international study was conducted at MU with student researchers **Aubrey French '10, Sara Horton '10** and other professionals in the field.

Siberski, Lauren Zack '11, '13, O.T.D., O.T.R./L., adjunct professor, and **Carol Siberski, M.S., CRmT, C-GCM**, had the article *Memory Maintenance* published in Today's Geriatric Medicine.

Stanley J. Dudrick, M.D., F.A.C.S., the Robert S. Anderson Endowed chair and medical director of the physician assistant program, was featured in the American College of Surgeons' article, *100 Years of Surgical Quality Improvement, 1913-2013*, that was posted at http://timeline.facs.org/.

Rebecca Steinberger, Ph.D., department chair and professor of English, had her third book, *Encountering Ephemera 1500-1800: Scholarship, Performance, Classroom*, published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. *It* is a guide for teaching ephemeral matters in the modern college classroom.

Joshua D. Winneker, J.D., assistant professor of business, presented the research paper, *Sports Gambling: New Jersey and Beyond*, at the annual conference for the Academy of Legal Studies in Business in Boston, Mass. He also had his paper, *Protecting the Unprotected: Creating an Anti-Retaliation Policy for Professional Athletes that Exercise their Legal Rights in Participant vs. Participant Liability Contact Sports*, published in the Virginia Sports and Entertainment Law Journal from the University of Virginia School of Law.

John Mellon, Ed.D., associate professor of business, offered, *Student Preferred Methods of Instruction Survey for Enhancing Teaching Practices*, at the 43rd Annual Conference of the International Society for Exploring Teaching and Learning in Orlando, Fla.

The Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography (SDMS) presented **Sheryl Goss, M.S., RT(R)(S), RDMS, RDCS, RVT, FSDMS**, assistant professor and chair of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program, with the 2013 Distinguished Educator Award at the SDMS Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nev. In addition, Goss was inducted as president-elect for the Board of Directors and will become president in 2015.

Faculty members and students in the Department of Occupational Therapy have been accepted to present their research at the 16th International Congress of the World Federation of Occupational Therapy in Yokohama, Japan, in June 2014.

Lalit Shah, Ed.D., O.T.R./L., professor, and students, **Matt Cash '13**, **Moira Hauer '13**, **Jessica Mudgett '13**, and **Katie Moul '13**, will make the poster-based presentation, *Life Balance: A Comparative Study of Retired and Working Occupational Therapists*.

Jennifer Dessoye, O.T.D., M.S., O.T.R./L., assistant professor, and students **Chelsey Converse '14**, **Shannon McSweeny '14**, **Lindsey McLaughlin '14** and **Cathryn Steinhoff '14**, will present *The Effectiveness of Handwriting and Visual Motor iPad Apps in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder*.

Joseph Cipriani, Ed.D., O.T.R./L., professor, and students **Jenna Georgia '13**, **Megan McChesney '13**, **Megan Stabler '13**, and **Jaclyn Tschantz '13** will offer their poster, *Uncovering the Value and Meaning of a Horticulture Therapy Program for Clients at a Long-Term Adult Inpatient Psychiatric Facility*.

Dr. Cipriani and students, **Marisa Cooper '12, M.S., O.T.R./L.**, **Nicole M. DiGiovanni '12, M.S., O.T.R./L.**, **Alexandria Litchkofski '12, M.S., O.T.R./L.**, **Andrea Lynn Nichols '12, M.S., O.T.R./L.**, and **Ashleigh Ramsey '12, M.S., O.T.R./L.**, published the research manuscript, *Dog-Assisted Therapy for Residents of Long-Term Care Facilities: An Evidence-Based Review with Implications for Occupational Therapy*, in Physical and Occupational Therapy in Geriatrics.

Barbara Leggat, M.S., director, Center for Adult and Continuing Education and Office of Summer Studies, co-presented, *It Takes an Institutional Village*, at the 50th Annual North American Association of Summer Sessions Conference, with the Western Association of Summer Session Administrators, Denver, Colo.

Alumnus finds his 'Brave New World'

Seeks master's degree in American Culture Studies at Bowling Green

For some time, the career path Andrew M. Corbett '13 would eventually choose seemed to be on the periphery of his many interests.

