

# Misericordia

SUMMER 2011

Today



## FIRST AND TEN

Pages 38-39





Charles 'Rusty' Flack  
1955-2011

## 'Rusty' Flack remembered as a community leader, humanitarian

### Served MU for 14 years as a member of the BOT

Charles "Rusty" Flack, Jr., 56, chairman of Diamond Consolidated Industries in Wyoming, Pa., and a former member of the Misericordia Board of Trustees died at home Thursday, May 26 after battling cancer.

Mr. Flack of Lehman Township, Pa., was a well-known entrepreneur, humanitarian, philanthropist and civic leader who provided invaluable leadership to Misericordia for many years. He was on the Board of Trustees from 1988-93 and from 2000-09, serving as the vice chair of the financial stability committee. He continued to serve Misericordia as chair of the board's investment committee up until the time of his death. His business expertise and leadership were vital to Misericordia during pivotal years in the institution's history as it transitioned to university status and to the nationally recognized and regionally acclaimed University it is today.

"I cannot tell you how many times he lifted my spirits and those of others at Misericordia," said Michael A. MacDowell, president of Misericordia University. "When he rejoined the Trustees in 2000, he brought with him an excitement and can-do attitude that pervaded all that we undertook. There were some difficult times, but Rusty saw us through. He had an uncanny ability to see the good in people, yet he suffered fools easily.

"It was that knack for compassionate and wise management that served Misericordia so well. We were blessed to have him as a Trustee. So many people have said so much about Dr. Rusty that additional words seem redundant. But the man who helped make a company, a University, a prep school, a community foundation, a church and a hospital what they are today deserves much thanks and praise."

Mr. Flack was also an ardent supporter of the Misericordia University Women with Children Program, which provides an opportunity for academically qualified single mothers an opportunity to earn their bachelor's degree while living on campus with their children. "At a Trustee meeting, Rusty listened to one of the first students participating in Women with Children tell about how she and her daughter lived from hand to mouth trying to decide if they could eat or pay the rent," the president recalled.

"Then she came to Misericordia and her life changed. When the student was finished, I looked over at Rusty. This mountain of a man had tears in his eyes," he added.

In addition to Misericordia, Mr. Flack also sat on the boards of The Luzerne Foundation, Oak Lawn Cemetery, Wyoming Seminary, Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business

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## Misericordia presents 'Rusty' Flack with Doctor of Humane Letters degree

Misericordia presented Charles "Rusty" Flack with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree at the 85th annual Commencement ceremony May 21. The following is the citation President Michael A. MacDowell read to the graduates and audience members in attendance:

Charles "Rusty" Flack, Jr., as an entrepreneur, civic leader and philanthropist, you have provided invaluable leadership to Misericordia University and all of Northeastern Pennsylvania for many years.

After earning your bachelor's degree in economics from Susquehanna University, you soon applied your business skills and leadership to Diamond Consolidated Industries as its Chairman. Along with your partner and brother Harold, you rescued Diamond from a difficult financial time and have subsequently built it into the largest supplier of perforated metal in North America. Diamond's products are seen in industrial, architectural, and design applications around the world.

While becoming one of our area's most successful business leaders, you demonstrated your immense capacity for servant leadership by directing numerous non-profit organizations in Wyoming Valley and beyond. You received the Community Service Award from B'nai B'rith for unselfish giving and promoting the highest interests of humanity. You also earned the Luzerne Foundation's Mary Bevevino Community Service Award and you and your family received the Outstanding Philanthropist Award from the Association of Fund Raising Professionals.

You serve as Chairman of the Board of your prep school alma mater, Wyoming Seminary and you served as chairman of the Luzerne Foundation. You also chaired the Board of Wyoming Valley Health Care System and remain as chair of the Apple Seed Foundation, which supports health and education related initiatives in Luzerne County.

Misericordia benefited directly from your expertise and leadership as a member of the

Board of Trustees for a combined 15 years and you continue to serve today as chair of the board's investment committee. You helped transition Misericordia during pivotal years to the nationally recognized and regionally acclaimed University it is today and take justifiable pride in its accomplishments.

Mr. Flack, you have accomplished much in your professional career. Your innate abilities and desire to succeed, combined with your caring for others, reflect the values of a Misericordia education and those of our founders and sponsors, the Sisters of Mercy. Along with your wife, Kathi Stine Flack, and your children, Chad, Jamie and Alex, Misericordia is proud to call you neighbor and friend. And so by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Board of Trustees of Misericordia University, I do hereby confer upon Charles "Rusty" Flack, Jr., the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, *Honoris Causa*, with all the rights, honors and privileges thereto appertaining.



# Misericordia Today

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### Misericordia Today

Jim Roberts, **Director, Marketing Communications**, jroberts@misericordia.edu  
Paul Krzywicki, **Editor**, pkrzywic@misericordia.edu

**Contributing Writers:** Scott Crispell, Jim Roberts and Marianne Tucker Puhalla

**Class Notes:** Lailani Augustine, laugusti@misericordia.edu

**Contributing Photographers:** Scott Crispell, Paul Krzywicki, Earl & Sedor Photographic, Charlotte Bartizek, Jack Kelly and Virginia Conrad

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Have a story to share? Contact the editor at pkrzywic@misericordia.edu or mail us at Misericordia Today, 301 Lake St., Dallas, PA 18612-1090.



Winter 2011 Issue

Dear Misericordia University Alumni,

Due to an editor's error in the winter edition of Misericordia Today, an incorrect version of the Alumni News column was published. It is our policy to correct mistakes when they occur. The winter edition contained an older, out dated column by Alumni Board President Helene Flower Reed '66.

Please go to ([www.misericordia.edu/mutoday](http://www.misericordia.edu/mutoday)) to read the correct column. To read Mrs. Reed's latest column, please turn to page 28 of this edition. Thank you for your continued readership. And most importantly, thank you for being Misericordia Proud!

Sincerely,  
Paul Krzywicki, Editor



## The charisms of business

Misericordia's Trinity of Learning—high quality academics, superb career preparation and honing within each student the passion to serve others—is exemplified in a variety of our majors, not the least of which are those in the Business Department. Just like the graduates of other good business programs, our graduates have gone on to establish businesses and to apply their entrepreneurial talents in a variety of fields. But what makes MU business graduates different is their passion to serve others, buttressed by a deep sense of ethical behavior in all their business endeavors. You will see that the charisms that so well define Misericordia are embedded within the stories of our business graduates in this issue of *Misericordia Today*.

Many schools can produce fine accountants, business managers, human resource professionals and marketing experts, but few can produce those who so readily give back to their communities as does Misericordia. These same graduates can be counted upon to stand up for ethical behavior in all that they undertake.

Faculty who teach in the business program at Misericordia come to their disciplines with outstanding credentials. Most of them also have many years experience in the business world where they practiced what they now teach. This gives Misericordia's business students an outstanding theoretical and applied educational experience. What is unique about the Misericordia experience is that our faculty members also care deeply about the values of this Mercy institution and practice them in many ways. Dr. John Kachurick, a longtime professor of business management, has been involved with a variety of mission trips to Guyana. One of our newest faculty members, Dr. Tim Kearney, accompanied the director of Mission Integration, Sister Bernadette Duross, RSM, on a Mission Formation Retreat for the Conference for Mercy Higher Education. Dr. Al Minor, whose expertise in health care management is renowned, donates many hours to the local Boy Scouts. And chair of the Business Department, Dr. John Sumansky, is the recipient of a Fulbright and Eisenhower Fellowship and served in Macedonia and in the Czech and Slovak republics, helping to create entrepreneurs who care deeply about serving others.

Our graduate business programs also reflect a deep sense of ethical service to others. MU's MBA program is built on a foundation of business ethics. Many excellent business schools now provide an ethics course, but there are few institutions in which ethics serve as the basis for an entire business curriculum.

In the mid 18th century the Scottish philosopher and father of modern capitalism, Adam Smith, wrote *The Wealth of Nations*. Smith was the first to formally outline the power of market economics as the driver behind building a nation's wealth. What is not as well known is that 17 years earlier, Smith also wrote another book, *The Theory of Moral Sentiments*. In it, he emphasized that it was the inherent nature of humankind to act in a moral manner and to support others in need. At Misericordia, we not only teach about how markets and businesses operate, but we shape a student's experience with the precepts of Smith's *Moral Sentiments* and, more importantly, with the charisms of our founders and sponsors, the Sisters of Mercy.

*MA MacDowell*

[mmacdowe@misericordia.edu](mailto:mmacdowe@misericordia.edu)

### Continued from page 2

and Industry and the Wyoming Valley Health Care System. His philanthropy and leadership were also acknowledged in notable awards and honors. He and his family received the Outstanding Philanthropist Award from the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Northeastern Pennsylvania in 2001; the Community Service Award from the Seligman J. Strauss Lodge No. 139 of B'nai B'rith in 2004; the Outstanding Alumni Award from Susquehanna University in 2005; the Entrepreneur of the Year Award from Junior Achievement in 2007; the Mary Bevevino Community

Memorial contributions may be made to the Charles Flack Scholarship Fund at Misericordia University, 301 Lake St., Dallas, PA 18612-1090.

