

Misericordia

WINTER 2019

Today

Trailblazing PROSECUTOR

Alumna makes history
in Lackawanna County
District Attorney's Office

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LESSONS FROM AUSCHWITZ

Professor reflects upon experience visiting concentration camps with Holocaust survivor Eva Mozes Kor

BY ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AMANDA CALEB, PH.D. – DIRECTOR, MEDICAL & HEALTH HUMANITIES PROGRAM

Medical & Health Humanities

It is a strange feeling to be an English professor who cannot find the right words to describe an experience. But that is the position I find myself in, eight months after taking a once-in-a-lifetime

trip to Auschwitz with Holocaust survivor Eva Mozes Kor. How does one describe the emotional range of walking through a place that is the epitome of hatred,

horror, and suffering, yet is framed by Eva's message of hope and forgiveness?

My experience began at Auschwitz II-Birkenau, where Eva was imprisoned from 1944-45. There is no accurate way to convey the size of this camp. From the guard tower in the Gate of Death, I could look to the right or left and see barracks (or remnants of them) and barbed wire stretching out to the horizon. The vastness of the camp is juxtaposed with the confined insides of the barracks, in which 15 prisoners slept in a space that measures 9-feet long by 6-feet wide and 6½-feet tall. In the children's barrack, murals painted by other prisoners still remain, depicting happy scenes that fail to bring any joy to the dark, damp and claustrophobic space inside.

Most troubling, of course, was seeing the remains of the gas chambers and crematoria and the ponds nearby where the Nazis casually discarded the ashes of those they had murdered. Our tour guide emphasized the horrors of these death chambers: "In the morning, human beings – by afternoon, ashes." The ponds were murky, and although 70 plus years later, it seemed to me that the ashes were still floating on the water.

Auschwitz I, a much smaller camp, almost resembled a small liberal arts school in New England, with two story brick buildings and tree-lined lanes. Almost – the barbed wire fences, the guard towers, and the infamous front gate reading *Arbeit macht frei* (a German phrase meaning work sets you free) told the true story of the Nazis' capability to hate and hate with fervor. If Birkenau was the site of mass murder, then Auschwitz I was the intimate physical evidence of mass murder. In the individual blocks, the museum told the story of Polish insurrectionists, the Roma and Sinti, the Jews and others who



Holocaust survivor Eva Moses Kor, front, chooses to remember her liberation and insists on smiles when visiting the site of the barracks where she was held for medical experimentation with her late sister, Miriam. With her, from left, are Misericordia University professors Amanda Caleb, Ph.D., Thomas Hajkowski, Ph.D., and Joseph Cipriani, Ed.D., O.T.R./L.

The Center for Human Dignity in Bioethics, Health and the Holocaust at Misericordia University developed the Pin for Human Dignity, inset at left, as a symbol to recognize the people who have taken a pledge to prevent the types of medical atrocities that occurred behind the barbed wire of Auschwitz.

were imprisoned and died at Auschwitz. Two blocks are impossible to forget: Block 5, "Material Physical Evidence of Crime," includes thousands of suitcases and tens of thousands of pairs of shoes; Block 4 includes an exhibit called "Extermination," which, among other things, includes hair from more than 100,000 prisoners. In going through these spaces,

See Forgiveness, page 42

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at editor@misericordia.edu.

MEMORIES

The University conferred 280 degrees at the eighth
annual winter commencement ceremony on Sunday,
Dec. 16. Misericordia photographers captured the
unforgettable moments. Please log on to
bit.ly/mugraddec18 to see the photo album.

Alumni, students, family and friends participated in the
annual Homecoming games and activities on campus in
October. Please log on to bit.ly/muhomecoming2018
to see the memorable images.



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Alumnus takes oath as
governor of Alaska.



University prepares to break ground
on Henry Science Center.



Doctor of Physical Therapy student
competes in Ironman World
Championship.



Adult learner takes seat as district
magistrate.



Meet All-MAC lineman and chemistry
major Leonard Watson '19.



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ON THE COVER

Misericordia University alumna Judith Gardner Price
'77 poses for a picture in a Lackawanna County
Courthouse courtroom. A former member of the
Board of Trustees, Price was named first assistant
district attorney in 2018, becoming the first woman
to hold the position in county history.





Serving everyone in the Mercy tradition

Ninety four years after opening its doors, the pace of change in higher education is exhilarating and challenging. Our campus features engaging, interactive learning approaches designed and led by our faculty that extend far beyond the borders of campus.

In particular, our innovative service learning courses and interprofessional education have provided gateways to a new model of learning. These modern learning methods capitalize on one of our greatest strengths – an atmosphere that promotes positive, productive relationships between and among our students and campus community.

Service learning at Misericordia provides students with a structured learning experience that meets academic objectives by providing community service. Students work with community partners to develop and implement projects to meet the needs of the host organization, develop their own skills, and reflect on the value of the experience from a community and interpersonal perspective. We have more than 70 service learning courses.

Interprofessional education has firmly established itself in our health and medical sciences programs in order to prepare students to function as members of an effective team. This approach to health care also leverages our relationship building attribute. Faculty and students from various academic disciplines engage in study and practice, supported by evidence and research that creates a culture of collaboration. All three colleges are transitioning to education that crosses traditional disciplines and majors. Indeed, the liberal arts and sciences base that is the foundation of our academic programs have proven to be a strong support for interprofessional education.

In addition, we bring the community to campus for experiential, practical learning. Our speech language pathology, and occupational and physical therapy clinics link students and the community. The Dinners for Kids program uses campus resources coupled with student and community volunteers to provide hot meals for children in the Back Mountain.

Misericordia is now taking the lead in serving adults with autism spectrum disorders. Our Autism for Lifelong Learning (ALL) program provides employment for adults with autism. It also provides transition group services in high schools. We have been fortunate to have a number of local businesses support ALL.

Most recently, the Autism Center received a generous grant from the AllOne Foundation to underwrite an expansion of ALL services to help young adults transition and provide respite to families.

As a Catholic and Mercy university, Misericordia creates an environment where all are welcome, and people build the positive, collaborative relationships that lead to success for all. These programs and initiatives illustrate how the University remains true to its mission of creating an environment where all are welcome.

President Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D.

#MisericordiaProud

Making it happen

'Now for Tomorrow' Campaign prepares for groundbreaking in April

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

So close, yet so far. These are some of the words Sue Helwig, M.S., vice president of University Advancement, uses to describe the status of the *Now for Tomorrow* (NFT) Campaign.

The largest fundraising undertaking in the history of the University, the campaign's goal of \$30 million is in reach, with more than \$29 million pledged or in-hand as of Dec. 31 – \$12 million more than the institution has ever raised in a single undertaking.

Friends and supporters are invited to the groundbreaking ceremony for the new building on Wednesday, April 17 at 11 a.m. Despite closing in on apparent success, Helwig says her team will continue with their fundraising efforts.

"We have raised enough to build the new wing of the Frank M. and Dorothea Henry Science Center," she says, "and are now working to see the project is properly completed by securing the funds necessary to renovate the existing portion of the building into a research facility unlike any in the region. We are committed to making this a center that our alumni can be proud of and that will serve our students, faculty and staff for decades to come."

The three-pronged mission of the campaign provides donors with opportunities to give to the area of their greatest interest and where they see the greatest need. Alumni and friends have risen to the challenge in spectacular fashion.

At least \$15 million of the \$30 million goal is dedicated to the construction of and equipment for the Henry Science Center. With a lead gift from the late Frank M. Henry, the two-phase project includes a new three-story, 52,000-square-foot wing followed by renovations to the existing 28,500-square-foot science center. The completed project will better serve students in the health sciences and

LIVE STREAMING

Friends of the University can monitor construction progress beginning April 17 via a video live-stream at Misericordia.edu/Henryscience.

natural sciences. Alumni and friends of the University have pledged about \$13.4 million in support of the building.

An additional \$12 million of the campaign goal is dedicated to increasing endowed scholarship funding, thereby helping the University lower students' debt. This portion of the campaign has been met. "Scholarship support is so important to Misericordia that we will continue to accept gifts for this program. There is no better way to help students in perpetuity," Helwig adds. "Anything we can do to make it easier for students to get a Misericordia education makes the University and the community stronger."

Lastly, the campaign's remaining \$3 million challenge supports the Misericordia Annual Fund, which provides the administration with the monetary reserves that are required to move quickly on opportunities to serve students. Helwig expects to exceed this portion of the goal by June.

"Two years ago, we were not sure we could do it," President Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., says, "but today – not only are we on target to meet our campaign goal – we are two and a half years ahead of our fundraising schedule. We are so pleased that alumni, friends, neighbors, corporations, foundations; government have seen the need for us to upgrade our facilities and tackle student debt. When we are done, we will have built the largest building on campus and significantly increased the endowment."

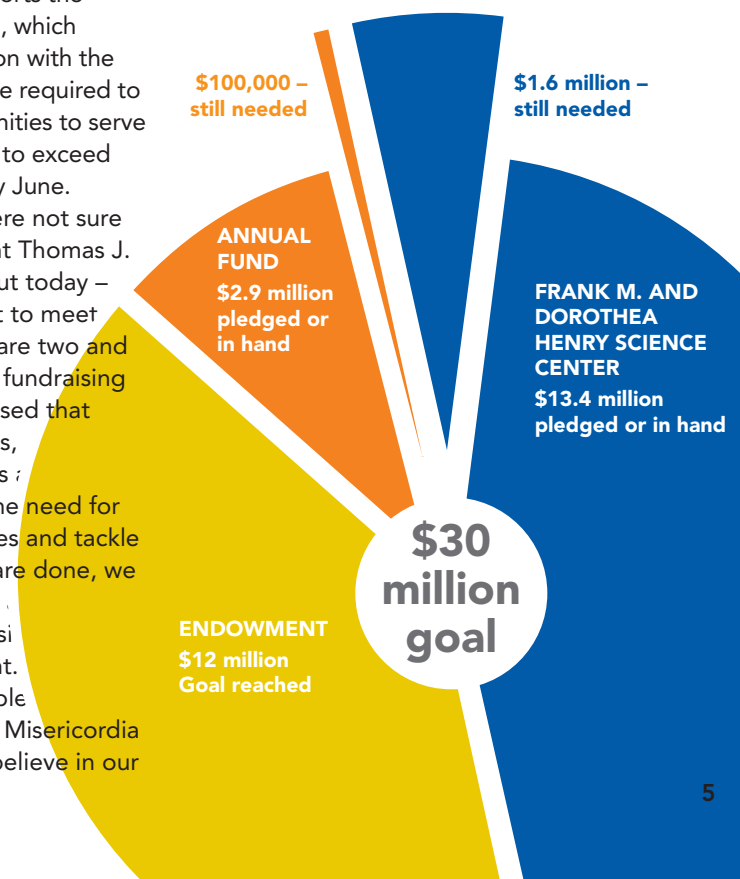
"It is obvious that people in our community and from our Misericordia family believe in us and believe in our

mission. We hope that others will step up and help us see this project through," he adds.

Misericordia will borrow as much as one-third of the cost of the new building through a bond offering. Any additional funds raised over the next two years will alleviate the debt load.

Mark Van Etten, B.S., vice president of Finance and Administration, anticipates construction on the new wing to happen from May through late summer 2020. At that time, renovations will begin on the existing wing, and will last until about July 2021.

For information about the campaign, or to access an easy-to-use online giving form, please go to nft.misericordia.edu and click on the *Give Now for Tomorrow* link. For additional information, please contact Helwig at shelwig@misericordia.edu, 570-674-6368. [h](#)



University names four to Board of Trustees

Misericordia University and the Conference for Mercy Higher Education elected Rev. Michael Bryant, Sister Mary Ellen Fuhrman, RSM, Maureen Metz and Thomas Zesk, retired C.P.A., to the Board of Trustees. They began three-year terms in October.

Father Bryant is an accomplished and energetic pastor with a solid history of achievement and service in ministry. He has been the pastor of Saint John Neumann Parish in the Diocese of Scranton since 2008 after serving Misericordia as director of Campus Ministry from 1990-2007. He is the former director of the Ethics Institute of Northeastern



Fr. Bryant

Pennsylvania and was a member of the original Founders Council of Nativity-Miguel School in Scranton.

Father Bryant holds a Bachelor of Science degree in psychology from the University Scranton and a Masters in Pastoral Theology from Saint John's Seminary in Boston, Massachusetts. He lives in Scranton.

A Religious Sister of Mercy, Sister Mary Ellen is the life coordinator at Mercy Center Nursing Unit, a skilled nursing and personal care facility in Dallas Twp., Pa.

She also previously served as the special assistant to the president for Mission Integration and Strategic Planning at Georgian



Sr. Fuhrman

Court University, Lakewood, N.J. Sister Mary Ellen also completed terms as a trustee at Georgian Court University and Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, Pa. In addition, she also has held several leadership positions for the Sisters of Mercy.

A resident of Forty Fort, Pa., Sister Mary Ellen holds a Bachelor of

University recognizes inaugural recipients of Glennon '62 Scholarships

Misericordia recognized the inaugural class of students who received the full-tuition Sister Mary Glennon '62 Scholarships at the start of the 2018-19 academic year.

The following students are members of the Glennon Scholarships Class: Alyssa Grieco '22, Saylorsburg, Pa., Government, Law and National Security; Alexa Monroe '22, Kinnelon, N.J., accounting; Dana Stroup '22, Shohola, Pa., nursing; Tara Sweeney '22, '25, Jessup, Pa., biology/Doctor of Physical Therapy; Alexa Thompson '23, Schenectady, N.Y., occupational therapy, and Thomas Weiskircher '22, Huntingtown, Md., business administration.

Named in honor of the University's longest serving academic dean, the merit-based, full-tuition scholarship program awards six competitive scholarships annually to qualified incoming first-year students. Every first time, full-time student who applies for

acceptance to the private, four-year, Catholic institution is eligible for the scholarship program that covers four years of tuition as long as the students meet established academic criteria.

Students who apply to the University and meet or exceed eligibility criteria – (1250 SAT or 26 ACT and 3.7 GPA) or (1250 SAT or 26 ACT and top 5 percent of their graduating class) – will be invited to participate in the competitive selection process for the second awarding of Glennon Scholarships. The University will invite eligible applicants to participate in a tour of campus, lunch with faculty and students in their field of study, and to write an essay.

A five-member committee will review completed essays and narrow the field to about 12 students. Committee members will interview finalists and make scholarship offers to students who plan to major in academic programs available in each

Doctor of PT student competes in Ironman World Championship

Doctor of Physical Therapy student Megan Gibbons '19 took a nontraditional break from classes and studying during the fall recess to compete in the Ironman World Championship in Hawaii in October.

Gibbons surpassed her goal of finishing her first Ironman competition by winning her age bracket during a race in Lake Placid, N.Y., which qualified her for the Kona World Championships. "Ever since I learned what an Ironman was, I knew I wanted to do it," the daughter of Jim Gibbons and the late Kelly Gibbons said. "The hard work it takes to finish one of these gives me such a strong sense of purpose and accomplishment, and the people that exist in the triathlon community are just incredible human beings. Everyone has their own story and you just are constantly inspired by those around you."

The Ironman competitions include a 2.4-mile swim, a 112-mile bicycle ride and a 26.22-mile run without a break in between races. She chose Lake Placid for her first competition after talking to several other participants and considering the logistics of flying and transporting her equipment.

"It (Lake Placid) was said to be one of the most beautiful races," Gibbons said. "If I'm going to be working out for almost 12 hours, I'd at least like some good scenery."

In Hawaii, Gibbons placed 34th in her age group worldwide by completing the competition in 10:58:08 – an improvement of about 45 minutes when compared to her time in Lake Placid. Gibbons' swim time was the third fastest in her age group, as she finished the ocean swim in under an hour at 56:52. She dropped almost an

Continued on page 7



The University recognized the inaugural Sister Mary Glennon '62 Scholarships recipients, first row from left, Alexa Monro '22, Alyssa Grieco '22 and Alexa Thompson '23, second row, Dana Stroup '22, Thomas Weiskircher '22, and Tara Sweeney '22, '25.

of the University's three colleges – College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, and College of Health Sciences and Education. Overall, the program will award no more than three scholarships in any one college and not less than one in each college.

Over a four-year period, the initiative will enroll 24 students and

cover tuition costs for each of them.