He dabbled with creative writing as a hobby and landed the 2013 Creative Literary Achievement Award at Misericordia University for his poetry and short stories. A self-described "fantasy nerd," his favorite books are the *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien and *Brave New World* by science-fiction author Aldous Huxley. His heart, though, belongs to drama, especially his favorite playwright, Martin McDonagh.

His early academic career mirrored those interests, somewhat as well. He majored in theater design, technology and humanities at two different colleges before transferring to MU and finding his own niche in higher education. After graduating magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, he received a graduate scholarship and teaching assistant position in the American Culture Studies program at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio — one of the tops programs in the country.

"Misericordia prepared me for this by allowing me to question things, by requiring me to question," says Corbett, who is a teaching assistant for Professor Robert Sloane, Ph.D., in the Introduction to American Culture Studies class. "My time at Misericordia was not necessarily about being in a classroom, absorbing information, and parroting it back out. It was understanding why the information I was being given was important. It was about the context of what I was learning. Many of my professors stressed that. Being able to look at the context in which something is produced and the framework which helped create it, is crucial to being able to recognize the strengths or failings of that something — whether it be a book, movie, social movement, or cultural theory."

That encouragement, support and direction also resulted in an exciting career path, one that mirrors many of his mentors. Upon completion of his master's degree in 2015, Corbett envisions teaching on the collegiate level. In the meantime, he is busy using the critical eye he attained at MU to examine American myths, fantasies, and stories. And in turn, he is gaining a firm grasp on American identity, and an understanding of cultural theory and the power structures that influence the actions and thoughts of the nation's citizenry.

— By Paul Krzywicki

Andrew M. Corbett '13 received a graduate scholarship and teaching assistant position in the American Culture Studies program at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio.

'Grace in Ireland'

Alumna seeks master's degree at The Queen's University of Belfast

Walking through the gates of The Queen's University of Belfast in Northern Ireland, Grace Clancy Riker '13 is feeling more than a bit lucky. A 2013 graduate of Misericordia University with a degree in English, Riker just completed her first semester at one of the United Kingdom's most prestigious research institutions where she is working toward a master's degree in drama and performance.

Chronicling her experiences on a blog aptly named, "Grace in Ireland," Riker admits her first weeks overseas were a mix of trepidation and euphoria as she became accustomed to the country and culture. One of the hardest adjustments was adapting to the size of Queen's University — 20,000 students compared to 3,000 at Misericordia.

Grace Clancy Riker '13 is pursuing a Master of Arts degree in drama and performance at Queen's University in Belfast, Ireland.

"Having an undergrad degree in English gave me a little 'one up' on my classmates," Riker says. "Many were drama and theatre majors, so they were not used to the reading and research required. Misericordia prepared me very well for those aspects."

Riker is inspired knowing that she has ancestors who came from County Mayo and County Claire, Ireland. She got her first look at the country as a participant in a Sisters of Mercy Leadership Conference that took her to Dublin and Belfast as an undergraduate in 2011.

A well-respected student leader at Misericordia, Riker was a senior captain and nationally acclaimed goalkeeper of the field hockey team; president of the Beyond Harmony a cappella group; an actress with the Misericordia Players Theater, and a member of Sigma Delta Tau English Honor Society. She also took part in the Misericordia Cultural Immersion Trip to Peru in 2012.

In true Misericordia style, Riker hopes to use theater as a service to others. "I am considering focusing my dissertation on disability theater," says the Bridgewater, N.Y., native. "My applied drama class is putting together a show involving stroke survivors. I really want to show the healing powers of memorization, like that of a script, for people with brain injuries. It provides an alternative way for them to express themselves."

To follow Riker's adventures, go to www.graceclancy.blogspot.com

— By Marianne Tucker Puhalla

Oceanport, Misericordia preserve memory of Maria Grilli Gatta '68

April, 23, 1946 - Oct. 27, 2005

Maria Grilli Gatta '68, left, and her daughter, Mary Gatta. To make a donation, call the Development Office at (570) 674-6354.