Service Award from the Luzerne Foundation in 2009; and in 2011 Misericordia University presented him with an honorary doctor of Humane Letters degree at the 85th annual Commencement ceremony.

Diamond Consolidated Industries is the largest supplier of perforated metals in North America. He has led the business since 1979 with his brother, Harold Flack. In 2001, Diamond was listed as one of the best places to work in Pennsylvania.

Mr. Flack earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Susquehanna University. He is survived by his wife, Kathi Stine Flack, and three children, Chad, Jamie and Alex; mother, Joan Flack Nusbaum, and his brother, Hal, a member of the Misericordia Board of Trustees.

In summing up a wonderful life of service to the University, President MacDowell said, "Thank you Dr. Rusty for what you brought to Misericordia and to so many other institutions and organizations. And thank you as well for the many people you touched and for the institutions you helped to lead. They will live long beyond your all too short time with us."



# 'Life path' leads alumna to help others in need

Elizabeth Glosser's '61 youth was challenging, to put it mildly. At five, she lost her mother and seven years later her father passed away. Living with her maternal grandmother and several aunts, who provided much love, she had to work to support herself.

"It was my life path that drove me to succeed," Glosser says. "I was a poor kid, who never internalized or really believed that I was poor. I started working part-time jobs when I was 14 and continued through college."

Today, she's living on the New Jersey shore — where she's lived for 50 years — with her dogs, Chipper and Jasper, spending time with friends and doing volunteer work with various organizations, including the Catholic Daughters of the Americas. It's a rewarding point in a diverse life, but Glosser never forgets her roots and what it took to overcome the challenges.

Last year, she established the Elizabeth B. Glosser '61 Endowed Scholarship to be awarded to a Misericordia commuter student with financial need and who is a graduate of a parochial high school.

"It's important to me, because that's who I was," says Glosser, who graduated



Elizabeth Glosser '61 poses for a picture with her dogs, Chipper and Jasper.

from St. Vincent's High School in Plymouth, Pa. before attending Misericordia. "I was a 'day hop,' with no money. I received a full scholarship to Misericordia by competitive exam."

Glosser, who reveres and loves the Sisters of Mercy who mentored and educated her through high school and college, supported herself with jobs and a loan program at Misericordia funded by the National Defense Education Act. She earned degrees in French and math, after

four fun-filled, memorable years at MU. She recalls fondly interesting classes in organic chemistry and math, and formative experiences outside the classroom — from her daily commute with friends to campus, to basketball games, to campaigning for John F. Kennedy.

After graduating, she headed out on a career path in education, teaching math and French, and in 1965 received a Master's in Education in personnel and guidance from Rutgers University. She worked as a guidance counselor and teacher at high schools in New Jersey until 1971 when she moved on to a job in sales, and soon, management with Xerox. She received an MBA in management from Fairleigh Dickinson University in 1976.

She tried a short stint as an assistant professor of business at Marymount College. But that drive to succeed led her to a position as a personnel consultant, and soon after to founding The Executive Exchange Corp. in 1981, a firm specializing in recruiting information technology professionals, sales people and managers. She took full ownership of the business in 1986 and continues as owner and managing director today.

## Alumna honors parents through students

Growing up as the daughter of first-generation American, working-class parents, JoAnn Wolinsky '68 knows well the challenges and privileges of sending a child to college. The MU alumna says the success and comforts she enjoys were the results of her parents' hard work. To honor what they did for her, the retired special education teacher established the John W. and Josephine Piazza Wolinsky Scholarship in 2010, which will begin supporting students this fall.

"My mom worked in a dress factory and my dad was a carpenter who built homes," she says. "I was blessed with their hard labor. It's only right that I would honor them and hopefully leave a legacy in their name that would help someone else along."

Wolinsky grew up in Swoyersville, Pa., where her parents lived their entire lives. The first priority for the scholarship will be given to a student from Swoyersville, followed by a student from Wyoming Valley West High School, which serves the area, or a student from a Wilkes-Barre Area school, where Wolinsky spent her entire career as a special education teacher. She also requested that the

student come from a middle-income family and be involved in school and community service.

For Wolinsky, being able to attend Misericordia with her parents' support and with a scholarship meant she was able to have a more comfortable life than her parents. She was the first woman in either of her parents' families to attend college, and one of only two women from her graduating class at Swoyersville High School to attend college.

After receiving her BS in elementary education, she went on to earn an MS in special education from Bloomsburg University in 1971. She spent three decades as a special education teacher for Wilkes-Barre area schools.

Wolinsky retired in 1998 and spent time as a caregiver for her parents until they passed away. She says she decided to provide support for an MU student not only because she wished to aid a student like herself, but also because she is proud of how the University has developed.

"Today (Misericordia has) much more to offer," she says. "I like what's going on there. They are much more diversified and have more choices, yet they still are



JoAnn Wolinsky '68 poses for a picture with her parents, John W. and Josephine Piazza Wolinsky.

following the traditions of the Sisters of Mercy, which I think is important."

She has grown to admire the work of the Sisters of Mercy and has seen the impact they've made in communities. Their mission to help those in need was integral to Wolinsky's decision to establish a scholarship. "I think it's important to find that student who can use the help and then offer him or her the opportunity for a better quality of life so that the next generation may benefit as I have," she explains.



# WWC Program to be named at special event



Ruth  
Matthews  
Bourger

Misericordia University will formally name the Women with Children Program (WWC) the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program

in recognition of the Bourger family for their exceptional support to this novel and rewarding program. The naming will be announced at the Sisters Serving Sisters, Families Helping Families event on Sept. 10.

After my company sold and subsequently went public in 2003, I asked my daughters, Brenda and Blythe, to look for charities where we could make a difference, says John T. (Jack) Bourger, Ruth's son. I personally was interested in helping people so that they could support themselves. The girls learned from a minister at their church about the Women with Children Program at Misericordia and what a difference it made in the lives of single mothers. My mother was a stay at home mom, and my father and I were the focus of her life. I knew she would be thrilled to make a difference in the lives of these young women and help them become self sufficient.

The family's Brenda Blythe Trust issued a challenge grant to Misericordia in 2005 that offered to donate \$1 million to the WWC Program if the University was able to raise \$2 million within eight years. Within the first five years, Misericordia has raised \$1,636,274 and is striving to complete the challenge by the Jan. 31, 2013 deadline.

Brenda Bourger has her own Misericordia connection as her husband, Tony McGinley '04, earned a degree in management information systems at MU. Blythe is married to Jason Teeple.

Sisters of Mercy from left, Jeanne Marie Devaney, RSM '58, Mary Theresa Glynn, RSM '58; Madeline Gill, RSM '56; Mary Siena Finley, RSM '51; Joan Marie Broderick, RSM '62.



## 'Sisters Serving Sisters, Families Helping Families'

Special event to honor Sisters of Mercy and support new Sisters of Mercy Scholarship to benefit Women with Children Program

STORIES BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

When she founded the Sisters of Mercy in 1831, Catherine McAuley encouraged her followers to go out into the community and do good deeds, not live behind cloistered walls as other religious groups did. With that community minded directive, the order soon became known as the walking nuns. It was from these origins in Ireland, that the Sisters of Mercy came to the United States, and in Catherine McAuley's stead, started ministries addressing critical needs involving women and children around the world.

Those whose lives have been touched by a Sister of Mercy will have the chance to say thank you at a unique event on Saturday, Sept. 10 at 7 p.m. that will celebrate both the 180th anniversary of the founding of the Sisters of Mercy and a milestone in one of the order's most beneficial ministries, the 10th anniversary of the Women with Children (WWC) Program at Misericordia University.

All proceeds from the Sisters Serving Sisters, Families Helping Families, event will benefit the establishment of The Sisters of Mercy Scholarship for Women with Children at Misericordia University.

This is an opportunity to recognize the spirit of Catherine McAuley, whose drive and compassion led to the formation of the Sisters of Mercy, and those sisters whose foresight not only founded Misericordia but launched numerous remarkable missions throughout the region, says Sue Helwig, vice president of University Advancement.

We are also coming together to honor those who went above and beyond at Misericordia to create the unique WWC program, which attends to the needs of some of the most vulnerable in our community single mothers with children.

The celebration at the Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs, Plains Township, Pa., will also include a special announcement of the much

anticipated naming of the WWC Program as the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women with Children Program. We are hoping that members of the community and our alumni will take the opportunity to recognize a Sister of Mercy who was instrumental in their lives, Helwig adds. A variety of sponsorship opportunities are available.

The lineage of the RSMs in NEPA began with a group that settled first in Pittsburgh, Pa., then Hazleton, Pa., and later in Wilkes Barre, Pa., where they started St. Mary's High School. It was those sisters who first envisioned a college to serve the daughters of local coal miners in 1912. Their ideas were put on hold by World War I, but soon after, Misericordia opened in 1924.

I am constantly amazed by the insight and dedication of these women to start the first four year college in Luzerne County, says Jean Messaros, RSM '73, VP of student affairs at MU. They were all doctorally educated and took no salary so that their money went right into the running of the college.