For more information about the Sister Mary Glennon Scholarships, please call Donna F. Cerza, director of admissions, at 570-674-6460 or email her at dcerza@misericordia.edu. Additional information is available at www.misericordia.edu/Glennon_Scholarships. [h](#)

hour in her bike time, clocking in at 5:33:44, while finishing the marathon portion of the competition in 4:17.

"It all still feels like a dream," she said. "The feeling crossing the finish



Doctor of Physical Therapy student Megan Gibbons '19 placed 34th in her age group at the Ironman World Championship in Hawaii in October.

line – I do not think will ever be matched. It made me feel like I can really do anything I set my mind to. I also got to watch several world records be broken by the professionals racing there, and meet people from all over the world.

"I left Kona with a whole new appreciation for what people are capable of, what I am capable of, and an excessive amount of sunburn."

Gibbons trains with a community of triathletes at Strive Multisport out at Harveys Lake. Those training partners played an important role in her success in the two competitions. "I started training with some of the nicest people that pushed and supported me throughout the whole process," she said. "I even had the opportunity to race with a few of them at Placid."

Gibbons is scheduled to receive her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree in December 2019 during the ninth annual winter commencement ceremony. [h](#)

University names four to Board of Trustees

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Science in elementary education from Misericordia and a master's degree in educational administration from Manhattan College in Bronx, New York. From Penn State, she earned an advanced certification in bi-lingual/bi-cultural education.

Ms. Metz is the executive vice president for Metz

Culinary Management. She manages the marketing, culinary and merchandising initiatives for the Dallas, Pa.-based company. During her career at Metz Culinary Management, she has played a pivotal role in advancing the company's recognition as a top on-site food service provider. Metz Culinary Management is ranked 14th on Food Management Magazine's Top 50 Management Companies in the U.S.



Metz

A resident of Dallas, Ms. Metz has a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration and psychology with a minor in marketing from Wilkes University.

Mr. Zesk, a resident of Morristown, N.J., previously served on the former Misericordia University Parents Advisory Council. His son, Andrew, graduated from Misericordia in 2013 with a bachelor's degree in history. Mr. Zesk and his wife, Lorrie, have been ardent supporters of the institution, establishing the Zesk Family Endowed Scholarship and supporting numerous campaigns.

A retired accountant and partner of Deloitte, LLP of New York, N.Y., he served many different roles during his 36 years at the accounting firm.

Mr. Zesk holds a BA in economics from Tufts University in Medford, Mass., and a Master of Science in accounting and an MBA in taxation from New York University. [h](#)



Zesk



DECADE OF DISTINCTION

Reception to mark
10th Anniversary of
Pauly Friedman Art Gallery

There is little doubt the Pauly Friedman Art Gallery at Misericordia University has made a definitive mark on the regional arts community after logging more than 50,000 visitors to 73 exhibitions since it opened in 2009.

The campus community will celebrate that success and the gallery's 10th anniversary with a special reception on Friday, March 15, from 5-7 p.m. in Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall. The Soyka Fund for the Humanities and the Sandra Dyczewski Maffei Endowment Fund are sponsoring the free event. The program is open to the public.

On display at the Friedman Gallery will be the contemporary Chinese exhibition, *Emerging Dimensions: Works by Li Hongbo and Cai Dongdong*. Paper sculptor Li Hongbo carves through blocks of thousands of sheets of paper to create elastic sculptures that can be stretched across the gallery. Cai Dongdong, a former documentary photographer, adds ready-made objects such as mirrors to his photographs to challenge the belief that photographs portray reality.

In collaboration with the reception, a paper-engineering workshop featuring Colette Fu also will be held on March 15, from 2-5 p.m. in Alden Trust Room 219 of Insalaco Hall. The workshop will be limited to the first 20 participants who register. The snow date for the workshop and reception is March 22.

The 2,700-square-foot Friedman Gallery was dedicated on May 3, 2009 in honor of the late Pauly Friedman, who with her

More than 5,000 visitors a year have viewed exhibits at the Pauly Friedman Art Gallery at Misericordia University, such as this 2017 collection celebrating the centenary of French sculptor Auguste Rodin, at left.

and her family, are among the University's most dedicated benefactors. Carrying on a successful tradition of showcasing art on campus, the University's long-standing MacDonald Art Gallery – named after Marquis George MacDonald – was relocated within the Friedman Gallery.

Brian J. Benedetti, gallery director, and Dona Posatko, curator, oversaw the Friedman Gallery's grand opening on Aug. 22, 2009 with the highly acclaimed exhibit, *Guiding Light*, featuring extraordinary glass sculptures by legendary artist Christopher Ries. Benedetti served as gallery director until his retirement in 2015. Posatko was appointed gallery director in 2016 and held the post until she retired in 2017. Current director Lalaine Little took the reins in January 2018.

Among the many notable exhibits over the past 10 years is the *Mary Wilson Supremes' Collection: The Gowns That Created a Musical Style & Legacy*, an exhibition in 2011 that featured 50 original gowns worn by the Motown icons. An impressive array of 323 Norman Rockwell *Saturday Evening Post* covers attracted hundreds of visitors in 2013. The works of Pablo Picasso (2014), Ansel Adams (2016) and Auguste Rodin (2017) also proved to be widely popular, as was a visit by Tibetan monks who created a sand mandala inside the gallery in 2015.

Sponsored by the Medical and Health Humanities Program in 2017, *Deadly Medicine: Creating The Master Race* was an exhibition on loan from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum that addressed ethical atrocities in medicine during and since the Holocaust. More recently, the *America's Road: The Journey of Route 66* exhibition attracted more than 1,000 visitors who participated in a virtual cross country journey captured through signs, music and narratives in 2018.

Over the past decade, the Friedman Gallery has hosted biennial exhibits of astounding realism created by students and alumni of the Ani Art Academies, a nonprofit organization developed by artist Anthony J. Waichulis of Bear Creek, Pa. The program provides an intensive multi-year art skills education to aspiring artists around the world. The 2017 exhibit, *Capturing Realism*, featured artists from Anguilla, the Dominican Republic, Thailand and across the U.S.

"It's wonderful to see how the Pauly Friedman Art Gallery and the adjoining MacDonald Art Gallery have built and retained a loyal following over the years," said Little. "True to our academic mission, we have had great success tying exhibitions to various academic programs and bringing in speakers to expand upon the learning that takes place in the classroom. With each exhibition, we tap into a new audience, which provides more opportunities for the community to engage with Misericordia and for our students to engage with the community."

For additional information about upcoming exhibits at the art galleries, or to register for the paper-engineering workshop, please contact Little at little@misericordia.edu or call (570) 674-6250. Gallery hours are available at www.misericordia.edu/art. [h](#)



The size, scope and color of the glass sculptures of artist Christopher Ries, top, made a lasting impression on visitors during the grand opening of the Friedman Gallery in 2009.

The Friedman Gallery hosted the *Deadly Medicine Exhibit*, center, in 2017, including a candle lighting ceremony for International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Some of the participants included Dr. Patricia Heberer Rice, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum; Rabbi Larry Kaplan and Azza Almeky, M.D.

The gallery hosted an exhibit of all 323 *Saturday Evening Post* Covers, bottom, featuring the works of iconic illustrator Norman Rockwell in 2013. The collection was presented by the Norman Rockwell Museum, and also featured three original Rockwell paintings from a private collection, including portraits of President and Mrs. Richard Nixon and Senator and Mrs. George McGovern.

Pediatric pathologist supports advancements at alma mater

A revered pediatric pathologist on the faculty of the University of Michigan Medical Center for 32 years, Kathleen Heidelberger '61, M.D., helped find treatments for pediatric cancer through tumor analysis and worked to improve the survival rate of heart transplant surgeries through heart transplant biopsy. As one of Misericordia's first graduates to earn a medical degree, her challenging career path opened doors for women in medicine at a time when less than 7 percent of doctors were women.

A number of those she taught and mentored have gone onto impressive positions in pathology at cutting-edge medical facilities, including the Mayo Clinic, and have credited her for igniting a passion in them for what many would consider an unconventional career field.

The Brooklyn, N.Y., native admits she had little concept of the challenges she would encounter over her career path. She enrolled at Misericordia as a chemistry major and credits the faculty and administration for going out of their way to make sure she was prepared for admission into medical school.

Kit, as she is known, fondly recalls how Sister Jeanette Puetz, RSM, helped her take two labs sequentially so she could complete both the biology and chemistry credits she needed. Despite a daunting academic schedule, she still found time to write for "Miss Recordia" the student newspaper, compete on the debate team, and tutor a fellow student in her courses. She graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry in 1961.

Although many medical schools at the time did not admit women, her diligent preparation paid off. She was accepted to the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania (MCP), the world's first medical school for women in the U.S. She graduated first in her class in 1965. She was among the first women to intern at Dartmouth Medical School.

Dr. Heidelberger joined the pathology faculty at the U-M Medical School in 1970 and became a full professor in 1980. She not only helped establish board certification for the

specialty field of pediatric pathology, she also earned board certification in anatomic and clinical pathology. Her outstanding career accomplishments and pioneering spirit earned her MU's highest alumni award in 1991, the Mother Mary Catherine McGann Alumni Achievement Award. She retired with additional accolades in 2002.

One to give of herself to her profession, Dr. Heidelberger also is among those who have taken a lead

role in supporting Misericordia University's *Now for Tomorrow* Campaign. Her gift of \$50,000 for the Frank M. and Dorothea Henry Science Center helped to set a successful pace for the campaign. It ensures that future students will have the facilities and laboratories she deems as "necessary" to succeed in the sciences and medical field.

In addition, she is helping reward the "cream of the crop" at Misericordia with the establishment of the Kathleen P. Heidelberger, M.D., '61 Merit Tuition Scholarship.

"I received a partial scholarship when I attended Misericordia and it is only right that I give back to the school that helped me achieve my goals," she said. "I feel it is our responsibility to society to help others if we have the means, especially those who have helped us.

"My advice to students is to 'Go for it,' particularly if they are interested in medicine," Dr. Heidelberger adds. "I've been a fighter for women's rights my entire life. I give because I want Misericordia students to get the chances they deserve, the same chances I received as a student." **h**



Dr. Kathleen Heidelberger '61 and her husband, Dr. Charles Davenport.

University honors Spengler '36 Scholarship benefactors

The University recognized the benefactors of the Margaret Husic Spengler '36 Scholarship at the Scholarship Brunch. Among those recognized for a family legacy of philanthropy and leadership were Thomas and Michelle Spengler, and Stephen Spengler, all of Vienna, Va.

The late Margaret Husic Spengler, the mother of Thomas and Stephen, was a well-respected member of the Misericordia community and one of the most accomplished members of the Class of 1936. She was the first editor

of the college newspaper, Miss Recordia, as well as a debate team member and class officer. She earned her bachelor's degree in home economics. Following graduation, she met and married her husband, Kenneth C. Spengler, Sr., and they raised five children in Arlington, Mass. — Kenneth Jr., John, Thomas, Mark and Stephen.

She served as president of the Alumni Association from 1980-84, and in 1985 became the first alumni representative



The Spengler family was recognized at the Scholarship Brunch. Participating in the program, from left, are President Botzman, Thomas Spengler, Kailene Nye '21, Noni Silas '20 and Stephen Spengler.

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Kindred Spirits

Inspired by the Sisters of Mercy, siblings generously support alma mater through bequests

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA



Senior yearbook portrait of Marie Wittman Kilgallon '41



Senior yearbook portrait of Anne Wittman '56

By all accounts, sisters Anne Wittman '56 and Marie Wittman Kilgallon '41 were the epitome of valiant women, and lived their lives imbued in the values they learned from the Sisters of Mercy during their time at Misericordia.

"The two Wilkes-Barre (Pa.) natives made the most of the liberal arts education they received, and throughout their lives were well read, kept abreast of global happenings, and enjoyed successful careers," says retired Misericordia University President Michael A. MacDowell, a close friend of the sisters. "They were wonderful women, valiant women – you could say Mulier Fortis personified – who took a great deal from their Misericordia education. They carried with them the values they learned from the Sisters of Mercy throughout their lives."

Sue Helwig, M.S., vice president of University Advancement agrees. "Anne and Marie truly loved Misericordia and were so very proud of the education they received here. The most delightful pair, they were always together and loved coming back to campus to attend and support events. They were a joy to be around," she says.

Together, Anne and Marie made the commitment to do what they could to give back to

the University that so inspired them. In 1998, they each donated \$25,000 to establish individual endowed scholarships, with the awards in their names to go to "academically capable and financially deserving Misericordia students." They were honored for their generosity at the 2008 Scholarship Brunch.



Sisters Anne Wittman '56, left, and Marie Wittman Kilgallon '41 made bequests to their alma mater.


"I was very successful because of the education I got at Misericordia, so I want to help others."

– Anne Wittman '56

As members of the Heart of Mercy Society, they significantly added to their gifts upon passing. The bequests – made from the heart – are providing funding for the endowment portion of the *Now for Tomorrow* Campaign, providing a total of \$400,000 in Anne's name, and \$350,000 in Marie's honor.

Marie earned a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics from Misericordia in 1941, and was employed as a dietician by the Wilkes-Barre Area School District for many years. She married Edward Kilgallon, and was an active life member of St. Benedict's Parish with her sister. The sisters enjoyed playing golf at Hollenback Golf Course and frequently traveled together, visiting destinations throughout Europe.

Anne's career path began at St. Mary's Hospital School of Nursing in Scranton. She did several years of general-duty nursing at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital before attending Misericordia to earn her Bachelor of Science degree in nursing education in 1956. She subsequently earned her master's degree in counseling and guidance at the University of Scranton. She had a long and fruitful career in the guidance department of the Wilkes-Barre Area School District, and frequently encouraged students to attend Misericordia. A member of the Wilkes-Barre Retired Teachers Association, she passed away on April 30, 2013.

Marie lived to the age of 99 and died on Jan. 30, 2018, while still residing in the home in which they were raised in the Parsons section of Wilkes-Barre. 



HELPING HANDS

Physical therapy alumna shares expertise in Parkinson's disease therapy with patients and students at alma mater

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

**Kristina
Dorkoski '02**

PHYSICAL
THERAPY

To some, beating on a large rubber ball with oversized drumsticks or throwing brightly colored scarves in the air may look like child's play – but they are important pieces of therapy being used to increase mobility and stop the progression of a disorder that impacts millions, Parkinson's disease.

Brought into the public eye through the efforts of actor Michael J. Fox, Parkinson's is a disorder of the central nervous system that leads to shaking, stiffness and difficulty with walking, balance and coordination. There is no simply defined cause and no steadfast cure. According

to the American Parkinson Disease Association, there are 1 million Americans living with the disease, 9 million worldwide, and a new diagnosis every nine minutes.

Misericordia University physical therapy alumna Kristina Dorkoski '02, P.T., D.P.T., N.C.S., C.E.E.A.A., is on the front lines in the battle to help those afflicted with the debilitating disease. A board-certified neurologic specialist and staff therapist with Allied Services John Heinz Rehabilitation Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Dr. Dorkoski has helped develop a treatment program that recognizes the importance of the mind-body connection.

As she sits surrounded by brightly colored balls in the Heinz outpatient therapy gym, and demonstrates how throwing and catching a scarf can help, Dr. Dorkoski explains



Throwing and catching scarves, drumming on a large ball and marching with ski poles are just some of the activities neurological physical therapist Kristina Dorkoski '02, D.P.T., at left, uses in a program that helps patients with Parkinson's disease maintain their physical and cognitive abilities.

movements. Developed by Becky Farley, Ph.D., among the world's recognized leaders in the Parkinson's therapy field, LSVT® BIG patients use more effort in therapy, which patients seem to enjoy more than traditional therapies, according to Dr. Dorkoski. Two years later, she took Dr. Farley's course on PWR!® (Parkinson Wellness Recovery), which expanded the concepts used in LSVT® BIG to make Parkinson's therapy more intense and engaging.

"The training I received there led to many improvements in our Parkinson's care at Allied Services and it motivated other staff to get certified," she says. "Now, I'm on track to become a faculty member for PWR!®, and I can't wait to train more therapists in this life-changing therapy."


Dr. Dorkoski is currently serving as a mentor to two of her former Misericordia students, Jackie Pearson '17, D.P.T., of Dallas, and Sarah Reese '16, D.P.T., of Tunkhannock, who joined the John Heinz neurology team within the past year.