The late Maria Grilli Gatta '68 had a knack for leaving a lasting impression in life. The community of Oceanport, N.J., where she unselfishly gave her time and treasure, along with her beloved alma mater want to make sure that her efforts are never forgotten.

In October 2013, Oceanport Borough officials and members of the Gatta family participated in a dedication ceremony for a special memorial that was placed in Maria Gatta Community Park.

Maria was known throughout Oceanport and much of Misericordia for her unwavering dedication to community. While she began her career as a teacher, she spent most of her professional life as a business woman. She founded and co-owned, *Cheers to You!*, with Dee Frankel for more than 24 years. The store served as a retail icon where both Maria and Dee were known for their personal touch with their products and customer service.

In addition, she was a committed public servant – serving on the Oceanport Parent-Teacher Association, Board of Education, borough council, and as its first female mayor. Among her many accomplishments, Mayor Gatta developed Oceanport's Networking Committee, established a Wall of Honor for veterans, and organized two successful Women's Day forums.

She was very proud of being able to serve her community and particularly of being the borough's mayor — a position she held until she died on Oct. 27, 2005 after a battle with cancer.

Maria and her husband, John Gatta, raised two children: Dr. Mary Gatta, a senior scholar at Wider Opportunities for Women in Washington, D.C., and Michael Gatta, a supervisor of special education in the Long Branch School District.

She earned a B.S. in elementary education and served as president for the Class of 1968. "Maria was a classmate and a dear friend of mine," says Bettsi Jaeger '68. "She was class president for four years. Her leadership and caring for individuals was always obvious. Her loss was devastating to all of us."

The Misericordia Alumni Association presented her with the Alumni Medallion Award in 2003. On that visit to campus, she learned about the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program, and was happy to see how it assisted single mothers gain access to education.

After her death, it was a natural fit for Maria's family to establish the endowed Maria Grilli Gatta '68 Memorial Scholarship at Misericordia University in support of the program. "My mother's legacy is her deep and genuine commitment to her community," said her daughter, Mary Gatta. "She always wanted to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to succeed. My mother believed a high-quality education is central to a woman's success, and the Women with Children program is a way for her support and love for her community to live on in future generations of Misericordia students."

The Gatta family continues to hold fundraisers and to work to expand the scholarship. Many of her Class of 1968 classmates also supported the establishment of the scholarship and have continued to support its growth by making annual contributions.