It was under Sister Messaros' guidance WWC was established in 2000 to offer a support network and a place to live for single women with children pursuing a college education. By offering a safe and secure environment for these women to live, they can concentrate on earning a degree and bettering their lives. It is a way to break the cycle of poverty that so many single mothers face, Sister Messaros adds.

More information about the event is online at [www.misericordia.edu/wwc](http://www.misericordia.edu/wwc). Tickets are available by calling (570) 674-6719. Those who would like to honor an RSM who has impacted their life may sponsor their attendance at the dinner with a gift of \$125. You may also support the RSM Scholarship with a direct gift by returning a donation in the envelope inserted in this magazine.



# Love in Bloom

Enjoying summer blooms, from left, are Jean Kolojechick, Barbara Merdiushev, Lora Freifeld and Joanne Bittner; second row, Jeanne Van Duzer, Julie McMonagle, Louise Mattas, Lisa Lindquist and Barbara Soyka.

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

The creation of the Sister Regina Kelly, RSM Shakespeare Garden at Misericordia was a labor of love for those who knew and were inspired by the Shakespearean scholar, so it is no surprise that a similar inspiration provides the tender loving care needed for it to grow and thrive.

Surrounded by roses, herbs, narcissi, peonies and daffodils, members of the Back Mountain Bloomers Garden Club take weekly turns planting, weeding and pruning their most recent community service project. Founded in 1989 for those with a love of gardening, this

dedicated group gathers monthly to share information and has taken on a series of community projects, including restoration of the Bishop's Library Garden of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society.

So when master gardener Barbara Soyka, a Bloomer, Shakespeare aficionado and former student of Sister Kelly, asked if the Bloomers would be willing to manage the upkeep of the Shakespeare Garden as a community service, the answer was a resounding yes. Working in teams throughout the spring, summer and fall,

each Bloomer spends one morning a month rain or shine providing their expertise. The Garden was the brainchild of MU alumna Agnes Cardoni '69, a student of Sister Kelly. It took nearly six years of discussions, design work and fundraising efforts involving Sue Helwig, Barbara Merdiushev and Jeanne Van Duzer of the University Advancement Office, before the perfect setting was selected and plans were put in place. Located adjacent to Sandy and Marlene Insalaco Hall, the Garden was formally dedicated in June 2010.

## PROVIDING ALL-STAR SUPPORT

Jennifer Gehman '08 knows what it takes to be successful. During her career at Misericordia, she was a star athlete on the softball field, earning all-conference and Player of the Year honors, setting a host of school records and leading the Cougars to a pair of conference titles and NCAA tournament appearances.

An academic all-district honoree, she was just as accomplished in the classroom. She graduated summa cum laude with her master's degree in physical therapy, which led to her current work as a physical therapist at Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Hospital in Allentown, Pa. She says that the generosity of others helped her achieve success at Misericordia and beyond, and so she has become a donor to the University to pass that help along to a new generation of students.

"I received a generous amount in scholarships to attend Misericordia, which made it easier for me and which made me

### PROFILES IN GIVING



Jennifer Gehman '08 is helping future students by giving back to MU.

want to give back when I was able," says Gehman, whose parents, Barry R. and Sharon Gehman, became donors to the University while Jennifer was a student. "My parents and grandparents instilled in me the need to give back, and this is just my way of giving back to help students the same way I was helped."

At Good Shepherd, Gehman has worked primarily with patients facing neurological issues, currently in the brain injury unit helping patients with traumatic and non-traumatic brain injuries. She says her time at MU gave her the ability to handle the challenges of her profession.

"I feel it prepared me, in terms of knowing measures and diagnoses and treatment," she says. "Clinicals provided something that books could not, and it was really about putting everything together. I was really prepared with the knowledge to treat a variety of diagnoses and populations."

In choosing to attend Misericordia, Gehman said she was drawn to its strong five-year master's program in physical therapy. Although she is Mennonite, she also was attracted to and believes in the values of the Sisters of Mercy.

"I really liked the focus on service and the mission of charity in their work," she says. "I also come from a strong community and I didn't want to go somewhere where I would just be a number."





# Kristopher B. Jones, J.D.

## Board of Trustees

BY JIM ROBERTS

It wasn't the founders of Google that said, seek and ye shall find, but perhaps it could have been. In today's Internet age, the power of search engines helps web users access the information, products and services they seek—even before they've finished typing. Kristopher B. Jones, J.D., a member of Misericordia University's Board of Trustees, launches entrepreneurial initiatives that harness the power of Internet search and other attributes of the World Wide Web.

Jones is the former president and CEO of Pepperjam, a full service Internet marketing agency and affiliate network he founded in 1999 and sold to GSI Commerce in 2009. While he served as CEO, Inc. magazine recognized the company as one of the fastest growing privately held companies in the United States for three consecutive years.

Since leaving Pepperjam in April 2010, Jones founded an early stage investment fund, a real estate holding company, and continues to provide interactive marketing services to companies throughout the world. His latest effort, [www.referlocal.com](http://www.referlocal.com), is a fast growing retail discount Web site targeting the relationship between local businesses and their customers.

A foremost Internet marketing expert and leading voice of the search engine and affiliate marketing industries, Jones is a frequent keynote speaker, panelist and moderator at leading national and international marketing and technology conferences. In addition to speaking to business owners and fellow technology buffs, Jones has delivered dozens of inspirational speeches to students at prestigious colleges and universities around the United States.

I am honored to serve on the Misericordia Board of Trustees," says Jones.

It keeps me close to the excitement and promise that higher education offers to our community. Misericordia has been very progressive in the last decade and has raised its profile through quality academic offerings and well thought out marketing.

Not one to live by Web alone, Jones shared his Internet marketing expertise in print as author of the best selling book:

*Search Engine Optimization: Your Visual Blueprint to Effective Internet Marketing*, which was the top selling book of 2008 and 2009 on search marketing. Jones recently completed the second edition of the book, entitled *SEO Visual Blueprint Second Edition*.

Jones was recognized in 2008 as a finalist for the prestigious Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year and was a previous Entrepreneur of the Year by Bank of America (2005). Jones has been recognized as one of the Top 20 Business Leaders in Northeastern Pennsylvania under the age of 40 by two organizations. He is also a modern master of emerging social media trends using Facebook, Twitter and other platforms with great impact to establish a Kris Jones brand—a unique combination of his personal and professional life.

In his free time, Jones enjoys traveling and reading. Jones participates and has served on numerous technology, educational and non profit boards of directors and advisory committees, including the MU Board, Great Valley Technology Alliance (co chair), Northeastern Pennsylvania Technology Alliance, Penn State Wilkes Barre Department of Information Science and Technology, Albany Law School Alumni Association, Pennsylvania Keystone Innovation Zone, CAN BE Business Incubator, Luzerne Foundation Millennium Circle, Make A Wish Foundation and the United Way, among others.

Jones earned his undergraduate degree from Pennsylvania State University, a master's degree from Villanova University and a Juris Doctorate from Albany Law School. He is married to Robyn Jones, a full time mom who serves on numerous non profit boards of directors. The couple resides in Shavertown, Pa., with their son Kris Jr.; daughter, Lauren; dog, Roxy; Himalayan cat, Persy; and two dozen large Koi fish.

**"Misericordia has been very progressive in the last decade and has raised its profile ..."**

**— Kristopher B. Jones, J.D.**



The Misericordia Scholars in Service to Pennsylvania occasionally meet with outreach coordinator Kristen Mitchell Samuels '09 to share their stories and talk about what they have learned from the service projects they have undertaken. Shown, front row, from left, are Jennifer Kates '12, Kaitlyn Wisser '13, '15, Sarah Munley '13; second row: Samantha Scalpone '12, Samuels, James Miller '11, '14, and Audra Wehner '12.

# SISPA means SERVICE

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

Organizing a Relay for Life event and working with children in the Head Start early-child development program are just some of the service projects 11 MU students have undertaken as Scholars in Service to Pennsylvania (SISPA).

SISPA is one of the AmeriCorps national network of programs that involves more than 70,000 Americans each year in service to meet critical needs in communities. Each student is required to complete either a 300- or 450-hour term of service in a calendar year. In return, they receive a financial award.

MU SISPA's are: Brittany Adair '11; Mercedes Hill '13; Jennifer Kates '12; James Miller '11, '14; Sarah Munley '13; Amanda Peslak '11, '13; Victoria Romano '13; Samantha Scalpone '12; Julia Truax '12; Audra Wehner '12; and Kaitlyn Wisser '13, '15.

Miller, the son of John and Ann Marie Miller, has served as a volunteer firefighter since he was 16. Being a SISPA has given him the opportunity to continue his service with the Dallas Fire Department. "I really enjoy volunteering with the fire department and gain fulfillment out of helping others in need," says the psychology and occupational therapy major. He is also a Habitat for Humanity volunteer and had some of his most memorable SISPA moments building houses during a spring break trip to Wichita Falls, Texas.