In August 2018, Dr. Dorkoski traveled to the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center at Barrow Neurological Institute in Phoenix, Ariz., to observe the therapies available there. She brought what she learned back to Allied Services, and is incorporating a range of interdisciplinary therapies – LSVT® BIG, PWR!®, LSVT® LOUD, and SPEAK OUT!® – to create a team approach involving physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech-language pathology to address patient's needs.

As both therapist and teacher, Dr. Dorkoski proudly carries on the values of social justice and inclusiveness that she encountered at Misericordia. "I was blessed that my professor, Dr. Maureen Pascal, did per diem work at Heinz Rehab with me shortly after I began working in neurologic and geriatric rehab. She did two things that changed my life forever," she says.

"She believed in me enough to encourage me to sit for my board certification in neurologic rehab, something I never would have had the confidence to do if she hadn't suggested it. She also put me forward for consideration to create and instruct an elective course at Misericordia, which was how I started my adjunct teaching," Dr. Dorkoski adds.

Dr. Dorkoski now also instructs neurology labs on campus. In addition, she is certified as a yoga therapist, Pilates instructor and exercise expert for aging adults, all of which she uses in her Parkinson's therapy. "Because of Dr. Pascal's influence, I never underestimate the power of a kind word," Dr. Dorkoski offers.

"It means a lot to a student or mentee to get encouragement from a mentor. Patients need feedback on their everyday successes, as well. Sometimes we need to hear 'you can do this' or 'keep going' to motivate us to work harder and stay the course." 

that Parkinson's is a complex disease that affects more than motor skills. Non-motor symptoms often include anxiety, depression and cognitive issues. "Years ago, the paradigm was for physicians to wait to refer PD (Parkinson's) patients to therapy until they were at least stage 3 of 5 in the course of the disease – already falling and becoming more dependent in daily activities," she says. "The therapy was quite passive, dull and the antithesis of what these patients need for neuroplasticity – the inherent ability of the nervous system to reorganize itself in the face of injury or disease. I've wanted more for patients with PD since I began treating them."

Dr. Dorkoski graduated from Misericordia in 2002 with a master's of physical therapy degree and started working in outpatient orthopaedics at John Heinz. She felt immediately drawn to working with patients with neurologic diagnoses and began specializing in neuro PT. She returned to school and earned her doctorate in physical therapy from Temple University in 2007. In 2010, she joined Misericordia as an adjunct faculty member.

In 2011, Dr. Dorkoski became certified in LSVT® BIG, a type of Parkinson's therapy focused on producing larger

The Department of Occupational Therapy is hosting an LSVT® BIG Training and Certification course on Saturday and Sunday, May 4-5. To register, please go to <https://misericordia.edulsvt>.

There are many ways to pay it forward

I am asked often how alumni can be of service to current students. There are many ways.



Mark Oberstaedt '89

In fact, you can start before students apply. An amazing 36 percent of our current students were referred by alumni. Prospective students are asked on the application if they were encouraged to apply by a member of the alumni community. If a prospective undergraduate student provides your name in response, they will receive a Misericordia Proud Scholarship Award of \$500 a year, renewable for up to four years.

Once students arrive on campus, they can benefit from internships. Our robust Employer Internship Program enables them to gain critical experience and apply the skills they learned in the classroom. If you are able to offer internships, you can make a difference in a student's life and career.

Just before graduation, the popular *50 Nights to Commencement* celebration enables alumni volunteers to mingle with graduating students and help them work on their networking skills.

We are all aware that MU students graduate with the skills they need to succeed. If your employer has employment opportunities, let the Insalaco Center for Career Development know about the openings.

Always Misericordia Proud!

Mark Oberstaedt '89
Alumni Board President

CLASSNOTES

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

1968

Amma;Ht,9lj;.r8; was voted the Parish Volunteer of the Year at her parish of St. Andre Bessette in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. As head of the Social Justice Council, she oversees the annual Remembrance Mass and the holiday Giving Tree, and she coordinates visits to parishioners who are homebound or reside in nursing facilities. In addition to serving as an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist at Masses and at the local hospital, she is a member of the parish choir and a lector at daily Mass. She also serves on various parish committees and volunteers at numerous parish events. Anna is a member of the Board of the Slovak Heritage Society of Northeastern Pennsylvania and serves as its recording secretary. Anna was recognized for her dedicated service at the annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner honoring all parish volunteers on Nov. 11, 2018.



1982

S9bim;Tp;L9tm'beqqv;Mala;.8 , Ph.D., M.S.S., L.S.W., participated in a special luncheon with faculty and students after receiving an invitation from the Department of Social Work. She talked about rewarding careers in the field of social work. Since 2001, Robin has been the representative of the International Federation of Social Workers to the United Nations. Currently, she is also a professor and dean of the School of Social Work at Monmouth University.

Greg Collins '82 was appointed executive vice president, chief banking officer at FNCB Bank. An active member of the community, Greg has volunteered for many local organizations and currently serves on the Misericordia University Board of Trustees and as a board member of the

Wilkes-Barre YMCA, Wyoming Valley United Way, and Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He resides in Dallas with his wife, Cynthia, and daughter, Emily.

1985

Elikv;Ti'19;Ha3qikka;.85c;.88 , D.N.P., was granted tenure and promoted to associate professor of nursing at Wilkes University. Emily's volunteerism in the community includes serving as the co-coordinator for the Northeastern Pennsylvania Free Health Clinic Consortium, a member and past president of the board of directors of the Rural Health Corporation of Northeastern Pennsylvania, and as a volunteer for the RHC McKinney Clinic.

1993

Weqa;Ckel9m';C9qmi'h;.n6; published her own book, *Dare To Dream*, in the hopes of spreading her message of empowerment through stories about her own life. Vera, the publisher of *The Urban Connection of the Capitol Region*, has a career background in teaching children with autism and schizophrenia, as well as student services in higher education. Her current career as a "life empowerment strategist" led to her publishing her book, which follows up on her lectures and speaking engagements with prompts for readers to pursue their own dreams.

1995

Milhekke;Fqv;Rtigek;.n5; obtained her MSN with an emphasis in leadership in health care systems from Grand Canyon University, Phoenix, Ariz., on Oct. 10, 2018. Michelle is a unit director at UPMC Susquehanna in Williamsport, Pa.

1998

B9bbi T7qa2'eq Baqem;' .n8 , Ph.D. was named the winner of the 2018 Delaware



New Year,
Creating a
New You with
webinar series
beginning March 13

Misericordia.edu/newyearnewyou

American Council on Education Women's Network Leadership Award. The award is granted to a woman who excelled in the field of higher education, has been successful in demonstrating "steps to success," and who serves as a role model for rising stars in higher education. Bobbi became vice president and campus director for Delaware Technical Community College's Jack F. Owens Campus in Georgetown in January 2017. She is also currently a court appointed special advocate and a board member for Kent-Sussex Industries.

2004

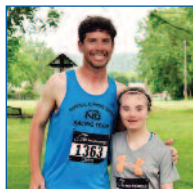
Jt'7im;Mp;V,wekka;.x4 and his wife, Marissa, welcomed their son, Colton, on July 4, 2018.

Elizabeth Powell Cain '04 and her husband, Brendan, welcomed their son, Nolan George, on Oct. 16, 2018. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

2005

Amgeka;Xaqlam;Htm'imgeq;.x5 and her husband, Charles, welcomed their son on July 7, 2018.

Chris Wadas '05, '12 and Quinn Crispell, daughter of Debbie and **Scott Crispell '97, '99**, ran a 5-mile Memorial Day race for the second straight year. Under Wadas' personal coaching, Quinn cut more than five minutes off her time.



2007

Nilh9ke;Oki3eqi;N9qqi'.x' and her husband, James, welcomed their daughter on June 4, 2018.

Joe O'Leary '07 and his wife, Suzanne, welcomed their twins, Charlotte and Paige, on March 30, 2018.

2008

Michael Evans '08, Ph.D., M.S.Ed., R.N., A.C.N.S., C.M.S.R.N., C.N.E., received the 2018-19 University College Teaching Award. Michael was selected from more than 30 nominations. He is currently an assistant chief academic officer and associate teaching professor of nursing at Penn State Scranton.

2009

Am,qa;Baqme';Ti1'jv;.xn; and **Christopher Sipsky '06** welcomed their daughter, Alivia, on May 22, 2018.

Alyson Neely Culver '09 and her husband, Keith, welcomed their son on May 26, 2018.

Kristina Bach Kogoy '09, '12, D.P.T., and **Wayne Kogoy '09** welcomed their son on June 18, 2018.

Ryan Wesley '09 and his wife, Nikki, welcomed their twin sons on Sept. 26, 2018.

Rachel Hasay Lauer '09, '13 and her

husband, Wayne, welcomed their first child, Gracie Mae, on Oct. 18, 2018 at Bloomsburg Geisinger Hospital.

Rachel is a special education teacher at New Story School in Berwick, Pa.



2010

Dqp;J9hm;Gial1ie7q9;.oxc;.o6 and his wife, Samantha, welcomed their daughter on June 12, 2018.

Leah Conant Tibus '10, '13, D.P.T., and her husband, Nathan, welcomed their son on July 7, 2018.

Katie Sokolas '10 and Tyler Watkins welcomed their daughter, Emma Grace Watkins, on July 31, 2018.

Aubrie Pfirman '10 obtained her Ph.D. in engineering and science education at Clemson University and was officially hooded on Aug. 9, 2018. She previously completed her masters in chemistry at Clemson in December 2013. Aubrie is employed by Clemson University's Office of Teaching



Effectiveness and Innovation as a teaching consultant where she helps faculty and instructors with their teaching practices. She is proud to be a product of Misericordia's Teacher Education Department and bring her passions full circle to be where she is today.

J,ii48,1.M4i,½.9l® and Timothy Gildea were married Sept. 22, 2018.

Michael Borsuk '10 and his wife, Salena, welcomed their son on Oct. 11, 2018.

Danielle Bartz '10 and John Jurosky were married Aug. 4, 2018. Danielle is a special-education teacher for Mid Valley School District. The couple resides in Old Forge, Pa.

2011

Damiekk;Cim9;.o and **Jeremiah Taylor '10** were married Sept. 19, 2015. The couple resides in Kingston, Pa. They welcomed their first son, Jeremiah, on Oct. 12, 2016 and second son, Jonah, on Jan. 9, 2018. Jeremiah is a senior partner manager with Pepperjam. Danielle is a speech-language

Continued on next page

Misericordia Proud!

The Misericordia Proud Alumni Referral Grant is a program that provides accepted students a \$500 annual grant for up to four years. Prospective students have to indicate on their application that they were referred by an alumnus. For more information, please log on to misericordia.edu/MUProud.



Continued from previous page

pathologist with Lehigh Valley Health Network in Hazleton, Pa.

Andrew Roke '11 was named new product manager by GWC Warranty. A member of the marketing department, Andrew is responsible for managing the company's suite of products while evaluating new opportunities for innovative product enhancements. He holds a bachelor's degree in business management.

2012

Nicole Flaherty Emerick '12, '15 and her husband, Kyle, welcomed their daughter on June 25, 2018.

Justin Chappell '12, '15, D.P.T., and Erin Hughes were married March 9, 2018. Justin is employed by Select Physical Therapy as a physical therapist. The couple resides in Mesa, Ariz.

Shannon Kowalski '12 is the coordinator for Youth/Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Scranton, where she organizes retreats for kids and nurtures a growing youth ministry program in the 11 counties the diocese serves. She guides area children through building their leadership skills and faith.

Nicholas Lauri '12 and his wife, Sara, welcomed their son on Oct. 10, 2018.

Alana Marie Rizzo '12, '15, D.P.T., and **Anthony Carusotto '10, '12**, D.P.T., were married May 19, 2018. Alana chose her sister and best friend, **Tianna Rizzo Bolinsky '05, '12**, D.P.T., as her matron of honor and **Jaime Helms Turano '10, '12**, D.P.T., as one of her bridesmaids. Alana is a physical therapist at Geisinger Orthopedics & Sports Medicine, Scranton, Pa. She is also an online instructor for PT Final Exam. Anthony is a faculty member for the University of Scranton's Doctorate of Physical Therapy program. In addition to teaching, he is pursuing his doctoral degree in education at Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pa. The couple resides in Dallas, Pa.

Amanda Nodes Farina '12 and her husband, Christopher, welcomed their second daughter at St. Luke's in Bethlehem, Pa., on March 20, 2017. Piper Ann Farina weighed 6 pounds, 8 ounces, and joins big sister, Madison Victoria. Amanda is a speech-language pathologist at St. Luke's Hospital in Coaldale, Pa.



The Association of Fundraising Professionals, NEPA Chapter, celebrated Philanthropy Day by presenting Misericordia's student-run philanthropic organization, *Students Today, Alumni Forever*, with the Outstanding Youth in Philanthropy Award. A reception by the University recognized the students. Participating in the program, first row from left, are Kelsey Jackson '21, Melanie Dowling '20, Morgan Karas '19, Clare Schoen '19 and Meredith Hartz '18; second row, Emily Wentzel '21, Catherine Silveri '19, Lia Ruggerio '19, Gabrielle Pagnotti '19, Brooke Mertz '21 and Jayme DeMedio '20; third row, Gabriella DaCosta '21, Jenna Chilcote '19, Anna Hershey '20, Jessica Hanly '19, Madeleine Hunt '22 and Erika Golik '22 and fourth row, Janelle Perla '21 and Elizabeth Heinmiller '19.

2013

Alam,a;Malhev;o6c;or, D.P.T., and Stephen Joseph Motil III were married May 19, 2018. Amanda is in the Physical Medicine Department at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. The couple resides in Plains Twp., Pa.

Jimmy Fisher '13 and Stephanie Sherman were married Oct. 13, 2018.

Rhian Davailus Singer '13 and her husband, Patrick, welcomed their daughter, Auria Jaymes, on Nov. 16, 2018.

Andrew Bennett '13 and his wife, Alexis, welcomed their daughter, Addison Ireland, on Oct. 12, 2018.

2014

Je'e;Saj92'ji;o4; and his wife, Amanda, welcomed their son on July 12, 2018.

Dean Cali '14 and Caitlin Byron were married Sept. 22, 2018. Dean is an independent insurance agent in Dunmore, Pa.

SAVE THE DATE!

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2019 MAY 31 – JUNE 1

Register online: www.misericordia.edu/aw19



1939

Mary "Betty"
Eckenrode Williams
Dec. 6, 2018

1944

Lillian Grelecki
April 13, 2018

1946

Marie Callahan Gallagher
July 31, 2018

1948

Doris Kosko Rusinko
July 5, 2018

Charlotte Santos DeVillier
Nov. 24, 2018

1949

F. Whitney Breslin, RSM
Nov. 6, 2018

1950

Dorothy Cadan Still
Aug. 1, 2018

Dolores Casal Turoski
Sept. 4, 2018

Miriam Levinson Brand
Dec. 13, 2018

1951

Patricia McCormick Brennan
July 30, 2018

Nancy Kane Dee
Dec. 1, 2018

1952

Marie Mizdail Mark
Aug. 29, 2018

Rose Sawyer Placey
Sept. 16, 2018

Gertrude Sokolnicki
Oct. 31, 2018

1953

Adrienne Stathakis Pappas
May 2, 2018

Carolyn Mead Vita
Aug. 23, 2018

Elizabeth "Betsy" Rodack
Sept. 14, 2018

Maxine Minkiewicz Sembrat
Sept. 15, 2018

1954

Rose Marie Eckenroth Barry
Sept. 30, 2018

1955

Celine Tilson O'Brien
Oct. 16, 2018

1956

Ruth Sirgany
Sept. 5, 2018

Madeline Gill, RSM
Sept. 20, 2018

1957

**Lieutenant Colonel
Helen Lipinski**
Aug. 22, 2018

**Carolyn Wroclawski
Impellizzeri**
Oct. 2, 2018

Joan Zekas
Dec. 2, 2018

1960

Ann Brennan McDonough
Aug. 4, 2018

1962

Rosalee Kotarski Pinkoski
Aug. 14, 2018

Jo-Ann Graziano Capone
Aug. 16, 2018

1964

Helen Hudock
Dec. 22, 2017

1965

Mary Elencik Hynick
Sept. 3, 2018



Stanley S. Knapich, D.Ed.