1934
Dorothea O'Connell Brennan '34
Nov. 5, 2013

1939
Hannah Fischer Kurland '39
June 23, 2013

Margaret Heath Loughney '39
Oct. 1, 2013

1940
Estelle Levinson Freedman '40
Oct. 27, 2013

1942
Marguerite Smith '42
Aug. 29, 2013

1945
Helen Driscoll Sciandra '45
Oct. 19, 2013

1946
Honora Mattare Roberts '46
Aug. 15, 2013

1949
Viola Cera Whitlock '49
Sept. 24, 2013

1952
Lillian Valerie Chokola '52
June 30, 2013

Sister Mary Alphonsus Smith, RSM '52
Aug. 9, 2013

1954
Ann Gorman Foley '54
Nov. 7, 2011

Joan McCarthy Wodeshick '54
Sept. 23, 2013

1955
Constance Vohar Verona '55
July 1, 2013

1956
Mercedes Finn O'Dea '56
Nov. 12, 2013

1957
Ann Greenfield Gilbert '57
Aug. 1, 2013

1958
Elizabeth Smith Kearney '58
Nov. 15, 2013

1959
Mary Anne Bradley Foerster '59
Dec. 9, 2013

1961
Mary Kathryn Brennan Kalowsky '61
Nov. 29. 2013

1962
Elizabeth Dunn '62
Nov. 7, 2012

1965
Inez Ryman '65
Nov. 6, 2013

1966
Jeanne Melvin Harrison '66
March 29, 2013

Catherine 'Kitchie' Finnin Deenihan '66
Oct. 6, 2013

1967
Patricia Missett Cicci '67
July 22, 2013

1968
Sr. Juliana Anna Matyi, MMS '68
March 14, 2013

Carolyn Glowach Sabestinas '68
July 24, 2013

Ann O'Hora '68
Sept. 11, 2013

Mary Pepe Miano '68
Oct. 6, 2013

1970
Catherine Drexinger Liem '70
July 13, 2013

1973
Stephanie Ladavat '73
Nov. 30, 2013

1978
Kathleen Kelly-West '78
Nov. 11, 2013

1983
Trudie Carle Kertulis '83
Sept. 11, 2013

1985
Kimberly Hall Walega '85
July 31, 2013

1986
John Murray '86
July 18, 2013

Charlene Ayers Yurko '86
Sept. 30, 2013

1988
Louis Cella '88
June 19, 2013

1999
Michelle Fahey Panaway '99
Nov. 1, 2012

2000
Scot Brayford '00
Oct. 28, 2013

Exhibit provides rare glimpse at Picasso the ceramicist

The Pauly Friedman Art Gallery at Misericordia University is presenting the exhibit, *Pablo Picasso: 25 Years of Limited Edition Ceramics from the Rosenbaum Collection*, from May 10 to Sept. 21. A lecture by Elisa Korb, Ph.D., J.D., assistant professor and chair of the Department of Fine Arts, will also be offered in the fall.

The ceramic plates, bowls and vases were created by Pablo Picasso (1881-1973), the internationally known painter, sculptor and graphic artist, in collaboration with Georges and Suzanne Ramie and the artisans at the Madoura Pottery in Vallauris, France from 1947-71. Together, they produced 633 different ceramics in limited editions ranging from 25 to 500. A prolific artist throughout his career, Picasso was no different as a ceramicist as he produced, invented and discovered thousands of unique creations during his years at Vallauris.

Picasso's role in making the ceramics varied. Paired with highly trained assistants, they worked in concert in a workshop-style environment. Even though he worked with Madoura Pottery artisans for 25 years, Picasso never learned the art of throwing clay on a pottery wheel. Instead, he sometimes made the clay molds used for the designs or hand painted the plates and pitchers that served as models for the limited edition series. The prototypes were completed by Picasso and the artisans, which were then used to create the limited editions series. Two of the prototypes made by Picasso are anticipated to be featured in the Misericordia University exhibition.

"Rarely is an exhibition of this magnitude on display in a collegiate art gallery," said Brian Benedetti, director of the Pauly Friedman Art Gallery. "Picasso exemplified the 20th century art movement and had a hand in many different art forms, oftentimes setting the standard for others to follow or creating a new movement all-together."

The exhibit will feature 46 original and limited-edition ceramic works by Picasso.

The Picasso Editions contain stamps on the underside of the works identifying them as originals, authorized copies, or a numbered and/or signed series. Picasso sketched many of the ceramics with their colorful designs and the Ramies and their artisans worked to create accurate renderings. The works that Picasso deemed worthy received an identifying stamp, marking them as genuine replicas. He also carefully designed and/or decorated plates, vases, bottles, and pitchers in many different forms, shapes and styles during his career.

For more information about the exhibit, please call (570) 674-6250 or log on to misericordia.edu/art.

Left to right: Woman Lamp, Bull, Yan Black Headband, Four Enlaced Profiles

JOIN IN THE FUN!

Travel to Europe with alumni and friends Oct. 5-12 with the Misericordia University Alumni Association and explore the cities of London and Paris, as well as iconic locations such as Stonehenge, Stratford-upon-Avon, the Eiffel Tower, Big Ben and much more. Gather your classmates, family and friends for a seven-day, six-night experience of a lifetime. A complete day-by-day itinerary, pricing and additional details are online at **cougarconnect.misericordia.edu/travel**.

For reservations and trip inquiries, please contact Karen Monko-Nagle, CTC, of Sea The World Travel at **(570) 714-5566**.

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March 15-April 15
Thomas Dougherty: Landscapes in Oil
Dougherty exhibit in the Pauly Friedman Art Gallery with *John Clark: Watercolors* in the MacDonald Gallery. Opening reception: March 15, 5-8 p.m.

March 30
5K Run to benefit National Stuttering Association
Sponsored by NSA Northeast Pennsylvania Chapter. 10 a.m. To register, contact Midori Rodriguez, (570) 674-6724; stutteringsupport@misericordia.edu.