Munley serves as co-coordinator of the College Kids for Girls and Girl Power projects. The projects bring together college students to mentor underserved girls at the McGlynn Learning Center in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. She also does overnight shifts at the Catherine McAuley House for homeless women and children. "Service

## Quick I fo

For additional information on the SISPA program, contact Kristen Mitchell Samuels at (570) 674 8041 or at [ksamuels@misericordia.edu](mailto:ksamuels@misericordia.edu). Follow SISPA student service on the blog: <http://musispa.tumblr.com/>.

to me is being able to share with the world the talents I have," offers the early childhood and special education major. "Working with the girls does not just mean doing activities, it means creating meaningful relationships and providing them with positive role models. I love being a mentor as well as providing others with the opportunity to be a mentor as well." The daughter of Patty and Mark Munley hopes join the Peace Corps and teach in developing nations.

Scalpone says she grew as a person through her SISPA work at the St. Vincent DePaul Kitchen in Wilkes-Barre. "I became a SISPA really looking to find other students that were just as excited about volunteering as I was and thought this would be a great place to start," she says. "I also found that SISPA helped me to find some unique volunteer opportunities that I wouldn't have found otherwise."

The daughter of Trish and Donald Scalpone is pursuing her master's degree in occupational therapy.

Kates worked to spread awareness about social justice issues as a member of the MU Social Justice Committee. "I learned about SISPA through my involvement in Campus Ministry. I enjoy doing many service projects and when I heard of the many great opportunities that come along with being a SISPA, I

decided to apply," says Kates, a biology major. "Service will always be an important part of my life."

Truax is involved in MU's Colleges for Cancer, which coordinated a Relay for Life on campus. "Being a SISPA provides me with the opportunity to stretch my boundaries," she adds. "I'll never forget hearing one of my best friends share her battle with cancer at the Relay or seeing the hundreds of students, staff and community members walk for hours in honor or in memory of loved ones."

The daughter of Gail Truax is pursuing bachelor's degrees in psychology and communications with a specialization in public relations and advertising and a minor in marketing.

Wehner plans to pursue a career in the public relations field and says she feels it is important to volunteer and help others. "Through SISPA, I've worked with a bunch of different projects — from free child care to walks for illnesses. It feels great to give back," she says. The daughter of Tom and Betty Wehner is working towards her degree in communications with a specialization in public relations and advertising.

SISPA service took Wisser to a number of organizations, including The Mercy Center, in Dallas, Pa. "My parents have always encouraged me to help and participate in activities in my community," she shares. "Naturally when the opportunity to join the SISPA program arose, I was immediately interested."

The daughter of Douglas and Dawn Wisser is pursuing her undergraduate degree in business administration with a specialization in health care management and as she goes on for her doctorate in physical therapy at MU.



Members of the campus community fan out across the country during spring break to offer their time and talent

# Serving Those Most In Need





"I got to travel to Wichita Falls, Texas, see a different culture and landscape, meet new people and better other people's lives with a simple week of my time. It does not get much better than that."

— Ryan Hassick '15

# 'A simple week. of my time'

Spring break service trip volunteers offered their assistance in Philadelphia, Pa. They are, first row from left, Jessica Pavlikowski 12, Siobhan Spager 14, Lauren Paulshock 15; second row, Donna Castelblanco 14, Kristen Matsen 12, Brittany Adair 11, Jenna Georgia 13, Lauren Carey 16; third row, Kristen Andrews 08, chaperone; Cheyne Wago 08, chaperone; and Kathy Gelso 88, chaperone.

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

North Philadelphia, Pa., Wichita Falls, Texas, and southeast Washington, D.C., are miles apart and have little in common during the spring season other than the common thread of humaneness that permeates the communities. The need for inexpensive housing and family sustaining jobs, and the effects of urban decay in center cities have left large gaps in the social fabric for some of the most underserved in today's society.

A growing number of collegians — including 49 Misericordia University students and nine chaperones — worked March 6-11 to fill the gaps left by budgetary cutbacks in local, state and federal funding. Their goals oftentimes are simple and their time there is relatively short, but their work routinely lasting impressions on those they have touched.

"I devoted my time to service for one simple reason: There was nothing else I was going to do that would be worthwhile when compared to service," says Ryan Hassick '15 of Coopersburg, Pa. "I got to travel to Wichita Falls, Texas, see a different culture and landscape, meet new people and better other people's lives with a simple week of my time. It does not get much better than that."

"One thing that stood out to me on the trip was the hospitality of the local residents," adds Jim Miller '14. "Our lunches and some dinners were provided by an elderly couple. They enjoyed helping us and talking with us. They were always very happy and welcoming to us.

They also took some of us to their church for a concert during the week."

Hassick, Miller and 19 other Misericordia students and three chaperones volunteered with the Wichita Falls Chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The once vibrant city has been impacted heavily in recent years by the poor economy. Therefore, the need for affordable housing is very real.

MU's volunteers built two homes from the concrete foundation up. When it was time to return to Dallas, Pa., the houses were framed, trusses had been put in place and drywall was being added. "In the end, the person volunteering gets all the benefits," offers Katie O'Hearn '14. "The work volunteers do changes the lives of other people for the better and volunteers always walk away with a new perspective on life."

Service-learning has been a staple of an MU education for generations. Members of the campus give of themselves by applying their classroom knowledge or everyday skills for the betterment of others. In return, they gain a better understanding of humanity, world issues and the world they live in.

"The field of occupational therapy is very people- and service-oriented," says O'Hearn, who volunteered in Texas. "Most of the people I have met through OT simply want to help others. I think it was great getting to meet people from a different culture because it taught me how people view life experiences differently. In such a client-based field, it is important to take into consideration all the needs of the patient, including beliefs and culture."

For Julia Truax '12, the manual labor

she provided in Washington, D.C., at Living Wages ([www.livingwages.org](http://www.livingwages.org)), a community-based, non-profit organization that provides adult education, and at the Father McKenna Center ([www.fathermckenna.org](http://www.fathermckenna.org)), a shelter that feeds and clothes homeless men, was an extension of her volunteer work on campus. "What outsiders don't know is that this metropolitan area is actually inhabited by many individuals in need of something — food, shelter, clothing," says Truax. "It is heartbreaking to know that in an area that offers numerous opportunities, so many people are struggling to simply make ends meet."

In the heart of Philadelphia lies the Cranileath Spiritual Center ([www.cranileath.org](http://www.cranileath.org)), a historic home that was a meeting place for women suffrages and is now an environment for people of all faiths to gather and reflect upon their "deepest values and hopes for their own lives and for society." The center also hosted nine MU students and three chaperones for their spring service trip.

Each morning, the volunteers traveled to Mercy Neighborhood Ministries ([www.mercyneighbors.org](http://www.mercyneighbors.org)), offering assistance to the programs being operated out of the facility. An adult day care program for seniors afforded participants an opportunity to engage in activities, exercise and conversation in a safe environment, and a before- and after-school program for children provided healthy meals, homework assistance and interactive activities. MU's students also applied their academic training in physical therapy and teacher education to the betterment of those in need.



## Mission of service nationally acclaimed

Misericordia University has been named by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to the 2010 President's Higher Education

Community Service Honor Roll With Distinction for exemplary service — the only college or university in Northeastern Pennsylvania to receive the distinction.

"Service is a staple of a Misericordia education. It is an honor that we have been named to this Honor Roll every year that we have applied," said Linda Ross, director of the Office of Service-Learning at MU. "The added with distinction designation places us on a select list of only 13 schools in Pennsylvania and 114 in the country to be recognized for an even greater level of service.

"Misericordia has a rich tradition of responding to community needs through academic based service-learning and extensive outreach service through Campus Ministry, and other club activities that support community programs. By imbuing in each student a sense of

service to others, Misericordia is helping students discover the opportunities they need to be successful in both their careers and lives," she added.

The Community Service Honor Roll was launched in 2006. It is the highest federal recognition a college or university can achieve for its commitment to service-learning and civic engagement. Honorees were chosen based on a series of selection factors, including the scope and innovation of service projects, the extent to which service-learning is embedded in the curriculum, the school's commitment to long-term, campus-community partnerships and measurable community outcomes as a result of the service. Of the 641 colleges and universities recognized this year, 511 were named to the Honor Roll, 114 received the recognition of Honor Roll With Distinction, 11 were identified as finalists and six received the Presidential Award.

The Religious Sisters of Mercy founded Misericordia based on four tenets that outline its mission of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality. Since then, the University community has advocated



**The Speech-Language and Hearing Center at MU is among the projects that inspired the CNCS award. Since 2004, the center has been providing clinical therapy to people who have communication disorders.**

service and volunteerism among its students, faculty and staff.

Sixty-three percent of MU students engage in service-learning through credit-bearing courses in addition to their clinical and fieldwork related courses. Eighty percent of all students, faculty and staff reported participating in other sponsored service and volunteer related activities with an action orientation. Misericordia's strategic plan embraces a seamless integration of mission and academic excellence and calls to increase both those numbers to 90 percent by 2015.