Misericordia University would like to extend condolences to the family of Stanley Knapich, D. Ed., professor emeritus of biology, who passed away on Nov. 12, 2018 at the age of 86. Dr. Knapich served as a biology professor and longtime chairperson of biology and medical technology at Misericordia. He retired in 2004 after 40 years of service to the institution. A resident of Hunlock Creek, Pa., he specialized in plant taxonomy and published on that topic as well as aesthetics in biology and the beauty of nature. Dr. Knapich was passionate about teaching and was known as a man who liked and respected his students, and they, in turn, respected him. He was a three-time recipient of the Judge Max and Tillie Rosenn Excellence in Teaching Award, receiving the honor in 1988, 1991 and 2002. He is survived by his wife of 53 years, Beverly, their daughter, Kellie Sheakoski and granddaughter, Amanda Sheakoski.

1966

Anne O'Brien McDermott
Sept. 18, 2018

**Dorothy "Dolly"
Fenton Symonds**
Sept. 20, 2018

1967

**Teresa "Teecy"
Sharkey Leshko**
July 22, 2018

Mary Koval Pitcavage
Sept. 15, 2018

1968

Irene Victor Trent
Sept. 23, 2018

1969

Margaret "Peggy" Stoffick
Aug. 27, 2018

1970

Carolyn Brush Welch
July 22, 2018

**Mary Paulette Berrang,
RSM**
Sept. 4, 2018

Kathryn Conway
Nov. 26, 2018

1972

**Arlene "Arlie"
Erceg Langseth**
Sept. 28, 2018

Elizabeth "Liza" Vivaldo
Nov. 23, 2018

1975

Carol Malinowski
Aug. 6, 2018

Deborah Murphy Kopko
Nov. 21, 2018

1976

Mary Warner
Aug. 19, 2018

1981

Edward Williames
Nov. 22, 2018

1986

Wendy Kerpovich Dunbar
Aug. 26, 2018

Capt. Claire Shea USN
Nov. 23, 2018

1990

Emma "Jean" Mack Landis
Nov. 10, 2018

Rosemary Orrson Hosey
Nov. 15, 2018

2016

Brianna DePierro '16 and Aaron Littzi were married July 21, 2018. Brianna is a high school English teacher in the Hazleton Area School District. The couple resides in Plains Twp., Pa.

Ashley Chado Murtha '16 and **Michael Murtha '15** welcomed their son on Sept. 19, 2018.

2017

Maqv;B9vke;.o'; and **Michael Pheasant '16** were married July 14, 2018. The wedding ceremony and Solemn High Mass took place at St. Mary's Church in

**RwB3ti CwuuiL
pw33wRnk 5TeL
gm3m5Ewvu BAp263I
euk pEmuk&sm 5Eke3L
00Aug3RmkL
P6GEGwE6e e3Pu6hL
Hunter Pates '16,
Trent Ortiz '16, Julie
Paporello '17, and
Gina Palmiter '17.**

Andi Veneziale '17 and **Hunter Pates '16** were married Sept. 22, 2018 at Myrtle Beach State Park in South Carolina. Andi is a speech- language pathologist for the



Horry County School District, and Hunter is a graduate student in the Coastal Marine and Wetland Studies program at Coastal Carolina University. The couple resides in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Adam Cappucci '17 and his wife, Taylor, welcomed a son on Sept. 29, 2018.

2018

Chqi'7ime;Ckaqj;C9k9gie;.o8 and her husband, Ed, welcomed their daughter on Aug. 2, 2018.

Lauren Szczepanski Kowalski '18 and her husband, John, welcomed their daughter on Sept. 28, 2018.



Judith Gardner Price 77 poses for a picture outside the Lackawanna County Courthouse.



Passion for JUSTICE

*Alumna becomes first female
first assistant district attorney
in Lackawanna County history*

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

SCRANTON, Pa. – The bright sunshine belies the cool temperatures during this late fall afternoon in November, as Lackawanna County First Assistant District Attorney Judith Gardner Price '77 returns to the courthouse downtown from processing a crime scene with local and state police.

The affable prosecutor easily exchanges greetings with sheriff's deputies in charge of courthouse security, while multi-tasking on her smartphone to address issues related to the District Attorney's Office and the developing criminal case. The suspected attempted homicide case in Taylor, Pa., marks the beginning of another busy day for the first female first assistant district attorney in Lackawanna County's 140-year history.

"I just remember feeling such a sense of pride and honor and excitement," Price says, reflecting on the job offer she received in January 2018 from then District Attorney-elect Mark Powell. "I really said to myself, 'You carried yourself with dignity and professionalism and integrity and ethics, and Mark saw that – and that is cool.'"

"It was a real cherry on top of 39 years of hard work. To maintain your ethics and character and your reputation is hard to do. I felt an enormous sense of pride and accomplishment that he chose me," she adds.

In between Misericordia and her new position, Price amassed a wealth of legal knowledge by being a general practitioner. She clerked in the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas,

Continued on next page

Judy Gardner Price '77
was a member of the
Misericordia University
Board of Trustees
from 1985-03.



Continued from previous page

established Price & Price, LLP and Dougherty, Leventhal & Price, LLP law firms, served several municipalities as solicitor, worked as a certified mediator in federal court, and was an assistant district attorney to name a few professional positions.

That cumulative experience amply prepared Price for her current high-profile position, but it was that "keen sense of justice" she has seemingly had all her life that made the marriage complete. "There is just something about prosecuting – I have a passion for justice and a passion to help victims of crime," says Price, who received the inaugural Misericordia Board of Trustees Award for exemplifying the University's academic, leadership and service ideals. "It is such a rewarding job, in that sense you see justice happen and you are part of that. I always loved prosecuting."

Months into his first year as the top prosecutor in Lackawanna County, District Attorney Mark Powell says he is pleased with one of his first decisions as an elected official. "Hiring Judy Price was – without question – one of the best decisions I've made as DA," Powell acknowledges. "She has far exceeded my expectations and I have been overwhelmingly pleased with her

performance and work ethic. They just do not come any better than Judy.

"While I chose her based on her qualifications and formidable skills as a trial attorney, I am extremely gratified that Judy is the first woman in the history of Lackawanna County to serve as first assistant district attorney," Powell adds.

In her role, Price collaborates with 27 police departments in Lackawanna County and administers to the day-to-day details of the office, which includes prosecutors, county detectives and administrative assistants. "It makes me feel privileged to have helped them (victims)," says Price, also the recipient of the Hilda Straub Garey Award in 1991 for her extraordinary service to the University. "Victims of crime humble me because of their resiliency and their strength. I

am just happy that I was able to be a part of being there for them to help them through that traumatic time.

"That's my job to get justice for them."

It took a little time, though, for Price to find her niche, academically. The Allentown Central Catholic High School graduate initially enrolled at Misericordia as a biology major before double majoring in history and biology with a little assistance from Louis Maganzin, Ph.D., who taught history for 32 years at Misericordia.



The badge identifies Judy Gardner Price's historic title in the district attorney's office.

"When I almost blew up the chemistry lab, I figured I was better in a courtroom than an operating room," Price says, laughing at the memory. "I could do the science, but I just loved the history and the advocacy."

Whether it was the influence of the Sisters of Mercy or her late mother, Dorothy Jones Gardner, service to others seems to come intuitively for the magna cum laude alumna and Temple University School of Law graduate. An active member in her community, Price co-founded the St. Joseph's Church Girls Biddy Basketball League for the City of Scranton and served the league as executive director, coach and referee for many years. She also formerly served on the Lackawanna County Catholic Social Services Board of Directors and St. Joseph's Church Pastoral Council.

"Everywhere you went at Misericordia was Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality," she says, repeating the founding tenets of the institution. "The Sisters of Mercy were just wonderful living role models of the charisms. You learned that and you learned to be not only an intelligent, critical thinker, but to carry out your life with compassion for others – which was always part of their mission."

"They almost made you feel responsible that you had to give back," adds Price, who served Misericordia as Alumni Board president (1981-85) and as a member of the Board of Trustees from (1985-03). "You had to use the gifts that God gave you to make it a better world. They (the charisms) just came naturally."


Although Price does not consider herself a true trailblazer – she does not like to attach adjectives to herself – she hopes her example leads more young women to aspire to be leaders in their respective professions. "Going to Misericordia greatly enhanced my self-confidence and my worth and value as a woman, and to be a contributor to society," says Price, who also played basketball and field hockey in college.

"I really grew in confidence. I learned how to advocate, I learned how to articulate and I learned how to collaborate. In addition, I grew in my self-confidence as a leader."

Many of those characteristics she developed fully at Misericordia, she says, thanks to the encouragement she received in the classroom and the quiet examples of the Sisters of Mercy, many of whom were accomplished scholars and professionals in their own right.

"Thank you for showing me that I can be an accomplished woman; that I can go out into the world and I can make a difference," says Price, acknowledging the impact many of her collegiate professors had on her career and life. "Thank you for respecting my intelligence, my opinion, making me a critical thinker, preparing me to go out into the world and accomplish something."

"They made you feel that you were worthwhile as a woman. You had intelligence, you were a critical thinker, and you could contribute. That was important."

Today, Joseph and Judy Gardner Price '77 are the parents of four children, Judith, Colleen, Joseph, Jr., and James. The couple has five grandchildren. 

Get to Know

Judith Gardner Price '77 is the first female first assistant district attorney in the history of Lackawanna County. During her career as a lawyer, she also worked in the following positions:

- Certified Federal Court Mediator, U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania;
- Chairperson, Lackawanna County Board of Assessment Appeals;
- Solicitor, Carbondale Office of Economic and Community Development, Scranton Municipal Parking Authority and City of Scranton's Controller's Office;
- Assistant District Attorney, Lackawanna County;
- Assistant County Solicitor, Lackawanna County Bureau of Children and Youth Services and County Area Agency on Aging;
- Luzerne County Domestic Relations Support Master.

Service

Judith Gardner Price '77 also served her community in various capacities by volunteering on several boards. To avoid any potential conflicts of interest, she resigned from the positions before assuming her job with the Lackawanna County District Attorney's Office in February 2018:

- Clearbrook, Inc., Board of Directors;
- Keystone College Board of Trustees;
- Women's Resource Center, Scranton, Board of Directors;
- Wright Center Board of Directors;
- United Way of Lackawanna/Wayne County, co-chair, annual campaign;
- Woman Matters, Inc., principal and founder;
- Scranton Preparatory School Board of Trustees;
- Catholic Social Services of Lackawanna/Wayne Counties, Board of Directors;
- Bishop's Annual Appeal of the Diocese of Scranton, co-chair.



Mike Dunleavy, left, is sworn into office as Alaska's governor by Superior Court Judge Paul Roetman in Kotzebue, Alaska, on Monday, Dec. 3. Poor visibility forced the governor's swearing-in ceremony to be held in Kotzebue instead of Noorvik, Alaska, the hometown of his wife, Rose.

STANDING TALL

Alumnus becomes the 12th governor of Alaska

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Bill Jones '85 jokingly says he would like to think he played a very small role in his former basketball teammate's biggest victory. They may not have spoken in some 30 years, but the former guard on the men's basketball team was handing out assists still to the Highlanders' former big man in the paint, albeit, by spreading word via social media about his candidacy for governor of Alaska.

Mike J. Dunleavy '83

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HISTORY

considerably female. Dunleavy's successful election to the highest elected office in the nation's 49th state did not surprise those who knew him best while he was a student-athlete at Misericordia.

"Considering the leader he was for us on the court, it's not a surprise to me that he would go from teaching and school administration into public service," says Jones, who shared news of Dunleavy's candidacy with acquaintances in Alaska via Facebook and asked them to spread the news. "That's who he was, he was a leader. I have no doubt he would remember our team. I remember him as being fearless. He would bang bodies with anybody we were playing against. We needed him to score and dominate inside."

"He had a great sense of humor and as serious as he was on the court, he clowning around off the court," adds Jones, the president and CEO of the United Way of Wyoming Valley today. "Mike really stood out because of his size and because he was a good person – he was friendly to everybody."

"I remember Mike as a bright and thoughtful student, a good athlete, and a person comfortable with himself and

able to interact easily with others," adds Tom O'Neill, a retired tenured faculty member in sociology and anthropology, and chair of the former Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Work. "Mike was well known on campus and at that time, there were not a lot of male undergraduates enrolled. He was outgoing, respectful, with a strong sense of individualism, and with a love and willingness to talk about the outdoors and his views on the world around him."

"If Mike returned to campus today, he would find a new Misericordia, but with, as in the past, the same core values and commitment in preparing its graduates for their own 'New Frontiers.' As it always should be, both Misericordia and its alumni are works in progress," O'Neill adds.

Dunleavy, who was unavailable for comment, took the oath of office on Monday, Dec. 3 in a school gym in the Alaska city of Kotzebue – days after a



Republican gubernatorial candidate Mike Dunleavy '83 reacts to early favorable election returns Tuesday, Nov. 6 in Anchorage, Alaska. With Dunleavy, from left, are his wife, Rose, and daughters, Ceil and Maggie.

magnitude 7.0 earthquake struck Anchorage, causing widespread damage to infrastructure in the city and surrounding areas. A former Republican state senator, his meteoric rise began humbly as a schoolteacher after earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in history from Misericordia University and moving to the Last Frontier in 1983 to pursue his dreams.

"He was one of the nicest guys you could ever meet," says fellow classmate Mike Amory '85, a member of the Misericordia University Board of Trustees, and the president of Amory Medical and Amory Sleep Solutions today. "He was always very outgoing, very polite, very kind and had a great sense of humor.

"It is awesome that he is now the head of the state as Alaska governor. What is cool is that he is now carrying on the Misericordia charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality as governor. We should all be very proud of him," adds Amory.

A Scranton, Pa., native, Dunleavy landed a job as a public school teacher before becoming a principal and superintendent of schools in northwest Arctic communities. In between, he earned a master of education degree from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

His foray into politics began as a school board member for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District from 2009-12, serving two years as board president for the more than 25,000-square-mile district. He served as state senator for five years from 2013-18.

His campaign for governor focused on restoring law and order, shrinking the size of government, balancing the budget, growing the economy, and protecting the Permanent Fund Dividend for Alaskans (the state's oil wealth fund). "Alaska needs a leader with a positive plan for our future," the Dunleavy for Alaska campaign wrote on its website. "A leader who listens to, respects, believes in, and protects Alaskans. A leader who doesn't waiver on promises, break their word, or change priorities on a whim. Mike Dunleavy is that leader."


The leadership he displayed as a student and student-athlete on the court in McGinty Gymnasium continues to be the hallmark of his political career and private life, according to media and campaign reports.

"I tell the truth and that never will change," Dunleavy wrote as a candidate for governor. "It won't change based on pressure from special interest groups, or whomever I may be speaking to at the

time. I tell folks who I am, what I believe and that my core principles never will change. I say what I mean, and I will follow through on what I say."

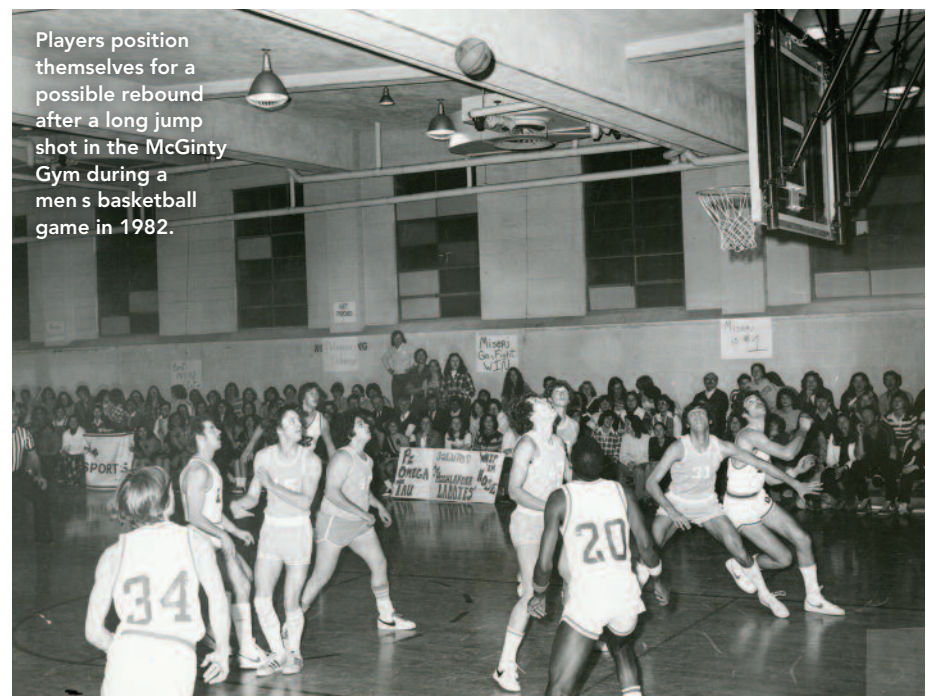
Over the last 35 years, Dunleavy has lived in the rural villages and cities of Alaska, including Koyuk, Fairbanks, Kotzebue, Wasilla and now the state capital of Juneau. He and his wife, Rose, have three daughters, Maggie, Catherine and Ceil.