April 3-5
Misericordia Players – Rumors by Neil Simon
8 p.m., Lemmond Theater. $5 general admission; $3 students and senior citizens. MU Box Office.

April 5
Annual Conference of the Eastern PA Philosophical Association
Hosted by the Department of Philosophy and Living Philosophy Project. Keynote: Professor Irene Klaver, University of North Texas. Registration: $25, faculty; $10, students. Reservations: Dr. Mark Painter, mpainter@misericordia.edu, or call (570) 674-6738.

April 12
Easter Egg Hunt and Brunch with the Easter Bunny
Brunch seatings at 10 a.m. , 11:15 a.m. Egg hunt at 11 a.m. Banks Student Life Center. $10, adults; $5, 5-12 years; no charge under 5. Reservations required. Alumni Box Office. Register online at http://cougarconnect.misericordia.edu/bunny.

April 21-29
Student Art Exhibition
Pauly Friedman Art Gallery.

April 25
We the Kings in concert
Anderson Sports and Health Center, 7 p.m. Tickets: $20 MU students; $25 public. Visit misericordia.edu/wethekings for details. Contact Patrick McKamy, (570) 674-6407 or pmckamy@misericordia.edu.

April 30
Misericordia - An Evening with the Arts
Celebrate spring with an evening of performances by MU's Chamber Singers, the Beyond Harmony a cappella group, and musical ensembles. Lemmond Theater. Free. 7:30 p.m.

May 10-Sept. 21
Pablo Picasso: 25 Years of Limited Edition Ceramics.
Pauly Friedman Art Gallery.

May 29-June 1
Alumni Weekend 2014
Enjoy a cookout, tours, alumni Mass, workshops and games. Call the Alumni Box Office for more information or register at **cougarconnect.misericordia.edu/alumniweekend14**.

Oct. 5-12
MU to London and Paris
Travel with MU Alumni Association for six nights/seven days in London and Paris with round-trip transportation to Newark Liberty International Airport. Tour includes welcome and farewell dinners, cruise on River Thames, visits to Stonehenge, Bath, Stratford-Upon-Avon, Eiffel Tower and Normandy. Learn more at http://cougarconnect.misericordia. edu/travel; $3,392 per person. Reservations: Sea The World Travel, (570) 714-5566.

Nov. 5
An Evening with Temple Grandin
Temple Grandin is a noted animal expert with a doctoral degree in animal science and is an advocate for autistic populations. She has penned the books *Animals in Translation* and *Animals Make Us Human*. As a high-functioning autisitc person, she has utilized her hypersensitivity to relate to and articulate to others with autism as well as provide consultation on the humane treatment of animals. 7:30 p.m. , Lemmond Theater, free. Due to limited seating, tickets are required. Reservations can be made beginning Sept. 10. Please call the Misericordia Box Office at (570) 674-6719.

JOIN IN ON THE ADVENTURE

Dr. Noël Keller's Trips with a Difference

2014

May 21-31
Greece and Turkey: In the Footsteps of Paul the Apostle
Visit Athens, Mykonos, Ephesus, Patmos, Crete, Santorini, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Meteora, Dephi and Corinth (land and cruise). Departure from Newark, N.J. Inside cabin: double $4,147; single $4,647. Outside cabin: double $4,247; single $4,847.

June 19-30
France Magnifique - 12 days
Visit Paris, Omaha Beach, The Normandy Memorial Peace Museum, Blois, Aix-en-Provence, Avignon, the Cote d'Azur region of France, Nice and Monaco. Departure from Newark, N.J. Double $4,749; single $5,699; triple $4,719.

Sept. 19-26
Tuscany and the Italian Riviera – 8 days
Begin your trip with a relaxing three-day stay in a traditional Tuscan Estate. Visit Florence, Siena, Lucca, Pisa, Cinque Terre and the Italian Riviera (including Portofino). Departure from Newark, N.J. Double $3,349; single $3,649; triple $3,319. Deposit must be made by March 20.

Dr. Marie Noël Keller, RSM, Th.D., is a veteran of more than 100 overseas trips. Center for Adult and Continuing Education (570) 674-6776, (570) 674-6924 or srnoel@misericordia.edu.