## Students complete year of service as AmeriCorps Fellows

BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

Four MU students are performing more than 1,200 hours of community service as AmeriCorps Community Fellows by volunteering as high school tutors and literacy advocates, and also helping fellow MU students become acclimated to college life.

Cory Chikowski '13, Sara Nowalis '15, Rachel Ruane '11, and Jessica Szumski '12 are participating in the program that is designed to develop students as active citizens and increase the number of collegians serving in areas of college access and success. The Fellows are required to complete 300 hours of service in one calendar year.

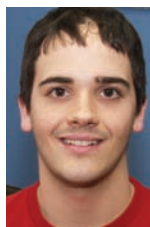
Misericordia had four Community Fellows for 2011 and has been approved for 20 in the 2011-12 fall semester.

Chikowski and Szumski are both working in the MU

Student Success Center with the Act 101 program, which helps at-risk students develop strong academic skills, leadership potential and positive study habits. They are serving as peer tutors and are offering peer support, note sharing services and assisting with the resource library.

"I am here to give back," says Chikowski. "I took advantage of the services in the Student Success Center when I started at Misericordia and they helped me with tutoring and to develop good study habits. I am glad to get the opportunity to help out."

By March, Chikowski had already finished 172 out of the 300 hours he needed to complete by the end of August. Szumski says she enjoys being on campus and helping fellow students. "I like being able to help the



Chikowski



Szumski



Ruane



Nowalis

freshmen adjust to college. I help with classes for the freshmen on developing good study and note-taking skills, and dealing with the high school-to-college transition. It is rewarding," she says.

Nowalis is working in the office of Multicultural Events serving as a liaison to Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., where there is a population of at-risk students. She is helping to provide a college awareness and readiness program.

"I feel it is really important to teach high school students about college and the options that are available to them,"

says Nowalis. "They need to know that they can do it."

Ruane is completing her service in MU's Campus Ministry by assisting with the First Book project that provides new books to children. She is working with existing community-based tutoring programs to do book distributions. "My project was to pass out books to disadvantaged children and promote reading. It was amazing to see their faces light up when they got to choose their books," she says.

For information on the AmeriCorps program, call (570) 674-8041.



# State grant supports building projects

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

MU investing more than \$10 million in a two-building development on campus and in renovations for Art Studios and Machell Avenue Residence Hall in the downtown



Field house artist's rendering



Machell Avenue Residence Hall



Art Studios

Residence hall and classroom facility

A \$3 million state grant will help fund a two-building, mixed-use development on the main campus. The construction projects will provide ample campus housing, additional classroom space and will also support various athletic programs.

The Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program grant will be applied to the facilities. Overall, more than \$10 million will be invested in the campus community through four projects.

The 37,000-square-foot, three-story building by the North Gate of campus and across the parking lot from the Anderson Sports and Health Center will feature 118 beds for student housing and three new classrooms. The \$6.2 million project will provide suite-style residence space with kitchens, living rooms,

bathrooms and appliances. Each floor plan also contains a study lounge and laundry facilities.

The \$4.4 million field house will be a state-of-the-art athletic center with athletic training rooms, locker rooms and public restrooms. The 18,900-square-foot, one-story facility will be built near Mangelsdorf Field and the new baseball diamond, which will be named in honor of the Tambur family.

## **Machell Avenue Residence Hall**

MU also purchased a 5,483-square-foot building at 10 Machell Ave., Dallas Borough, for \$445,000. It will be transformed into a residence hall for upper-level and graduate students in the College of Health Sciences. The Machell Avenue Residence Hall is being designed

to accommodate 26 students and one resident director. It includes eight single rooms, three double occupancy rooms, three triples and a quad.

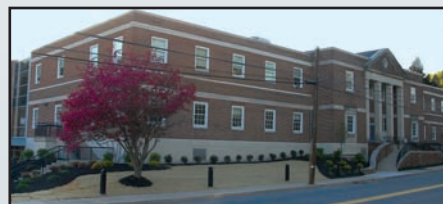
## **Art Studios**

To support a new minor in fine arts that will be available beginning in the fall, Misericordia is renovating the lower level of 50 Lake St., near the Pauly House and John J. Passan Hall, into the Art Studios. It includes a 1,714-square-foot sculpture classroom and a 1,435-square-foot painting classroom at a cost of \$285,000. The studios will be used for ceramics, drawing, painting, sculpture and other classes associated with the new minor. Through these courses and additional opportunities, community members can also take non-credit classes in the future.

## Passan Foundation supports health science programs at MU

The building that houses the College of Health Science on Lake Street in Dallas Borough has been named John J. Passan Hall by Misericordia University. The name of the University's newest building is in honor of John J. Passan whose Passan Foundation has pledged \$1 million in support of the University. A formal dedication ceremony will be held Aug. 25.

MU invested \$6 million in the purchase and renovation of the building located at 100 Lake St., Dallas Borough, to meet the growing needs of students and faculty in nursing, occupational therapy, physical therapy and speech-language pathology. The facility also provides opportunities for students to conduct research and gain clinical experience in the Speech-Language and Hearing Center and Physical Therapy Clinic. Both facilities offer clinical therapy sessions to people who have little or no health insurance.



John J. Passan Hall

"Mr. Passan's interest in medicine and medical science education is captured in this state-of-the-art health science teaching facility," said Michael A. MacDowell, president of Misericordia University. "The building incorporates the latest developments in health care education and houses clinical facilities where people without medical insurance can receive professional therapy. As such, Passan Hall is a wonderful educational venue and a service to community residents."

"Mr. and Mrs. Passan were captivated

with the building as they toured it," said Carol Keup of the Passan Foundation. "The state-of-the-art equipment and labs contained throughout speak to the quality of the health science programs within it. This project aligns directly with the Passan mission of supporting medical research and education. Mr. and Mrs. Passan are pleased to be able to make a difference in both the education of students and the health of our community."

The Passan Foundation is a privately held foundation that was established more than 20 years ago by Mr. John J. Passan, founder, owner and president of Valley Distributing and Storage Co., in Wilkes-Barre, Laflin and Scranton, Pa. For more than 50 years, the privately-owned and operated business has been providing innovative logistics and transportation services from the heart of Northeastern Pennsylvania.



# From Wall Street to Academia

MU b e de be ef f he  
e a a e e e ce D. Kea e  
b g h ca e

## Quick Info

The following are Dr. Timothy F. Kearney's academic credentials:

- Ph.D. in Economics, CUNY Graduate Center, N.Y.
- M.A. in Economics, the University of Pittsburgh
- Post Baccalaureate Exchange at the Poznan School of Economics, Poznan, Poland
- B.A. in Polish Language and Culture, the University of Pittsburgh



Use your QR code enabled smartphone to learn more about MU's rigorous academics.

Dr. Timothy F. Kearney, Ph.D., assistant professor, worked for Bear Stearns and many other notable companies before joining the faculty at Misericordia University in 2010.



# 'Always be prepared'

## Business professor brings Wall Street experience to the classroom

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

**T**imothy F. Kearney, Ph.D., adheres to a simple philosophy — *Lepiej nosic niz prosic* — that has benefitted him in both his personal and professional lives. Literally translated, Dr. Kearney's favorite Polish quote means "it's better to carry something than have to ask for it." Figuratively, it is an injunction to "always be well prepared for whatever might come up and then some."

### Fast Facts

Dr. Timothy F. Kearney speaks four languages: English, Polish, Spanish and Portuguese.

So when the professional international economist was confronted with historic events such as the emerging market debt crisis in the 1980s, or

the positive turnaround in the emerging markets over the past 20 years, or the failure of Bear Stearns — the fifth largest investment banking firm in the nation — in 2008, he knew he had the tools and preparation to handle the situation appropriately.

Dr. Kearney also believes that ethical decision making in business and in life is essential for success, not to mention a good night's sleep. Sound choices lead to a conviction in your decisions and a good reputation that is priceless inside and outside of the office. "I have learned and relearned three key lessons: You are only as good as your reputation, be as prepared as you can and work to maintain a proper balance between your job and your life," says the assistant professor of business at MU.

"Don't squander your good name for short-term gain," he emphasizes. "Yes it can be tempting to grab a bigger portion, to only worry about what benefits you in the moment. But good business is built on trust.

"Balance between work and life is the



Timothy F. Kearney, Ph.D.

key to success over the long term. Your career is important, sure. But your life is not defined by your job. It's defined by who you are as a person.

"It's important to go above and beyond the call of duty to succeed, but the fact of the matter is that your relationships outside of work are what sustain you in good times and bad," he adds. "Stay grounded and keep in mind that setbacks are only temporary. And don't get too full of yourself in good times. Your career is a marathon, not a sprint."

Dr. Kearney's metaphorical marathon now has entered its second leg after he transitioned from Wall Street to academia full time in 2010. Today, he shares his professional experiences in the corporate world — both positive and negative — with his Misericordia students. He imparts on them his real-world knowledge, along with the equally important intangible qualities such as integrity and the need to be always applying lessons learned.