"We are delighted that one of our alumni has achieved such a prominent

elected office," says President Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D. "Most people on campus today, including me, have not met the governor as he has been in Alaska for some time, but it seems apparent that he is a motivated, focused person just as many current Misericordia students are. He is an example of what one can achieve by applying a Misericordia education in any field of endeavor. We wish him, his family, and the people of Alaska all the best." 

“Considering the leader he was for us on the court, it’s not a surprise to me that he would go from teaching and school administration into public service.”

— Bill Jones '85



Players position themselves for a possible rebound after a long jump shot in the McGinty Gym during a men's basketball game in 1982.

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MISERICORDIA
UNIVERSITY

FAST FORWARD

GLNS alumna recognized for managing congressional office

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

When Ann Kaufman '14 was presented with the Award for Excellence in Government, Law and National Security (GLNS) during her senior year at Misericordia University, the top award in her major was decidedly a precursor of things to come.

Ann Kaufman '14

GOVERNMENT,
LAW AND
NATIONAL
SECURITY

In the four years since she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in GLNS, and minors in management and fine arts, the Williamsport, Pa. native has earned a Master of Public and International Affairs degree with a specialty in security and intelligence studies from the University of Pittsburgh's

Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. She also was named a Republican Leadership Initiative Fellow, taking part in comprehensive training courses to develop political strategy and volunteer recruitment and retention. This led to her spearheading a grassroots, community-based volunteer network, which provided direct assistance to the Republican Party of Pennsylvania during the 2016 election cycle.

On Nov. 6, she was able to celebrate her work as campaign manager with the successful reelection of former U.S. Representative Tom Marino (R-PA) in the restructured 12th Congressional District of Pennsylvania. The fifth-term congressman was well known throughout the National Republican Party, having served in 2017 as a member of President-elect Donald Trump's presidential transition team

and member of the Committee on the Judiciary and Committee on Foreign Affairs, as well as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly. Rep. Marino stunned many across the state when he resigned from office on Jan. 17 to pursue a career in the private sector. Yet, he is quick to reflect on the impact Kaufman made on his campaign and constituency.

"Ann's leadership and strategic vision has been paramount in the success of our campaign over the last couple of years; her foresight and ability to execute under pressure have been invaluable assets for our team," says Marino. "I admire Ann's determination and deeply appreciate her commitment to using the skills she has to make life better for Pennsylvanians."

Kaufman began her work with Rep. Marino in 2015 in what was then the 10th Congressional District as a Misericordia governmental affairs intern. She was formally hired in 2016 and initially served as his deputy campaign manager. She was named district representative in April 2017 and elevated to campaign manager in December of that year.

The challenges she faced in her first role as campaign manager – during what many claim was the most contentious election cycle in recent history – were amplified when the State Supreme Court ordered a redrawing of the state's district map six months before the 2018 primary election in response to claims of partisan gerrymandering. Kaufman had to react quickly to establish a campaign strategy for the four new



Former U.S. Representative Tom Marino (R PA), right, gives high praise to alumna Ann Kaufman '14, who as district office and campaign manager, helped orchestrate his successful re election campaign in 2018.



Just weeks after her graduation from Misericordia, Ann Kaufman '14, helped care for children at a Sister of Mercy-run orphanage in Guyana, South America.

counties added to the newly defined 12th Congressional District, while continuing to serve constituents in the 15 counties Rep. Marino previously served. The redistricting took effect when the new Congress was sworn-in on Jan. 3, resulting in the 12th Congressional District representing all or parts of 15 counties for the 2019-21 term.

A special election to fill the vacant seat will be held on Pennsylvania's primary Election Day, May 21.

Despite his departure,


Kaufman will maintain her role as district representative and make sure the office continues to run smoothly.

"Splitting my time as campaign manager and district representative over the past two years has meant a lot of 16-hour days," Kaufman acknowledges. "Representing the congressman at events when needed, coordinating his attendance at meetings, overseeing more than \$1 million in fundraising and taking care of campaign media and marketing, as well as handling day-to-day district office operations and making sure we serve our constituents' needs."

Kaufman was more than happy with the outcome of her first election as campaign manager. "The congressman won 67 percent of the vote, a percentage that was similar to the last few elections," she says. "My goal is to help people – and help them to thrive in our area and thrive in our economy. Day in and day out, I get to work with constituents, and I know I am making an impact. This job is a great fit for me."

No stranger to community service, Kaufman participated in a Campus Ministry service trip to Guyana, considered the second poorest country in South America, just weeks after her graduation in 2014. She was among a group of alumni and students who spent 16 days aiding the Sisters of Mercy and other service groups at orphanages, nursing homes, hospitals and day care facilities in an area that lacked running water or a developed sanitation system. Her experiences serving the less fortunate bonded her to Misericordia and help fuel her career today.

Kaufman says she most recently was honored to be asked by her former professor and mentor, Christopher Stevens, Ph.D., associate professor and chair of the Department of History and Government, to teach at her alma mater. She began serving as an adjunct faculty member just prior to the November 2018 election, teaching a national security issues course for Misericordia Expressway students.

"It is an issues-based course looking at weapons of mass destruction and terrorism – anything important to national security," she explains. "It is an interesting time to be talking about and analyzing security threats and national security policy." 

“Ann’s leadership and strategic vision has been paramount in the success of our campaign over the last couple of years; her foresight and ability to execute under pressure have been invaluable assets for our team.”

— Former Congressman Tom Marino (R-PA)



Math graduates seek Ph.D.s

Misericordia University mathematics majors, from left, Patrick McGinty '18, Pittston, Pa.; Tara Koskulitz '18, Hazleton, Pa., and Blake Smith '18, Frederick, Md., received their Bachelor of Arts degrees in mathematics at the 92nd annual spring commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 12. The students are furthering their academic careers in graduate school. McGinty and Koskulitz are attending Binghamton University to pursue their Ph.D. in mathematics, and Koskulitz also accepted a full teaching assistantship as well. Smith is attending Boston University where he is working toward his doctorate degree in biostatistics.

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ALL IN THE FAMILY

Adult learner succeeds father as magisterial district judge

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

**Brian
Tupper '12**

.....

**BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION**

KINGSTON TWP. – Long before the popular CBS hit drama *Blue Bloods* first aired, District Magistrate Brian Tupper '12 discovered firsthand the possible consequences of being in a law enforcement family. When most six-year-olds are studying their ABCs, he was learning to cope

with the wounds his father received in the line of duty.

"To this day, I still remember my mother telling me my dad had gotten into an accident," Tupper says, recalling the night his father, Officer James E. Tupper, was shot at the Dallas Twp. Police station in June 1986. "I did not know much about the situation. I just knew my dad was in the hospital and was hurt. That was all my mother would tell me at the time."

A man, charged with drunken driving months earlier, arrived at the rural police station at 3 a.m. armed with a .357-caliber Magnum handgun and a grudge. The suspect, while wrestling for control of the firearm, shot officers Tupper and Wayman Miers. The officers survived their wounds and returned to the line of duty to enjoy long careers in law enforcement. Officer Tupper eventually served the Back Mountain community as district judge, an elected position he held for 24 years. Miers retired from the police department after serving for 23 years.

"As I got older, I learned more about what actually happened to my father during the early hours of that June morning, and I must admit, it's a pretty incredible story," Tupper adds about the life-or-death struggle the officers had with the suspect. "What my father went through that morning has always been an inspiration to me. He and Officer Miers were so brave, and they were both determined to do whatever needed to be done to protect each other and live to see the next day."

Like many young adults, Tupper acknowledges wanting to distance himself initially from his father's career path so that he could establish his own identity. His interest in the business world and desire to advance his career led him to

enroll in the Misericordia University Bachelor of Science degree program in business administration as an adult learner.

When he enrolled at the University, Tupper was working full time at the State Workers' Insurance Fund in Scranton, Pa., while pursuing his four-year degree. "The adult learner program at Misericordia University fit extremely well into my schedule," he recalls. "It helped me tremendously because I was learning with other full-time working adults who had families and commitments aside from going to college.

"Also, my professors were incredibly knowledgeable and extremely helpful. They wanted us to excel in their classes, but they also understood we were adult learners and designed their courses accordingly. I also

loved learning from them, as they were true professionals in their respective fields. As such, they provided my fellow classmates and me with real-life experiences and scenarios, which was very beneficial to my overall success at the University," Tupper adds.

A magna cum laude graduate, Tupper believes the personal attention he received from professors enabled him to succeed in the classroom. "One of the other things I valued about Misericordia is that while my classes weren't one-on-one instruction, it sure felt like it," he says. "You never feel as if you are going to fall behind because the professors are immediately willing to help if you just speak up. During those times I did need some further explanation, I never felt like a burden to my professor. He or she was willing to help in any way I needed."

Tupper realized his dream of climbing the corporate ladder shortly after graduating in May 2012, as he accepted a position as a classification analyst at Berkshire Hathaway GUARD Insurance Co., in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. A few short years later, though, Tupper realized something was absent in his life.



District Magistrate Brian Tupper '12 earned his Bachelor of Science degree in business administration as an adult learner.



District Magistrate Brian Tupper '12 poses for a picture outside of his office in Kingston Township, Pa. He began serving the Back Mountain as district judge in 2018 after winning election to succeed his father, James E. Tupper, who served the region as magistrate for 24 years.

"GUARD was a great company to work for, but I felt as if there was something missing from my career," Tupper says, recalling his career change. "I thought about it, and realized that I wanted to do something in which I could significantly help people – to be in a position that would allow me to make life better for those in my community."

Opportunity presented itself when his father decided to not seek reelection in 2017 and retire from the bench. Tupper successfully ran to become the Back Mountain's next district judge against three other candidates. His six-year term began in January 2018. "Even though I have switched career paths since graduating, the education I received from Misericordia University certainly set me up for success," the jurist acknowledges.

"I've lived in the Back Mountain for most of my life, so the well-being and safety of this area and the people who live here are extremely important to me," Tupper adds. "It is an honor to be able to make a positive impact on this great community."

Similar to the popular television show, the Tupper family will often share stories and experiences about their careers in law enforcement, much like the Blue Bloods' fictional Reagan family that has a long history with the New York City Police Department.

“... My professors were incredibly knowledgeable and extremely helpful. They wanted us to excel in their classes, but they also understood we were adult learners ...”

— Brian Tupper '12

"My wife and I usually get to together with my parents weekly, whether it is going over to their house, having them over to ours or going to dinner," says Tupper, acknowledging how the legal eagles discuss adjudicated cases. "Nine times out of 10, my father and I approached a case's decision similarly, but there are a few instances in which he would have made a different ruling so that allows me to ask why he would have done it that way. It means a lot to be able to learn from a man whom I respect more than anything, and who is also my father."

Magistrate Tupper and his wife, Chelsey, currently reside in Kingston Twp. [h](#)

TOP COP

Adult learner climbs ranks to police chief in Rush Township

BY GEOFF RUSHTON

Kenneth Zipovsky '12 already had a wealth of experience in a then two-decade career in law enforcement when he earned his bachelor's degree through Misericordia's Accelerated Degree Program.

But even with all he had been able to accomplish as a police officer to that point, Zipovsky, says the Bachelor of Arts degree in Government, Law and National Security has been important to his advancement and success – including his current role as chief of police in Rush Township, Schuylkill County.

"The program ties in so many things involved in the public safety sector," says Zipovsky. "It's very relevant, and it really helped me in my career field. When I'm able to sit there and say I have a degree in that field, it adds a certain amount of credibility."

He began a 25-year tenure with the Hazleton City Police Department, where

after starting out as a patrol officer he was able to do a little bit of everything, from working as a K-9 handler to rising through the ranks to first lieutenant and second-in-command of the department.

Kenneth Zipovsky '12

GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY

"I'm proud that I was able to do just about anything a police officer ever would have the opportunity to do," he says. "I pretty much did everything from write a parking ticket to convict somebody for first-degree homicide and everything in between."

As his career went along, Zipovsky always wanted to go back to school to

earn his bachelor's degree, but something always seemed to come up — he had a family and work kept him busy enough. He tried a few times, but could not follow through until he found the program at Misericordia.

The Accelerated Degree Program, he notes, was affordable, convenient and well structured.

"If Misericordia didn't have a program where I could go in the evenings and concentrate on things at night and have the courses blocked the way they were, I wouldn't have been able to get my degree," he acknowledges.

Zipovsky's degree and extensive experience served him well in 2017 when he took on a new challenge, retiring from Hazleton to become police chief in Mahanoy City. He was only in the role for a short time, but Zipovsky enjoyed his time as the borough's top cop.

Only a few months after he started in Mahanoy City, Rush Township Police Chief Joseph Lipsett passed away unexpectedly. Zipovsky had applied for the Rush Township position when Lipsett was hired in 2017 — and Zipovsky says the township made the right decision at the time, as Lipsett had more experience.

After Lipsett's death, Rush Township asked Zipovsky to assist with some administrative duties until a replacement was found. That replacement turned out to be Zipovsky, who was hired as chief in June 2018.



Rush Twp. Police Chief Kenneth Zipovsky '12 poses for a picture next to a police cruiser.

Rush Township has offered new challenges and opportunities for Zipovsky. The 24-square-mile municipality has suburban, business and light industrial areas, but also a large rural area. Zipovsky had never worked in rural policing before, and he was eager to apply what he had learned and accomplished throughout his career.

Zipovsky has focused on not only keeping the community safe, but also making it stronger. That includes things like organizing a big "trunk-or-treat" event this past Halloween. Noting that the township does not have many streetlights, he and others organized the event to give kids a fun Halloween in a safe, daytime environment.

It also brought together neighboring communities as well. "What's happening in your neighboring town or community creates benefits or negatives for you," he says. "We're really trying to do everything we can, including in the regional area, to make it a better community for everyone."

His role today is a culmination of why he got into law enforcement: a desire to help people and make the community a better place. In doing so, Zipovsky says the charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality play an important part in his job everyday.

"The tenets of Misericordia's mission definitely reflect what the traits are of a police officer that we need in the 21st century," Zipovsky says. **h**

'PREPARATION MEETS OPPORTUNITY'

GLNS graduate manages Gov. Wolf's day as a special assistant

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Nathanael R. Brague '16

PHILOSOPHY &
GOVERNMENT,
LAW AND
NATIONAL
SECURITY

American author, journalist and college professor Amy Hempel coined the popular phrase, "There's no such thing as luck. Luck is where preparation meets opportunity."

Nathanael R. Brague '16 may not know the author, but he certainly lived by her adage as an undergraduate student at Misericordia University, taking full advantage of opportunities to participate in practical internships and special programs in an effort to

establish a foundation for a meaningful career.

His internship at The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development provided him with great insight into issues – crime, poverty, and homelessness – that affect Pennsylvanians and enabled him to develop his research and analytical skills. Another internship in U.S. Rep. Matt Cartwright's District Office played a substantial role in his professional development, as he learned about constituent affairs, public events, and related projects.

A networking program on campus provided him with a chance to make a good first impression. "During a professional development event, I met staff members from Gov. Wolf's office," says Brague. "I talked to them and they advised me to send a resume to the office. I sent it in and received an invitation to interview the next week."

Three months after receiving his Bachelor of Arts degrees in philosophy and Government, Law and National Security (GLNS) with a minor in political science during the spring commencement ceremony, Brague was working in the administration of Gov. Tom Wolf in the Office of Constituent Services, assisting in outreach efforts across the commonwealth. A few months later, he was elevated to External Affairs in the newly formed Office of Intergovernmental Affairs to assist on initiatives related to the governor's agenda.