"It's what I learned from my time on Wall Street that adds the most value to the classroom. They are much more important than my personal experiences themselves. Those experiences were specific to a certain time and a certain

place," explains Dr. Kearney, who also was an adjunct professor at Hunter College, Seton Hall University and Point Park College. "But what I took away from my experiences, what they taught me is what's useful to the students. How to analyze a situation, how to stay appropriately focused, how to think at the margin, the need to stay one step ahead, these lessons are universal throughout the business world. They are the toolkit for success in any field, frankly."

For example, in early March 2008, Dr. Kearney realized that Bear Stearns would not survive the economic calamity that had enveloped the economy. He told his team to prepare their resumes. "It was a forecast that I hoped was wrong, but I had little doubt I'd be proven right. And sure enough, the firm failed by St. Patrick's Day," the former senior managing director at Bear Stearns adds. "My call was the result of being involved in various financial crises over 25 years. Now teaching someone how exactly to predict a profound event is tough, if not impossible. But to observe where a firm is going and to emphasize that there are ways to minimize the risk of failure is applicable to all sorts of business situations."

The "too big to fail" mantra of this business era, also became its Achilles heel as short-term profits reigned over sound, long-term business practices, according to Dr. Kearney. "The lesson for our students is clear: Maintain good relations, be a good corporate citizen, stay nimble and stay humble," he says.

Dr. Kearney has a ready store of teaching moments from his days at Fidelity Investments, Mellon Bank or Bear Stearns to apply real-world examples in order to flesh out his classroom lesson plans in economics, investment management or corporate finance. With the recent recession fresh in everyone's mind the global economy continues to deal with a more austere period, characterized by more regulation and oversight, sluggish growth and working through the problems of over leverage. It's a tough time, but Dr. Kearney remains optimistic.

"The basic dynamism of the U.S. economy remains and it remains vital," he says. "I'm not a believer in long-term U.S. decline."



# Good Sports

Sport management professor teaches students how to parlay interest in athletics into exciting careers

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Sport is a physical activity that someone engages in for pleasure or as a source of diversion or recreation, according to Merriam-Webster's College Dictionary. To David Gargone, Ed.D., assistant professor of business at Misericordia University, that five-letter word also means opportunity and so much more.

It didn't take long for Dr. Gargone to realize that sports provide more than an outlet for athletes in the arena of competition. The sport management professor at MU began earning a modest wage umpiring baseball games as a 13 year old and used that as a springboard to a career in sports and a lifelong appreciation of it as well.

"I started umpiring baseball games and continued to do so through college," says Dr. Gargone, who joined MU's faculty in 2010. "The most influential event that started me on my career path was coaching junior high basketball when I was a junior in college. I really began to appreciate the administrative side of sports over the participation side of sports."

The transition from playing to coaching opened his eyes to the many opportunities available in sports. It was no longer an interest or a hobby, but an avenue to take his love of sports to the professional level, albeit armed with a briefcase and tie instead of a baseball glove or spikes. "I really began to see sports as a career and not just an interest anymore," explains Dr. Gargone, who is also an assistant baseball coach at MU. "Coaching opened a number of doors for me both academically and professionally. As I pursued my master's degree, I learned more about sport administration and began to realize that I could do more than just coach. The natural progression occurred as I moved from coaching to teaching at the collegiate level as I pursued my doctorate."

Today, sports are more than the Super Bowl, the World Series or the Indianapolis 500. It is part of popular culture with millions of people tuning in to national and international events. It is a burgeoning growth industry with billions of dollars in revenue. It offers recreation on and off the fields and courts of competition — and it also provides countless employment opportunities.

The field offers many exciting careers paths, depending on a person's area of interest. Graduates can go into athletic administration and become high school or collegiate athletic directors or become part of youth recreation management. Professional sports offer a variety of opportunities in marketing, sales, public relations, facility management, event operations and more. More specialized areas include sports broadcasting, player representation and sports information.

Sport management, though, is for people who have a passion

**"The future of the sport industry is bright, especially for individuals who have an academic background in sport management."**

— David Gargone, Ed.D.

and a willingness to accept the challenges presented by working in sports, according to Dr. Gargone. MU's undergraduate program has a successful track record in placing graduates with well-known professional sports franchises, such as the New York Yankees, New York Rangers, Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Yankees, Pocono Raceway and NASCAR, and in amateur athletic administration posts. Other graduates pursue MBAs or go to law school.

These success stories can be traced to the program's rigorous academics. It separates itself from other national programs by being housed in the Department of Business and by requiring students to earn 12 credits by participating in one or more internships. "Only 25 percent of sport management departments in the country are housed in the business department," Dr. Gargone reveals. "Our students leave with a strong background in not only sport management, but also business in general."

"The internships require students to work 540 hours in the field of sport management before graduation. This gives the students the opportunity to build their skill set and network, while gaining valuable experience for their resume. This is an intensive internship experience that exceeds most other programs' requirements," he adds.

Dr. Gargone believes the industry of sports is just as competitive as the action in the arena or on the field of play. It takes a passion to succeed, a diverse skill set, good communication and people skills, and the know-how in core business areas, such as sales, budgeting and marketing.

"The future of the sport industry is bright, especially for individuals who have an academic background in sport management," he says. "I also see an increase in the privatization of amateur sports, especially at the youth levels. However, as sport management continues to grow as an academic discipline, so do the number of graduates. The sports industry is highly competitive, so it is important for those pursuing careers in sport management to recognize this and address it through their academic preparation."



# FOR THE LOVE OF THE GAME

Professor teaches students  
how to work in the  
burgeoning industry

## Quick Info

The following are Dr. David Gargone's academic credentials:

- Ed.D. in Sport Management from the United States Sports Academy
- M.A. in Teaching, Secondary Education from Rockford College
- B.S. in Business Management from the University of Scranton

Dr. David Gargone, Ed.D., is an assistant professor of business and sport management at Misericordia University.



Use your QR-code enabled smartphone to see MU's latest commercial that includes successful alumni in the business and sport management fields.







# Making Wishes come True

Marketing major gains hands-on  
experience at Make-A-Wish Foundation

BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

**F**or Heather Beleno, 11 of Great Meadows, N.J., her semester long internship at Make A Wish Foundation of Greater Pennsylvania and Southern West Virginia in Scranton, Pa., was more than the front door to her future career in marketing. It was the culmination of a months long experience that brought about a wide range of emotions.

It was the beginning of her senior year at Misericordia University and the Hackettstown High School graduate was looking forward to her last year as a collegian and the experience she would gain during her spring semester internship. As she personally researched the positions available in her field, the daughter of Tom and Wendy Beleno could see that her options were plentiful. But in what direction did she want to take her career, she would ask herself during the process? The importance of an internship cannot be understated as employers oftentimes seek new college graduates who have applied their classroom lessons in a professional setting.

The current economic environment combined with the heightened level of competition demands that new potential employees be able to contribute right away, says Robert Williams, assistant director of the Center for Economic and

**Eighty eight percent of MU's  
Class of 2011 had an internship,  
clinical, practicum or field  
experience before graduation.**

Entrepreneurship Education. The only way for current college graduates to be able to compete is by completing internships.

The picture came into focus when she learned her second cousin, Jack Culbertson, 8, was diagnosed with neuroblastoma, the most common childhood cancer in the United States. Beleno acted on her own instincts and reached out to comfort the family member. When I saw that he wrote something on his mom's Facebook wall about his girlfriends Carrie Underwood and Miranda Lambert, I reached out to many different organizations to try and get anything from them that I could, Beleno says. I ended up getting him an autographed picture and all of Carrie Underwood's CDs.

Today, Culbertson is successfully fighting the disease and enjoying the many generous gifts his cousin presented him shortly after his diagnosis. The experience also made Beleno's choice for an internship crystal clear.

From January to May, Beleno worked to get Make A Wish established in its new Scranton office so they could make dreams come true for other children

afflicted with life threatening illnesses. She coordinated outreach efforts with guidance counselors in 11 regional school districts to refer children in need to the foundation.

The letter campaign was to inform counselors on how to refer a child to the foundation, explains Beleno, who received her Bachelor of Science degree in marketing at the 85th annual Commencement ceremony in May. The letter was very successful, as I received responses back from counselors letting me know that they will refer anyone they know of to Make A Wish and we also received five referrals.

Beleno also assisted the regional branch with fundraising activities, media relations and cultivating new sponsors and benefactors in Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Pike, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Wayne and Wyoming counties. The marketing internship was important for Beleno because it provided her with the hands on experience she was seeking and other valuable lessons she will be able to apply in her career.

Patience was the most valuable lesson I learned from my internship, says Beleno, who gained professional experience, enhanced her communication skills and began networking during her internship. I made so many phone calls and sent out so many e mails. With families having such busy lives, it was hard to get in touch with them.





Misericordia University student Tyler White '12 poses for a picture at his internship with Dow Jones & Company's Global Marketing Communications Department.

**A** business major and member of the Misericordia Golf Team, Tyler White '12 knew there was plenty to be excited about when he landed a prestigious summer internship with Dow Jones & Company's Global Marketing Communications Department. What the rising senior soon learned was that he was only one of a handful of interns his division took on around the world.

"It (the internship) is extremely competitive and we've only offered positions to about 10 candidates throughout our entire global organization this year," said Lisa Singer Fitzpatrick, executive director of the company's Global Marketing Communications division. The internship began May 23 and is based in the company's Princeton, N.J. offices. Within the first week, White was delegated as product manager of one of the company's business products, FX Trader. His work included traveling to the company's headquarters in Manhattan, N.Y., for meetings twice weekly.

Dow Jones is a leader in global news and information and is made up of brands, including The Wall Street Journal, Barron's, Dow Jones Newswires, MarketWatch and Factiva. The Global Marketing Communications Team oversees brand management and external communications to ensure consistency and clarity across all Dow Jones products, business units and regions, which regularly reach more than 42 million people worldwide.

As an intern, White had the opportunity to participate in global campaign planning sessions and interact with other teams such as regional marketing, product marketing,

# Business major aces internship with Dow Jones

STORY BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

sales, public relations and branding and creative. He is also using the experience he gained working with Misericordia's Marketing Communications Web Division to help his Dow Jones' team develop a marketing strategy for social media sites, such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. His team is also working to update all of the marketing content on the Dow Jones website – which includes helping to analyze posted materials and improve search engine optimization so that Dow Jones pages show up higher in the Internet search process.

"I am also looking forward to an upcoming project which will give me the chance to be involved with an advertising campaign in the Wall Street Journal. It will give me the opportunity to work with the top advertising teams in New York City and see the advertising process from start to finish," he says.

Albeit nervous at first, he says he felt prepared thanks to business law classes with Dr. Allen Minor, assistant professor of business; adjunct professor Richard Bitterly's U.S. history classes, and the opportunity to study economics with his advisor, John Sumansky, Ph.D., chair of the Misericordia business department.

The son of Tom and Eileen White of Allentown, Pa., will graduate in May 2012 with a degree in business administration with a sequence in marketing. He is a member of the MU Business Professional Association, where he served as director of projects, including career preparation workshops.

A golf team member, White was originally recruited by Misericordia for basketball yet what sealed the deal for him was the chance to take part in the Guaranteed Placement Program (GPP). The GPP is a four-year program of supplemental career education at MU. It offers any student who fully participates in the program a paid internship in their field of study if they do not receive a job offer or are accepted into graduate school within six months of graduation.

White hopes that with all his Dow Jones' experiences on his resume, he won't need to use that GPP guarantee.

**"It (the internship) is extremely competitive and we've only offered positions to about 10 candidates throughout our entire global organization this year."**

— Lisa Singer  
Global Marketing Communications Division



# Pursuing a Helping Profession

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

What was Stephanie Forbes 13 meant to do with her life? Even at a young age, it was a consistent thought in the back of her mind. The Reading, Pa., native readily acknowledges that she knew she wanted to pursue a helping profession, such as education, medicine, music or other related fields. But it wasn't until her junior year in high school that the daughter of Michael and Mary Forbes learned what she was truly meant to do.

I discovered occupational therapy (OT), Forbes announces, when reading the account of a young woman whose life was drastically changed thanks to the help of her occupational therapists. I proceeded to research the profession and everything about it appealed to me.

As an OT, she could use her creativity, personality and patience to help people overcome challenges that they otherwise might not conquer on their own. To me, this sounded like the ultimate way to use both the intellect and the love of people that God has given me to make a meaningful difference in the world of those around me, says Forbes.

I chose OT against all other helping professions because OT is concerned with the whole person—everything about their physical world, their emotional world,

their social world, their struggles, their strengths and their hopes," she says.

As an occupational therapist, you are treating them for everything they have experienced, everything they are presently experiencing and everything they will experience.

The ambition to help others permeates almost every decision and action Forbes makes daily. The OT major pursues her dream occupation during the academic year and provides the services she's acquired through schooling to those in need during the summer. Last summer, Forbes was a camp counselor at a summer camp for people of all ages with special needs. This year, she added an extra internship from May 29 to June 9 in order to help children at a Constraint Induced Movement Therapy (CIMT) Camp in Marietta, Ga.

Children at a CIMT camp have hemiparesis or hemiplegia, conditions that leave one side of the body paralyzed or extremely weak. Oftentimes the diagnosis is the result of a neurological factor, such as a traumatic brain or spinal cord injury, cerebral palsy or stroke. The therapy involves constraining the non-affected extremity while employing intensive and repetitive task-related training of the affected arm or hand which can lead to patients overcoming their learned nonuse of the limb.

To the average person, these therapeutic sessions resemble playtime or activity time, especially when the patients

are as young as 2 years of age. Forbes assisted with crafts and games designed to help the children work on such skills as grasping, finger isolation and in-hand manipulation. She also assisted with establishing obstacle courses, stretching exercises and activities that were geared toward helping them with their balance, equilibrium, core strength and much more.

The experience was extremely rewarding for me," says Forbes, who also has a minor in psychology. Through these challenging situations, the kids formed quite a bond with us. It was also really neat to see the improvement in the kids from day to day—whether it was actually plain to see neurological improvement or whether it was just gaining the confidence to give that arm and that hand a try in the midst of others facing the same challenge.

After her summer internship, Forbes is one step closer to realizing her noble goal of having the opportunity to change lives in so many ways every single day. The CIMT camp helped her grow as a person and as an aspiring therapist who is also preparing for fieldwork placements during her final two years at MU. What appealed to me about Misericordia when I first came to visit was the rigor of and the options offered by the occupational therapy program," she says. I wanted to come to a school with a well-established program that would give me the knowledge and skills that I would need to become the best therapist I could be.

**Stephanie Forbes 13,** an occupational therapy major at Misericordia University, works with Hunter at the Constraint Induced Movement Therapy Camp in Marietta, Ga., where she interned during the summer.





R. Gregory Collins '82 is the Community Bank President for the NEPenn Division of Wells Fargo.

# A community approach to banking

Business administration graduate manages 39 Wells Fargo stores in NEPA

STORY BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

From the windows of his Wells Fargo office on Pierce Street in Kingston, Pa., R. Gregory Collins, '82, can look out at the Luzerne County Courthouse and across the Susquehanna River to the mountains of Lackawanna County, offering him daily snapshots of the communities he serves. As the community bank president of the NEPenn Division, Collins oversees the operations of 39 Wells Fargo stores what others call branches in a nine county region in Northeastern Pennsylvania, working with a team of 350 associates in the retail banking division.

His enthusiasm for his team and the work they do is contagious. The Wells Fargo model is based on community and how we can leverage a large organization in a local way. We use a team approach where we call on the multiple perspectives of our diverse team members to help us best meet customers' needs, he says.

Collins grew up in Kingston, not far from his current office. He began his banking career when a traditional collegiate experience didn't work out for him. I initially went away to school, but soon came back home and started

working at a local bank, he says, acknowledging some of the best advice he's ever received. A casual friend, Roger Bruszewski, who happened to be the chair of the Business Department at Misericordia, suggested I think about getting my degree at the campus.

A non traditional student, Collins admits that working in a bank by day and taking classes four nights a week and sometimes on weekends was a huge challenge. The challenge, though, provided him with some lifelong lessons on the power of commitment.

There were times when I took as many as nine credits while working full time, he says, noting his Misericordia experiences helped him determine what was important and what he needed to do to succeed. As I went along, I could see my goals more clearly. I am extremely proud to have earned my degree (a bachelor's in business administration) and to be a Misericordia alum.

His career led him to Wachovia Bank (now Wells Fargo) in 1992 where he served in a variety of positions, including retail banking director from 2004-2009. He took on his current title in 2009, allowing him to relocate to the office in his hometown. The Wachovia conversion to Wells Fargo was

completed in the spring.

He is also an avid sports fan, and in 2005 he lived out a dream of attending a fantasy baseball camp with notable players from his favorite team, the St. Louis Cardinals. Collins and his wife, Cynthia, have a daughter, Emily, 16.

Extending his community spirit outside the office, Collins serves as a member of the Board of Directors of the Greater Wilkes Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, the Lackawanna Industrial Fund Enterprise, and the NEPA Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He is a 4th Degree Knights of Columbus and a graduate of Executive Leadership Wilkes Barre.

And what about his view of the Luzerne County Courthouse? During the redesign of the Kingston store, Collins was asked by Wells Fargo managers in San Francisco, Calif., to review a proposed sketch of the new mural for the lobby that features historical pictures of the region. Since it appears so prominently in the local skyline, he asked that the courthouse be included. The finished panorama with the courthouse serves as a reminder to him that the Wells Fargo team approach does work and people's opinions do matter.



Erin  
Shoemaker '11



# MU Goes

## Graduate to pursue Ph.D. in molecular, cellular biology at Dartmouth College

**Name:** Erin Shoemaker '11

**Hometown:** Hughesville, Pa.

**Degree/Major:** Bachelor of Science in biology, minor in chemistry

**Parents:** Barbara-Jo and Dean Shoemaker

**Most memorable moment at MU:** My most memorable moment was when I presented my senior seminar to the campus community. I will never forget the feeling of presenting my research, *Phosphatidic Acid Modulation of Protein Phosphatase 2A*, to my peers and instructors, and the relief of completing such an important part of my senior year.