"The guidance Congressman Cartwright's district employees gave me was invaluable," he says, acknowledging the importance of internships. "The district director played an instrumental role in my professional development, showing me the many do's and don'ts in a government office and providing direction that I still use today."

Today, the cum laude graduate walks the halls of the state Capitol in Harrisburg and tours every corner of the commonwealth as a special assistant to the governor in the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, working to "execute" the

governor's day "as easily and seamlessly as possible," he says.

As he was preparing for January's inauguration for Gov. Wolf's second term, Brague says it is an "honor" to continue working for the governor as he seeks to implement his agenda over the next four years. He credits the opportunities and experiences he received as a student for the success he has had in his young career.

"My education in the GLNS program helped me think critically and helped me develop my professional skills," he says. "The faculty emphasized these characteristics that have proven to be extremely valuable. Many have worked in the public sector or public sector adjacent and would be able to give sound advice and provide valuable insight into what working for the public sector would be like."

His interest in politics, legislation and service to others that fueled Brague's initial foray into his academic studies has him on the verge of being a respected political wonk, who can affect positive change for people throughout the



Nathanael R. Brague '16, at left, accompanies Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Wolf to a public event as a special assistant to the governor in the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs. Brague, above, poses for a picture on the steps of the State Capitol Complex in Harrisburg, Pa.

state. "It was not until my junior year in college when I finally realized that I wanted to work in the public sector," Brague acknowledges.

"Misericordia University and the faculty helped me realize my passion," he says. "I want to continue to serve the people of the commonwealth. It has been one of the best experiences of my life, traveling across the commonwealth with the governor to tour an innovative education center in Pittsburgh or a state-of-the-art medical school in Scranton, among many other incredible experiences." [h](#)

Sixteenth Hall of Fame Class features five student-athletes

The honorees include Sean Collins '07 (lacrosse), Amy (Hughes) Dyson '08 (basketball), Dorothy (Monahan) Callahan '56 (field hockey/basketball), Cole (Vennie) Noll '06 (soccer), Pete Yelacic '07 (swimming) and Steve Kopic (contributor).

Collins was a three-time All-Pennsylvania Athletic Conference (PAC) honoree, including two first-team selections. He was the team MVP as a sophomore and earned the coach's award as a senior. He ranks first in single-season (35) and career (103) assists, and holds school single-game records for assists (7) and points (12). Collins ranks third in school history with 212 career points and his 62 points in 2006 are the fourth-highest in school history. He is fifth in school history with 109 career goals.

Dyson was a four-year starter at point guard and was a three-time All-PAC selection. She was the PAC Player of the Year and Misericordia Wendy's Athlete of the Month as a senior. A three-time team MVP, she was a second-team Eastern College Athletic Conference All Star as a senior and ranks in the top 10 in career field

goals, free throws, points, points per game and assists. She also ranks ninth in career field goals (398), third in career free throws (405), seventh in career points (1,253), fourth in career points per game (14.1), and sixth in career assists (248).

Callahan was a four-year letter winner in both sports and served as the basketball team captain as a senior. She played forward in basketball and was consistently one of the team's top scorers. In field hockey, she was a four-year starter at goalie. She also served as president of the Misericordia Athletics Association.

Noll was a three-time first-team All-PAC selection and earned second-team all-region honors. Her 1.12 goals and 2.71 points per game in 2001 are both school records. She ranks second in career goals (47), third in career points (121), fifth in career assists (27), and third in single-season goals (19) and points (46). Noll is third in career goals per game (.60) and points per game (1.55).

Yelacic was a four-time team MVP and led the men's swim team in scoring



Members of the 16th Hall of Fame Class, from left, are Steve Kopic, Pete Yelacic '07, Amy (Hughes) Dyson '08, Dorothy (Monahan) Callahan '56, Cole (Vennie) Noll '06, and Sean Collins '07.

all four years. He set five school records as a freshman, two as a sophomore, two as a junior, and three as a senior. He won the 1000m freestyle at the Grove City Championships and still holds school records in the 500m free (4:51.13) and 1000m free (10:02.72).

Kopic is being recognized as a contributor through his sponsorship of the Misericordia Wendy's Athlete of the Month program. Now in its 20th year, the program has recognized hundreds of Misericordia student-athletes.

To nominate a student-athlete for the 2019 Misericordia University Athletics Hall of Fame, please log on to athletics.misericordia.edu/HOFnom. The deadline for nominations is May 31. [h](#)

Women's XC team earns MAC title

The women's cross country team enjoyed another successful season with its second straight Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) championship and fourth in five seasons. The Cougars also recorded their best finish ever with a fifth-place showing at the NCAA Mideast Regional championships.

Clare Schoen '19, '20 won the individual title and teammate Meredith Hartz '17, '20 finished fourth at the MAC Championship meet. Olivia Visaggio '19, '22, Jordyn Donnelly '19, '20 and Rowan Pepe '19, '22 finished 15th-17th, respectively.

Schoen was the MAC Runner of the Year and finished fourth at the Mideast

Regional. Hartz earned all-region status with a 35th-place finish. Schoen also qualified for the NCAA Championships.

Women's soccer team Ranked 6th in nation

The women's soccer team enjoyed one its finest seasons with a trip to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament. The Cougars finished 17-3-2 and were ranked sixth in the nation in the final United Soccer Coaches' poll.

Misericordia placed 10 members on the All-Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Freedom team and swept all four major awards, including Offensive Player, Defensive Player, Rookie and Coach of the Year.

Hannah Larkin '17, '20 was named Offensive Player of the Year and Kristen Ritter '16, '19 was named Defensive Player of the Year for the third time. Kaylee Sturans '20, '23 was named Rookie of the Year and Mark Stauffer '97 was selected as Coach of the Year.

Larkin, Ritter and Sturans were joined on the All-MAC Freedom first team by Ashley Edgell '19, Jeanna Orfanos '19, '20 and Alexis Benedetto '21. Michaela Fasolino '20, '23, Kendall Pearage '22 and Evelyn Logie '17, '20 made the second team, and Alexa Alchevsky '19 received honorable mention.

In addition, Ritter was named second-team All-American by the United Soccer Coaches (USC) and was joined on the USC All-Region team by Larkin, Edgell and Benedetto.



STUDENT ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT



Leonard Watson, Jr. '19

Leonard Watson, Jr. '19 of Wayne, Pa., completed his career with the football team. A four year starter at center, the 6 foot, 280 pound lineman led the team to a breakout season in 2018 as the Cougars finished 8 3 and clinched their first postseason berth. A team captain, Watson led the Cougars on an eight game win streak and a trip to their first Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Centennial Bowl after finishing tied for second in the MAC at 7 1.

The son of Leonard Sr. and Tanea Watson anchored an offensive line that produced an MAC best 417.4 yards in total offense per game. The Cougars were third in the MAC in rushing yards per game (181.6) and passing (235.8).

He earned first team All MAC honors after receiving honorable mention after his first year and junior seasons.

After graduation, the chemistry major plans to go to graduate school to complete his Ph.D. [h](#)

Co-ed esports launches in fall

The Athletics Department is introducing esports as a coed varsity activity beginning with the fall semester.

Esports involves teams competing head-to-head in multi-player games online through gaming broadcasters. MU

will be the seventh team in the Middle Atlantic Conference to add esports and brings Misericordia's varsity offerings to 26.

"In an effort to provide our student population with diverse competitive opportunities, we look forward to the addition of esports," said Chuck Edkins, director of athletics.

Misericordia will be in the National Association of Collegiate Esports (NACE), the only association of varsity esports programs for universities in the U.S., and will compete during the fall and spring semesters. NACE has more than 80 member schools and more than 1,500 student-athletes competing in collegiate video gaming. Misericordia will compete in *Hearthstone*, *Rocket League* and *League of Legends* games.

In the coming months, the Athletics Department will build a dedicated esports gaming room on campus, featuring about 15 Xidax gaming computers. The campus community and fans will be able to watch spectator-friendly, competitive gaming between colleges and universities on a University-dedicated Twitch account. Twitch is a service that primarily focuses on broadcasting esports games and streaming video games. In 2017, for example, viewers watched almost 6 billion hours of content on the service, according to Forbes.

For more information about esports, please contact Edkins at 570-674-6397 or cedkins@misericordia.edu. [h](#)



Cougars' football program reels off 8 straight wins, earns bowl berth

The success of the 2018 football team may have been a surprise to some, but not to those close to the program. After dropping a hard-fought game to the United States Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA) in the season opener, the Cougars rattled off eight straight wins and were unbeaten (7-0) in league play with a chance to win the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) championship.

The Cougars dropped their last two games, including the first postseason game in school history, to finish their historical season, 8-3. Quarterback Brady Williams '20 was named the MAC Offensive Player of the Year to lead 10 players who earned All-MAC status. Williams was joined on the All-MAC first team by offensive linemen Derek Hendershot '19 and Leonard Watson '19, while wide receivers Sam Gillison '19 and Isaiah Williams '20 were both named to the second-team.

Linebacker Garrett Murray '20 also made second-team, while running back David Cromwell '21, offensive lineman Tyler Colonno '20, defensive back Nick Yeager '20 and punter Chris Lynn '20 all earned honorable mention. Head coach Mark Ross was named Coach of the Year.

The success of 2018 was the result of the determination and perseverance of the coaching staff and hundreds of young men who have worn the uniform over the last eight years. It all began in October 2010 when MU announced the addition of football. Ross was named head coach and began building a roster in preparation for a September 2012 debut. The Cougars began spring practice in April 2012 and took the field for their first game at Gettysburg College on Sept. 1 later that year.



The 2018 Misericordia University football team

Despite going winless during that initial campaign, the 66 players that finished the season laid the groundwork for the future of the program.

The Cougars closed the gap on Gettysburg in the season opener the next year with Jeff Puckett '16 running for 301 of the Cougars' 537 rushing yards in a 62-40 loss. After nearly picking up its first win in a 41-40 double-overtime loss to King's College, the Cougars notched their first victory with a 63-40 win at FDU-Florham in the 2013 season finale.

MU continued to improve while gradually closing the gap on its MAC rivals during four consecutive one-win seasons. With the most talented and experienced roster in school history, the 2018 team was primed for success.

They built a 28-14 lead before rallying for a last-second 36-35 win over perennial conference power Widener. The Cougars followed that up with a thrilling 47-45 win at Wilkes.

Two high-scoring wins were followed by a pair of last-minute rallies over Lebanon Valley and FDU-Florham to extend the winning streak to six games. Misericordia went on the road to beat King's, 41-23, and built a big lead en route to a 39-29 win at Albright for its eighth straight win.

A tough 21-14 loss to Lycoming in the regular season finale and a loss to Ursinus in the MAC-Centennial Bowl ended the campaign at 8-3. [h](#)



MISSION SUCCESS

Student-Run
Pro-Bono Physical
Therapy Clinic
provides services
to clients of all ages

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Donovan White enjoys life. His active lifestyle oftentimes leads him to rock climbing, cycling, running and swimming activities when he is not creating his latest work of art as a noted tattoo artist in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

That he is able to enjoy his life's passions to the fullest extent possible is a testament to modern medicine and his will to overcome obstacles too numerous to count. The 28-year-old is an amputee after a head-on automobile accident in 2014 shattered his left leg, caused multiple internal injuries, fractured his skull, and left a large laceration from the bridge of his nose to his forehead.

Surgeons pieced his femur together using pins, rods and plates after the bone resembled "corn flakes," according to White. While scars remain, his other injuries healed properly over time. For 1½ years, doctors and

Doctor of Physical Therapy students Kelsey Frasier '15, '18, seated, and Erica Moore '15, '18 provide instruction to Donovan White while he works on building his leg muscles on the NuStep recumbent stepper in the Misericordia University Student-Run Pro-Bono Physical Therapy Clinic in the John J. Passan Hall Annex.

surgeons struggled to save his left leg. Numerous infections and operations yielded the same result – frustrating the Wyoming, Pa., resident.

Eventually, White opted to have his damaged leg amputated immediately below the hip at the Hershey Medical Center after realizing it would compromise his quality of life permanently. With his insurance for physical therapy services exhausted, though, he struggled to find the normalcy he sought with his prosthetic leg. He walked without

Physical
Therapy

Continued on next page

PT clinic provides mentorship, service and therapy

Continued from page 33

crutches, but not very well, he says, as the muscles in his leg that he needed to support his prosthetic had atrophied from neglect.

He found what he needed at the Misericordia University Student-Run Pro-Bono Physical Therapy Clinic in the John J. Passan Hall Annex where White received the care he needed to use his prosthetic leg properly. Three cohorts of 150 graduate doctor of physical therapy students rotate through the clinic, managing and providing free therapeutic sessions to clients in the region who are underinsured, uninsured or in need.

Although faculty members have been providing free therapeutic services since 2001, the clinic began the transition to a student-run site in 2016. It officially opened under its present name in January 2017, when it treated 21 clients and provided 360 hours of services worth about \$48,000.

Today, White credits the students and clinic, under the direction of Maureen Pascal, P.T., D.P.T., N.C.S., associate professor, for providing him the motivation and expertise to return to his everyday life. Soft spoken, White is quick to laud the care he has received at the clinic, but struggles to find the proper words to express his gratitude. "I don't know if I can (find the proper words)," he says softly, nodding his head in appreciation. "I am extremely grateful for all the help I have received here. It was a trying and dark time for me. The clinic helped to bring me out of it.

"It (getting his independence back) was everything to me. I needed to get back to the life that I knew beforehand to try to gain some kind of normalcy. It was a challenge I had to take head-on. I would not be as successful as an amputee as I am today without this clinic," he acknowledges.

To illustrate his appreciation, White returns to the clinic on a regular basis, now acting as a teaching client for doctor of physical therapy students in need of additional experience working with amputees. Overall, the center



Donovan White receives support from Doctor of Physical Therapy students Brandon Winslow 17, 20, left, and Danica Kuti 15, 18 as he utilizes the parallel bars and Bosu balance ball in the clinic.

provides care to patients of all ages. From May to December 2018, for example, students staffed 240 visits from 16 patients – providing about \$93,600 worth of free services to people in the community needing treatment for back pain, nerve entrapment, developmental coordination disorder, genetic disorders and developmental delay.

"This clinic is a great resource for people who are either uninsured or underinsured," says Erica Moore '15, '18. "Our goal as physical therapists is

to make sure that our patients are able to participate in what they love doing. Each patient has an individual story that they are open to sharing with us, giving us the opportunity to better understand the patients we may see in the future."

Physical therapy students receive six months of experience during each of their three annual rounds in the clinic before setting out to a professional setting. The added experience benefits clients and students, alike.

"We all get the chance to go into the pro-bono clinic before we start our

actual clinicals,” says Kelsey Frasier ’15, ’18 of Blackwood, N.J. “I think that gives us good exposure to what a full therapy session will be like with a real patient. It gives us the chance to keep practicing new techniques even when we are not in a clinic full time.

“Treating in this clinic was very similar to treating in a real clinic, but it was more rewarding. It focuses more on getting them the care they need rather than jumping through the hoops of insurance companies,” she adds.

During their education, students receive experience in different patient diagnoses and settings, including inpatient, outpatient, school and home. The pro-bono clinic adds a layer to the educational experience by exposing the future clinicians to service to underserved populations, providing free services as recommended by the Physical Therapy Code of Ethics, and building relationships with clients. It also acts as a stepping-stone for developing mentoring and leadership skills.

“It is a great opportunity for the more experienced students to be able to share their knowledge and bring new ideas, and to help the first-year students improve their skills, learn new ones, and improve their creativity,” Dr. Pascal says. “It also helps students in their first year appreciate how much they will learn – sometimes that’s the

kind of inspiration students can use at the end of a long first year.”

The Student-Run Pro-Bono Physical Therapy Clinic joins other service-learning programs and free clinics on campus, including the Speech-Language and Hearing Center, Migrant Farm Program, Autism Spectrum Services, Falls Prevention Program and more. The clinics serve people in need throughout the region, including Luzerne, where Misericordia University is located, and Wyoming and Lackawanna counties.

“I am continually amazed and impressed with so many of our students. They possess empathy and compassion for our clients, and they express genuine concern for their welfare,” Dr. Pascal says. “When I hear clients talk about how much they enjoy coming to the clinic, I know this is because of the great care they receive from our students, and the extra time we are able to spend with them. I have the advantage of seeing who have been coming to the clinic over a long period of time, and it is a wonderful feeling to know our students played an important role in improving someone’s quality of life.”


As the 17th most populous county in the state, Lackawanna County has the highest poverty rate in the region at 15.3 percent. Luzerne County, the 12th most populous county, has a 14.8 percent poverty rate, while sparsely populated Wyoming County has the

region’s lowest poverty level of 10.3 percent, according to datausa.

“Misericordia allowed us to grow, not only in our education, but also as individuals providing service experiences both locally and internationally,” says Julie Bogaert ’15, ’18. “Our clinic is another way that Misericordia is allowing us to grow as professionals.”

“It is a fulfilling experience to know you are giving back to someone who is less fortunate and can really benefit from the clinical knowledge you possess,” adds Anthony D’Eliseo ’17, ’20. “It drives us as students and as future therapists that we are going to make this difference in people’s lives.”

While the clinic follows the ideals of the institution by emphasizing the importance of service to others, it also provides valuable experience to the soon-to-be professional clinicians. “Being able to work with a patient from initial diagnosis until their end goals are met is a great feeling for them, as well as you as a physical therapist,” says Brandon Winslow ’17, ’20.

“It’s really helped me to focus on patient goals and gearing my practice to make it more individualized rather than a cookie-cutter experience at a high-volume facility,” adds Danica Kuti ’15, ’18. “It’s mutually beneficial for us to practice skills as soon as we learn them as well as it being beneficial to the patient.” 

ABOUT THE CLINIC

The Misericordia University Student-Run Pro-Bono Physical Therapy Clinic began seeing clients during the 2017-18 academic year. It provides free services to people who are uninsured or underinsured, or who have exhausted insurance for physical therapy services.

The clinic’s hours are flexible, but it is routinely open Monday mornings, Tuesday afternoon and evenings, Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons.

To make an appointment or ask for more information, please call 570-706-0726 or 570-674-6258, or email the clinic at ptclinic@misericordia.edu.

Misericordia University Doctor of Physical Therapy students, seated from left, Erica Moore ’15, ’18, Danica Kuti ’15, ’18 and Kelsey Frasier ’15, ’18, and standing, Julie Bogaert ’15, ’18, Anthony D’Eliseo ’17, ’20 and Brandon Winslow ’17, ’20 staffed the Student-Run Pro-Bono Physical Therapy Clinic during the fall semester.



'A PROFOUND IMPACT ON MY LIFE'

Nursing alumna's passion to improve quality of life for people with dementia began as an undergraduate at Misericordia

BY GEOFF RUSHTON

**Ann M.
Kolanowski '70**

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NURSING

Ann M. Kolanowski '70, Ph.D., R.N., F.G.S.A., F.A.A.N., was early in her career as a clinical staff nurse when she realized that hospitals and nursing homes did not know how to care properly for patients with dementia.

Working at a hospital and a nursing home herself, she recalls many patients with dementia were being admitted, but lacked the proper clinical diagnosis. They were deemed "old," "senile," and "confused," she says.

"We didn't realize they were suffering from a neurodegenerative disease at the time, because there was no research on it, medical or otherwise," Kolanowski says. "We

didn't really know how to respond to the behavioral symptoms they had or the physical and psychological issues. We did not do a good job of taking care of these patients."

A 1970 graduate with a bachelor's degree in nursing from Misericordia University, Dr. Kolanowski would go on to spend much of her career devoted to developing research into dementia and helping patients to live a better quality of life. An internationally renowned expert in the field who has published more than 140 scholarly articles, Dr. Kolanowski is now a professor of nursing and psychiatry at The Pennsylvania State University in the Colleges of Nursing and Medicine, where she has been since 2001.

Dementia is not a disease, but a group of symptoms related to loss of memory and other mental abilities. The majority of cases are the result of Alzheimer's disease. In an aging nation, Alzheimer's and dementia are having a profound impact. The cost to society is huge — more expensive than diabetes or cancer — because for most people with dementia, they are going to need costly long-term care eventually.

"It's having a huge impact on families," Kolanowski says. "A lot of it is the burden of care. These are people living with dementia and as the disease progresses their care becomes extremely intensive, often due to the behavioral symptoms they have. Their sleep-wake cycle can be affected and they're up all night. There's resistance to care. This is quite a challenge to family caregivers as well as formal caregivers."

The question for Dr. Kolanowski has long been how best to address, for caregivers and patients, the symptoms associated with dementia.

One patient during her clinical nursing days crystallizes why she set out on answering that question. A woman with dementia, who was being



Ann M. Kolanowski '70

cared for at home by her daughter, was admitted to the hospital. She was kept in restraints and all of the daughter's carefully established routines and schedules for things like movement and toileting were lost. The patient could not walk and was incontinent upon discharge.

"I remember the daughter saying, 'I'll just start all over when I get her home.' I thought that is just awful," Dr. Kolanowski recalls. "She came to the hospital for one issue and we're sending her home now so debilitated. I thought we really need to figure out a way to improve care here, and there was nothing in the textbooks at the time that told us how to do that."

Dr. Kolanowski received her master's degree in adult and older adult nursing from Penn State in 1980 before going on to teach and later become department chair at Wilkes University. She earned her doctoral degree from New York University, and in postdoctoral positions at the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania, she began to more deeply develop her research.

"When I began, I was very interested in behavioral symptoms people with dementia have — agitation, wandering, calling out — symptoms that both family caregivers and formal caregivers really had an issue dealing with," she says. "They were primarily restraining them physically or giving them medication that was sedating them heavily."

She found that restraints were not addressing those behaviors, and were in fact making them worse. Her research explored other factors as well, including boredom. Working with a recreational therapist, she began to design activities for people with dementia that they would enjoy while reducing some of their symptoms and assisting caregivers.

Moving first from descriptive research about dementia behaviors, to associated factors, to specific interventions, Dr. Kolanowski now is principal investigator for a large-scale implementation trial in Pennsylvania and Maryland to help nursing home staffs use the interventions that have been shown to work. "It's gone from very controlled studies to

HONORS AND AWARDS

Ann M. Kolanowski '70, Ph.D., R.N., F.G.S.A., F.A.A.N., professor of nursing and psychiatry at Penn State in the Colleges of Nursing and Medicine, is an internationally renowned expert about people with dementia. A fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and the Gerontological Society of America, she has received numerous awards for her work in the field, including the Doris Schwartz Nursing Award from the Gerontological Society of America and the John A. Hartford Geriatric Nursing Research Award from the Eastern Nursing Research Society.

real world, how do you get people to use what we know works?" she says.

Dr. Kolanowski's work has focused on non-pharmacological interventions. Older people with dementia, she says, are especially sensitive to drugs, particularly anti-psychotics that are administered often for dementia symptoms. They increase risk of death and their sedative effect can result in falls and other injuries.

She said these drugs will not be eliminated and are sometimes necessary in the short-term for the safety of the patients and those around them. However, the patients are already on a number of other medications and reducing the number of drugs and interactions is better for them.

"Quite frankly, the evidence does not support that antipsychotic medications are effective," she says. "So it's important we look for other, non-drug ways of responding to these symptoms."

Dr. Kolanowski's research also has looked beyond the United States. She collaborates with researchers in the U.K., Germany, Australia and Canada. That work has given her a global perspective and she has seen that the problems faced by families and caregivers, as well as the symptoms of patients, are similar around the world.

The systems for research and care, however, are different, and international collaboration offers an opportunity to improve both. "Our systems are quite different — how we fund our health care and how much access people have to services," she says. "That's a big difference, and we learn from each other. For example, the U.K. is far ahead of us, and so is Germany, I would say, regarding person-centered care.

We're just recently getting caught up there, so we have a lot to learn from them. And they really like our research methodology. We might be a little further ahead, and we certainly have more funding for research."

From her beginnings working to understand dementia to her international efforts, Dr. Kolanowski has decades of research to her credit, but her long-term goal remains consistent. She wants to prepare caregivers to promote quality of life, so that even those in late stages of dementia can live well.

Moreover, she wants to help the next generation of researchers reach new heights for improving life for people with dementia. That sense of care for patients stems from her time at Misericordia, which stressed the values of dignity and personhood of everyone nurses care for.

"I really recognized how well-prepared I was because of Misericordia, not just academically, but also around having these values instilled in us, which today is so critically important," she says. "It was just part of the experience and I can't thank Misericordia enough for that. When I went to Penn State, when I went to NYU, I saw the value of a Misericordia education."

Misericordia is also where she first found her passion for research. At the time, research courses were not a normal part of nursing instruction, but a faculty member involved her class in a research project and inspired her.

"A lot points back to my experience at Misericordia," she says. "It had a profound impact on my life and career." **H**

HEEDING THE EXAMPLE OF 'RESPONSIVENESS TO NEED'

The future of College of Saint Mary is bright thanks to the leadership of Dr. Maryanne Stevens '71, RSM

BY GEOFF RUSHTON

**Maryanne
Stevens '71,
Ph.D., RSM**

MATHEMATICS
& SOCIOLOGY

When Maryanne Stevens '71, Ph.D., RSM, was appointed president of the College of Saint Mary in 1996, it was an institution on the brink. At the time, the all-women's college in Omaha, Neb., had an \$11 million budget — and \$5 million in debt, including \$2.5 million on an athletic building constructed without funding commitments and another \$2.5 million in operating debt.

Now 22 years later, the college is thriving and serving populations in need under the leadership of Dr. Stevens, who graduated from Misericordia in 1971 with bachelor's degrees in mathematics and sociology.

"Little by little you just keep putting one foot in front of the other," Stevens says today. "We did say we would do everything we could to turn it around, but if we couldn't we would sell what assets we had, which wouldn't have been much, but we would have sold what assets we had and put it into a foundation for women's education. But we didn't need to do that."

As the college has grown, Dr. Stevens has overseen special initiatives to ensure single mothers and immigrant women can pursue higher education. As they have throughout her life and leadership, the tenets and values of the Sisters of Mercy have shaped those efforts.

Fresh out of Mercy High School in Omaha, she entered the novitiate there in 1966 and began her studies at the College of Saint Mary. However, after some school consolidation, she went to then-College Misericordia for her final two years of college. Stevens lived in Rosary Hall on Lake Street, fitting given her later work for single mothers and the house's later use for Misericordia University's Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program.

"What I really remember is being very appropriately challenged. They had some amazing professors," she says about her academic experience at Misericordia. "I think I really learned and grew from the experience of being there. Most of the people I knew were the Sisters of Mercy, so I didn't get to know the other students as well. But it was a great experience in a beautiful area of the country."

After earning her bachelor's degree, Stevens taught at McAuley High School in Joplin, Mo., for four years before earning her master's in theology at St. Louis University, then her Ph.D. at Boston College.

She went on to teach at Creighton University, also in Omaha, for 10 years and served on the board at the College of Saint Mary. In the spring of 1996, the college needed new leadership, and they turned to a familiar face.

"The college was struggling at the time," she acknowledges. "It was really in very difficult straits. They asked if I would be willing to be president and I said, 'Well, you know, I have a job.' I came over here in the evening, and I really think it was a calling. I walked around and thought, I probably could do this and maybe this is what I needed to be doing."

Righting the ship was a team effort, not only from those within the college, but outside as well. Dr. Stevens brought



College of Saint
Mary President
Maryanne Stevens
'71, Ph.D., RSM

together a group of women from the Omaha region who gave input, advice and support on how to shape the institution's future.

Today, the college of 1,143 students has no debt. No projects are financed without first having the money pledged. Every building on campus has been renovated. Faculty and staff have received raises every year. In addition, the student population has transitioned from being about one-third full-time students to nearly 90 percent full time.

"We're in pretty good shape," she says, proudly.

Over the past 22 years, new academic programs have been added, including, most recently, a physician assistant program and an occupational therapy doctorate program. The school has advanced with technology as well, adding online and hybrid courses. And the school supports tuition for four sisters from African nations.

Perhaps the college's most notable achievements, however, are its programs for single mothers and for Nebraska's growing Latino immigrant population. The Mothers Living & Learning Program has become renowned for helping single parents be able to complete their college education, but it all started with one student who lived in the residence hall and came to Dr. Stevens during her junior year. The student was pregnant and did not know how she would be able to return for her senior year with her baby.

The president had read about how Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pa., then an all-women's school, had purchased a house for students with children to live while attending the school. She sent her residence life staff to Wilson to learn about how it worked.

"There were really only two rules: the children cannot be in class and they cannot be unaccompanied," Stevens explains.

College of St. Mary's main building had significant space and at one time had been a RSM novitiate, so it was equipped for residency. The school started its single mothers' program with those two rules learned at Wilson. Students would pay their regular tuition, with whatever financial aid they would normally receive, but their children could live and eat there free.

There were eight students enrolled during the first year of the program. That grew to 37, and eventually, a new, freestanding residence hall, Madonna Hall, was constructed. It has room for 45 and in 2018-19 has 36 students with 40 children living it.

"One of the things the Sisters of Mercy are known for because of Catherine McAuley's legacy is really response to need," Dr. Stevens says. "Catherine McAuley didn't sit around and say, 'Oh, what am I going to do now?' Needs came to her and she felt compelled to find a way to respond to them. The single mothers program here is no different."

That responsiveness also led to the college's outreach to immigrants. With Nebraska's only real population growth at the time coming from Latino immigrants, the school hired a recruiter specifically for Latina students and had translation services for parents. About eight years ago, the recruiter approached Dr. Stevens about two students who excelled



College of Saint Mary President Maryanne Stevens '71, Ph.D., RSM, stands with students during the Latina Summer Academy, a week-long event each summer which invites Latina high school students to campus for engaging activities centered around STEM fields.

academically, but who were undocumented and would not be able to access federal financial aid.


"So it was going to be a real burden for them to come to school, but they were good students," Stevens recalls. "I went and raised money for them to come, and now we have raised enough money that we have about 35 undocumented students on campus. Their tuition, room and board is paid for by donors."

Each of the students is required to do campus community service, which reduces their tuition bill. They still have to pay for their own books and a base retainer fee they are responsible for annually.

"The legacy of Catherine McAuley is responsiveness to need and one of the things I'm proud to say the College of Saint Mary has been doing over the years is responding to need," Stevens says. "Sometimes that's the personal need of a student, sometimes that's the need of the city, or the needs in terms of service our students perform, or the needs of industry. I think that responsiveness to need and being aware of need is a sort of a hallmark of the leadership I have tried to inspire here."

That responsiveness is manifested in a milestone that happens each year, when students cross the stage to receive their degrees and Dr. Stevens can shake their hands and say, "We believe in you."

In the course of 22 years, Dr. Stevens said she feels as if she has presided over about four different colleges in the same location as the school has grown and not only come back from that brink, but become a success story. Her vision in 1996 was a narrow one: keep the College of Saint Mary going. Now her vision for the school is much wider, and much brighter.

"It's becoming even more clear to me that women make a very significant difference in the world if they know their voice, if they know who they are, what they want and what they can contribute," she says. "My vision is that we have a thriving campus community of women who are supportive of one another as well as have a sense of confidence, courage and faith as they walk into the future." 

RESEARCH + REINFORCEMENT

Study targets comprehension of misunderstood communication disorder

BY GEOFF RUSHTON

Cecelia Cronin '18, M.S., C.F.-S.L.P., knows firsthand the important role a speech-language pathologist can play in a child's life. When she was young, Cronin could not pronounce 'R's, and the speech therapist she worked with became a valuable part of her life.

Cecelia Cronin '18

SPEECH-
LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGY

best of their abilities, I was drawn to the field for that reason, to be able to help them communicate their wants, needs and feelings to the best that they possibly can."

A graduate of the master's degree program in speech-language pathology, Cronin now is an itinerant speech-language pathologist in the Tunkhannock Area School District, evaluating and treating students from kindergarten through fourth grade for articulation issues, language and fluency disorders, as well as working with children with intellectual disabilities.

Her desire to help children with the effects of speech-language issues led to her master's thesis study on the life impacts of a disorder that is not well understood and has been the subject of limited research.

Central Auditory Processing Disorder (CAPD), also known as Auditory Processing Disorder (APD), occurs when an individual cannot process the information they hear in the same way as others. Though someone with CAPD has average to above average intelligence, their brain takes in the

"He improved my confidence in speaking and he really made a difference," Cronin says. "For me, just being able to make a difference and allowing children to communicate to the



Cecelia Cronin '18, M.S., C.F.-S.L.P., poses for a picture in front of Roslund Elementary School (newly named Tunkhannock Area Primary Center) in the Tunkhannock Area School District.

information it hears differently. CAPD can have impacts in the classroom and at home, affecting memory and the ability to follow directions. The disorder can also have an impact on a variety of academic subject areas, such as reading comprehension.

It is not hearing loss or a hearing disorder, although an audiologist diagnoses CAPD. The Misericordia University Speech-Language and Hearing Center offers diagnostic evaluation and intervention for CAPD, and it's where Cronin recruited many of the participants in her study.

Cronin explained that those with CAPD have normal peripheral hearing skills and can engage in one-on-one conversations. It often presents in situations with multiple speakers or background noise, since the individual has difficulty filtering out competing sounds and information.

"CAPD is not just difficulty in noise, but is difficulty with interpretation of what they hear," Cronin explains. "A lot of different areas can combine to create that difficulty in interpreting."

Five main areas can create difficulty for students with CAPD. The first is auditory figure-ground problems, when a child is unable to process all of the

information they are hearing because of background noise.

The second is auditory memory problems, where a child has difficulty remembering – either immediately or delayed – information they have heard, making things such as recalling directions and lists a challenge.

Another difficult area is auditory discrimination problems – when a student has difficulty interpreting similar words or sounds. For example, he or she might not be able to distinguish the 'k' sound in "cat" and instead interpret it as "bat."

"This can also affect their ability to follow directions and their performance in academic areas of reading, spelling and writing," Cronin says.

The fourth area is auditory attention problems, when a child cannot remain focused on listening long enough to complete a task. That makes listening to a teacher, and keeping up with the class, difficult for students with CAPD.

The final problem area is auditory cohesion. Understanding riddles, non-literal language such as idioms and verbal math problems all require higher-level auditory processing and language skills. For a child with auditory figure and discrimination problems, high-level listening tasks will be even more difficult.

"For a lot of people, parents and teachers, the deficits related to auditory processing disorders often look like just a normal language deficit or ADHD sometimes," Cronin explains. "It's kind of masked and it's difficult for some people to really realize."

CAPD is difficult to diagnose and there is some debate over whether it is its own, standalone disorder, or whether it is presenting symptoms of different disorders.

= UNDERSTANDING

Cronin, though, said there are indicators that SLPs, parents and teachers can be aware of to refer a child for further evaluation. They include a drop in grades around second and third grade, when students need to rely more on processing auditory information. A difficulty, and later a distaste for, reading and a need for heavy repetition or supplemental support from a teacher or parent are also indicators.

"A CAPD student may say, 'Oh, I wasn't listening. I missed that, can you repeat it?'" Cronin said. "Some teachers may say, 'Well why weren't you listening? You need to pay attention.' But if you were seeing a massive drop in their grades or especially difficulty with reading comprehension, that's where it differs from an attention disorder."

There is no "gold standard" treatment method for CAPD, largely because it is a relatively new diagnosis. However, Cronin said, there are a few different types of treatment, which are often combined for the best method for an individual child.

Direct skills remediation is a "bottom-up" approach that aims to reduce or resolve CAPD. These can include auditory training, such as acoustic signal enhancement in which a student uses an FM system to amplify the teacher's voice. The approach also can utilize preferential seating and visual aids.

Compensatory strategies are a "top-down" approach designed to minimize the impact of CAPD and focuses on memory, language and attention skills.

"This type of approach focuses on improving metacognitive and metalinguistic skills that work to monitor the child's comprehension of the spoken word and regulate their retention abilities, but independently," Cronin explains. "It's a self-awareness, giving them the power to monitor what they're missing."

That can include various ways of using context and problem solving or, for example, teaching the child to ask for repetition or for written instructions.

A third strategy is environmental modification, which utilizes both direct skills and compensatory strategies.

"Often times professionals will mix the two, give the child that self-awareness, self-regulatory ability while still using an FM system or having them sit in the front of the classroom, kind of mixing them together to best serve the student," Cronin says.

Her study did not provide for a specific treatment plan, but focused on the life impacts of CAPD and the need for assistance and structured treatment. Cronin interviewed children with CAPD

and their families, and found the disorder affected performance at school, at home and in social situations. She also found common themes in what worked to help them in a challenging listening environment.

Children who participated in her study stated they benefitted from the compensatory strategies of asking for repetitions in the classroom, using written directions and visual aids, and using a planner to keep their day organized.

Conducting the study and the University's emphasis on research were vital to Cronin as she embarked on her professional career because they instilled in her the need to constantly be searching for answers on how to best treat the students she is helping. [h](#)



Cecelia Cronin '18, M.S., C.F. S.L.P., an itinerant speech language pathologist for the Tunkhannock Area School Districts works with some of her students in the Tunkhannock Area Primary Center.

Eva's message of hope and forgiveness

Continued from page 2

I found myself baffled that any Holocaust deniers still exist, as the evidence is compelling, overwhelming and haunting.

Those feelings were amplified in what is arguably the most poignant exhibit: Shoah, in Block 27. Everything in this building is geared toward remembering – from survivors' testimonies to drawings made by children during the Holocaust to the Book of Names, listing the known names of 4.2 million Jews killed during the Holocaust (and blank pages for another 1.8 million who have not been identified). Most moving is one of the first rooms, which is dark, long, and only has two doorways to enter and exit. In this space, home movies (from the 1920s and 30s) play, showing the happy, ordinary lives of those who will later be imprisoned and murdered during the Holocaust. The movies depict birthday parties, picnics, meals, holidays, etc. – and the profoundness of it all washed over me: I could have been watching my family's picnics, my kids' birthday parties. I could not restrain my emotions any more, and I cried – for those in the movies, for those not in the movies, for the loss of such joy, potential and life. During this moment of unabashed weeping, a Davidson College basketball player walked over to me and hugged me without saying a word: this simple act proved that empathy and humanity is still our greatest hope in the face of hate.

That hope burns most brightly with Eva Kor. Having heard her story at Misericordia in September 2017 – and having had the privilege of speaking with her privately on several occasions I knew her message of forgiveness, of remembering, and of hope. But how poignant that message



As viewed from the Birkenau guard tower, more than 40 sets of train tracks, top, led to the selection platform at Auschwitz where Eva Kor and 1.1 million Jews and Poles were separated from their families and either selected for work, medical experimentation or sent to death in the gas chambers.

A view inside the barracks at Birkenau, which housed 500 prisoners. Each bunk slept 5-6 prisoners.



felt when she shared her story on the platform in Birkenau, where she was separated from her parents and two older sisters forever. How much more striking that message became when she had us walk between the barbed wire fences at Auschwitz, in memory of her own liberation. And how utterly timely and pressing that message became when we lit candles at the International Monument at Birkenau, in memory of those who were murdered, of past atrocities, and of current injustices perpetrated against those who have done nothing wrong, but have been dehumanized for their desire for a better, safer life.

Chemist, author, and Holocaust survivor Primo Levi said of the Holocaust: "It happened, therefore it can happen again: this is the core of what we have to say. It can happen, and it can happen everywhere." Auschwitz is a pervasive reminder of the human capacity to hate, to hurt, and to destroy. The calculated hatred of the Nazis is almost unbearable to imagine and to witness, and connections to current injustices are a reminder of the power of language and persuasion.

Genocide is neither accidental nor sudden: it begins with subtle phrases of prejudice that become developed language of dehumanization and cruelty that lead to the justification of discrimination and extermination. But the pivotal word in Levi's quote is "can." Within his quote is the collective responsibility we have to bear witness, to learn, and to be vigilant against prejudice.

To remember is to honor those who perished and to ensure the injustices inflicted on them is not repeated. Not everyone can visit Auschwitz but everyone can learn and can remember, so that we as humanity can be known not by our capacity to hate but by our ability to survive, to learn, and to love. [h](#)

Warm welcome

A new community park at the intersection of Lake Street and State Route 415 in Dallas Borough is just one of the many new infrastructure changes that are taking place on and around the Misericordia University campus in anticipation of the construction of the Frank M. and Dorothea Henry Science Center.

Offering a picturesque new gateway to campus, the nearly one-acre park is adjacent to the new PennDOT roundabout, and will offer sidewalks, trees, shrubbery and 71 parking spaces for students, patrons and local citizens in service to downtown businesses. New sidewalks will connect the parking area to newly installed crosswalks and splitter islands, providing greater safety for pedestrians crossing the highway. The parking spaces also will help alleviate parking congestion on the upper campus while construction of the

Henry Science Center is underway. The University purchased a number of dilapidated commercial properties located on the pie-shaped parcel to make way for the park in 2017.

"The project will enhance handicap-accessibility, provide great safety for pedestrians and provide additional parking for students of Misericordia and residents of Dallas Borough and surrounding communities," said Mark Van Etten, vice president of Finance and Administration at Misericordia University. "We expect construction on the park to be completed by August."

In addition to the park, work is nearly complete on the 2,142-foot long sidewalk that runs along Lake Street from the Arch to the North Gate entrance. The University received



Aerial view shows the new traffic roundabout at the intersection of Lake Street and state Route 415 and the area under development that will become the Lake Street Park.

\$320,870 from the state Department of Community and Economic to complete this second phase of the sidewalk project. Phase I of the project was completed in 2016 with construction of a sidewalk along Lake Street from the Arch south to the intersection of E. Center Hill Road. [h](#)

Spengler '36 Scholarship Benefactors

Continued from page 10

to the Board of Trustees. Misericordia honored Mrs. Spengler in 1985 by presenting her with the Mother Catherine McGann Alumni Award for professional achievement. In 1988, she received the McAuley Medal for compassion and service, the highest honor presented by Misericordia.

Known as Peg by friends and family, she contributed \$50,000 to Misericordia by way of an annuity to the Advancing the Vision campaign. Among the projects supported was a major renovation to the administration building, which resulted in the creation of the Founders Room in the newly named Mercy Hall. A narrative written by Peg detailing the accomplishments of the women who founded the college was created as a part of the room's redecoration. Peg died suddenly, just days before she was to participate in the 2002 dedication.

Upon her passing, her husband initiated the Margaret Husic Spengler

'36 Scholarship at Misericordia in his wife's honor. The scholarship is awarded annually to first-year students with financial need who have an interest in writing, English or communications. The award follows the students to graduation as long as satisfactory academic progress is made. The two current student recipients of the Spengler '36 Scholarship are Kailene Nye of Lebanon, Pa., a first-year mass communications and design major, and Noni Silas of Greenbelt, Md., a sophomore majoring in English.

The University annually honors friends and alumni at the brunch who have demonstrated outstanding generosity in support of students and student scholarships at Misericordia University. The brunch brings the students together with the benefactors who made the scholarships they receive possible. More than 280 Misericordia students received

endowed or named scholarships in the 2017-18 academic year.

"We are so very appreciative of the generosity and support of the entire Spengler family, whose actions mean so much to the student scholarship recipients each year," said Susan Helwig, vice president of University Advancement at Misericordia University. "Endowed scholarships make a lasting impact on the lives of generations of students, not just this year, but into perpetuity."

Dr. Kenneth Spengler, Sr., was executive director of the American Meteorological Society (AMS) for 45 years. An AMS award is given annually in his name to an individual, team or organization whose efforts have contributed to the growth of the AMS organization. He passed away in 2010.

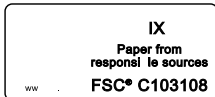
The couple's son, John Spengler, Ph.D., shared his family's love and appreciation for Misericordia and its educational mission when he served as keynote speaker for the University's second annual winter commencement ceremony in December 2012. [h](#)



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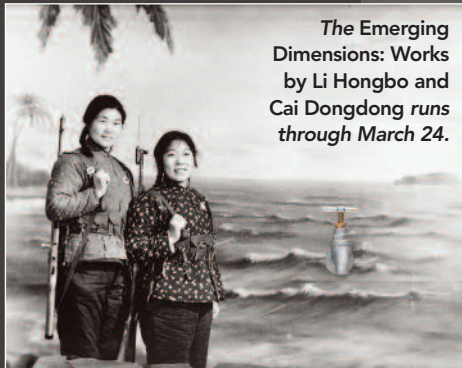
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The Emerging Dimensions: Works by Li Hongbo and Cai Dongdong runs through March 24.

Through March 24

Emerging Dimensions: Works by Li Hongbo and Cai Dongdong
Pauly Friedman Art Gallery
Contemporary Chinese exhibit featuring the use of paper in new and exciting ways. Demonstrations: Fridays, 10 a.m., and 12 and 2 p.m.

Feb. 20

I Am Not Your Negro

Black History Month film about James Baldwins unfinished book about his close friends: Medgar Evers, Malcolm X and Martin Luther King, Jr. 6 p.m. Lemmond Theater. Discussion led by Ryan Watson, Ph.D., assistant professor. Info: (570) 674 6309.

Feb. 26

Defining Autism: From Nonverbal to Professional Speaker

Best selling author Kerry Magro

keynotes the Autism Speaker Series. Diagnosed with autism at age 4, Magro is founder of KFM Making a Difference. 6:30 p.m. Lemmond Theater. Register, at misericordia.edu/autismevent, or call 570 674 6441.

March 15, Friday

Pauly Friedman Art Gallery 10th Anniversary Reception

Sponsored by Soyka Fund for the Humanities and the Sandra Dyczewski Maffei

Endowment Fund. 5 7 p.m. Art Gallery. Contact: Lalaine Little at 570 674 6250 or llittle@misericordia.edu.

March 18, Monday

Poet Angelo Alaimo O'Donnell Poetry Reading

Sponsored by the Soyka Fund for the Humanities, Founders Room, Mercy Hall, 4 5 p.m. Contact: Dr. Matthew Nickel, mnickel@misericordia.edu.

April 13

Bunny Brunch & Easter Egg Hunt

Meet the Easter Bunny, have brunch, and participate in egg hunt. Photo packages available for purchase. Insalaco Hall, 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. \$15 for adults; \$8 for children 5 12 years, free to children under 5. Registration required at misericordia.edu/bunny brunch or 570 674 1225.

April 11 14

Jesus Christ Superstar

Andrew Lloyd Weber's megahit presented by the Misericordia Players. Lemmond Theater. April 11 13, 8 p.m.; April 14, 2 p.m. Tickets at box office.

April 17

Community Choir Spring Concert

\$5 general admission; \$3 alumni and employees; students and veterans are free. Tickets: 570 674 1225 or at box office evening of the concert. 7:30 p.m., Lemmond Theater.

April 26

Jazz Series: Music Through Time

Musical artists John Maurer and pianist Nate Petley present works from Baroque, classical, and more eras. Sponsored by Soyka Fund for the Humanities. Free. 6 p.m. Lemmond Theater.

May 10

Gabriel Bernabeo Distinguished Speaker Series

Speakers Drs. Kathleen Scaler Scott and Glen Tellis present, *Real Life Solutions to Working with Clients with Fluency Disorders*. 9 a.m. 2 p.m., Insalaco Hall. Register: misericordia.edu/dss.

Aug. 4

Pauly Friedman 5K Walk/Run

Sept. 24

Athletics Dept. Golf Tournament

At Huntsville Golf Club, call 570 674 6374 to make reservations.

SEE NEW PLACES! MEET NEW PEOPLE!

2019 Tours with a Difference

Misericordia.edu/tourswithadifference

March 14 25

Spanish Splendors

Featuring Malaga, Torremolinos, Granada, Ronda, Cordoba, Seville, Madrid, Salamanca, Avila, Segovia, The Valley of the Fallen, and Toledo \$2,995

June 19 30

Paris, Brittany, Normandy, and Amsterdam

Featuring Paris, The Loire Valley, Chambord, Amboise, Carnac, St. Malo, Guernsey Island, Normandy Landing Beaches, Rouen, Bruges, Amsterdam, and Volendam \$3,495

Sept. 12 23

Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Berlin

Featuring Riga, Vilnius, Krakow, Wroclaw, Lower Silesia, Berlin and Postdam \$3,395

Nov. 29 Dec. 9

Christmas Magic at the Markets

Featuring Austria and Germany \$2,995

Coming in 2020

Passion Play tour (call for details)

(All rates are based on double occupancy)

Contact: Dr. Marie Noël Keller, RSM, Host
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