**Favorite class:** Molecular Genetics. It was a fully lab-based course in which we learned standard molecular biology techniques. There only nine students in the class and it was a very relaxed atmosphere where we all had the same goal to learn how to do real biology research like it is done in the field.

**Most inspiring faculty member:** Mary Hinton, Ph.D., associate VP for Academic Affairs. After working in her office and having her as a mentor for over two years, Dr. Hinton has helped me stay motivated. She taught me by example how to be professional and successful, as well as kind and welcoming. She encouraged me to take chances that I might not have otherwise, like applying to very prestigious internships and graduate schools, and supported me emotionally when I was nearly in tears over rejection letters.

**Why MU?** I chose to come to Misericordia because the campus was beautiful, and as a freshman, I was attracted to the physical therapy program. When I later changed majors, I decided to stay at Misericordia because I was familiar with my fellow students and the professors.

**Relevant research experience:** I interned at

Brown University over the 2010 summer in the lab of Dr. Alison DeLong through the Leadership Alliance Summer Research Early Identification Program. My project was investigating the influence of phosphatidic acid modulation of protein phosphatase 2A. I also conducted research during my senior year at MU with Angela Asirvatham, Ph.D., associate professor of biology. My project was investigating the role of A-kinase anchoring proteins and Akt in Schwann cell cultures.

**Plans for graduate school:** I will be studying plant molecular biology at Dartmouth College in the molecular and cellular biology Ph.D. program.

**Graduate school preparation:** After I decided that my career track was going to take me to graduate school, I applied to a great number of summer internship and research programs and eventually decided on Brown University. While there, I attended various sessions in order to learn what was needed to be a competitive applicant for graduate school. Thanks to the help I received from my colleagues at Brown, as well as the letters of recommendation written by my professors at Misericordia, I was accepted to a number of very well-established programs. Deciding was difficult, but Dartmouth is certainly the place for me!

**Future ambitions:** I want to do research and travel. These are two deeply important things to me, as there is so much information we have yet to learn and there are so many places I have yet to see.

**I will consider myself successful ...:** The first time my name is officially published in a scientific journal. I have a manuscript awaiting publication, but seeing my name in print will be the first time I truly feel like a scientist. I can't wait!



# Ivy League

Christin  
Monroe '11

## Princeton-bound graduate to pursue Ph.D. in computational physical chemistry

**Name:** Christin Monroe '11

**Hometown:** Flemington, N.J.

**Degree/Major:** Bachelor of Science in  
biochemistry with a minor in mathematics

**Parents:** Patricia and Thomas Monroe

**Most memorable moment at MU:**

Spending part of my summer in Nicaragua with chemistry professor Larry Pedersen, Ph.D., doing research. Not only did I learn about doing research on medicinal plants, I also learned about a different culture.

**Favorite class:** Organic chemistry. While taking it, I realized how much I really loved chemistry and wanted to pursue it for the rest of my life. I loved learning about how molecules were interacting with each other.

**Most inspiring faculty member:** I consider Dr. Pedersen as my most inspiring faculty member because he genuinely cares about his students and puts in the time to help them be successful. He is one of the main reasons why I am going to Princeton because he has given me so much support and guidance.

**Why MU?** My aunt, Jacqueline Buckley Goetz, graduated from Misericordia in 1988 and she had such a great experience that she encouraged me to apply. I wanted to attend a school where I had direct contact with my professors and I found that at Misericordia.

**Relevant research experience:** I have participated in three unique research projects at Misericordia. I worked with Dr. Pedersen doing synthesis research on analogs of compounds that had known antibiotic properties, and presented the results at the spring 2010 National American Chemical Society Conference. The second research project took me to Nicaragua with Dr. Pedersen

over the summer to learn more about the medicinal plants used in Nicaragua. I also did research with Charles Saladino, Ph.D., associate professor of chemistry, developing a new biochemistry lab that used a luminometer to illustrate free radical inhibition. I presented this research at the spring 2011 National American Chemical Society Conference.

**Plans for graduate school:** I plan on attending Princeton University starting in July 2011 and to pursue a Ph.D. in computational physical chemistry, specifically molecular modeling.

**Graduate school preparation:** Majoring in biochemistry at Misericordia gave me a well-rounded background in both chemistry and biology. I was also able to participate in three unique research projects, which will prepare me very well for graduate school. Working as a student lab assistant with Mr. Leo Carr, lab manager, was also a very useful experience because it reinforced my learning of common laboratory practices. I not only received support from the Chemistry Department, but also from the Mathematics Department, specifically Dr. Jay Stine, Ph.D., associate professor. Without the support from the Mathematics Department, I would not be concentrating in mathematical chemistry in graduate school.

**Future ambitions:** At this point, I am not exactly sure what I am going to do after I achieve my Ph.D. from Princeton, but more than likely I will go into research in industry.

**I will consider myself successful if...:**

I get my doctorate from Princeton and I get a job doing something that I love. I also hope that I am able to support my community in the future.





# RACE TO THE TOP

**Kevin T. Heaney '06 is the interactive marketing and community relations manager for Pocono Raceway.**

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

**T**he *Tricky Triangle* is synonymous with Pocono Raceway in Long Pond, Pa., and the Pocono 500 and Pennsylvania 500 NASCAR Sprint Cup Series races the track hosts every year. That moniker could also be used

to describe the path Kevin T. Heaney '06 chose to work alongside some of the biggest names in the racing industry.

A career in NASCAR was the furthest thing on his mind when Heaney matriculated to Misericordia University as an English major in 2002. His eyes were set firmly on becoming a high school teacher so he could nurture and mold the next generation. In a matter of months, another opportunity at MU presented itself and Heaney ran with it.

"As my freshman year progressed, I began to realize I was better suited for the sport industry," says Heaney, who received a Bachelor of Science degree in sport management from Misericordia University. "I always had part-time jobs working in the sport industry at recreation centers and sport facilities on Long Island. Following an amazing internship at Hendrick Motorsports between my junior and senior years at MU, I found my passion.

"I realized my new dream was to work in NASCAR and to this day it continues to feel a little surreal," he adds.

Today, the son of Steve and Patricia Heaney of Rockville Centre, N.Y., is the interactive marketing and community

relations manager for Pocono Raceway. His fingerprints can be found on almost anything Pocono related, from engaging enthusiastic race fans through social media, such as Twitter, Facebook and YouTube, to traditional Web site blogging and other marketing materials.

"The success that I've enjoyed really goes back to the people who were there to support me during my four years at Misericordia," says Heaney, who also has worked as the manager of communications for Richard Childress Racing with drivers Clint Bowyer, Jeff Burton, Stephen Leicht and Casey Mears, and as an assistant media relations representative for DuPont Motorsports and Jeff Gordon. "Anytime I had a question for a professor or anyone at MU, I could always find an answer. Some of my biggest supporters were my fellow classmates. There were a few of us who kind of stuck together on projects and studying together."

The voice of the "Pocono Posse" is quick to acknowledge that hard work, perseverance and adapting to the fast-changing aspects of social marketing are key to a successful career in sport management or marketing. During the June 10-12 Pocono 500 weekend, Heaney's hectic schedule had him

connecting with more than 1,300 new Facebook and 750 Twitter fans, and then traveling for promotional appearances. He tossed out the first pitch for the Trenton Thunder baseball team in New Jersey, and appeared at the Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays and SPCA in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., with driver Ryan Newman. His weekend ended in Victory Circle with a familiar driver.

"I was watching Jeff Gordon and his team celebrating their second victory of the season," he wrote in Volume 5 of his blog. "I had to take a minute to myself to take it all in. Pocono Raceway was the first place I ever saw a race as a child. It was also the place where I started my NASCAR career in 2006. Following the two races at Pocono in '06, I was hired at Performance PR Plus, an agency that handles the DuPont Motorsports account, including public relations for Gordon.

"Standing in Pocono's Victory Circle really put things into perspective because my career has come full circle," he added. "My first Victory Lane experience occurred with Gordon at Darlington in 2007. And then my first track victory celebration occurs with the first driver and sponsor I worked for at the first track I was ever employed. It's pretty amazing how things fall into place sometimes!"

**Want to learn more about Kevin T. Heaney '06?**

Visit his blog at [www.poconoraceway.com/poconoracewayblog.html](http://www.poconoraceway.com/poconoracewayblog.html) or follow him on Twitter @kevin\_heaney



Ryan G. Beliveau '08 is a financial advisor for Wealth Management Group, LLC.

# The Company You Keep

Former golf team captain becomes successful financial advisor by following a simple motto

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI



Misericordia University golf coach Tim Foran has a simple philosophy when it comes to improving his players' putting game — if you want to be a good putter, hang around with other good putters. It's an attitude that can also be applied to many other aspects of life, according to Ryan G. Beliveau '08, who captained the Cougars on the links for two seasons.

"Now I know, he was trying to teach me that if you want to be good at putting on the golf course you have to hang around people whose habits and mental tendencies will rub off on you, thus making you a skilled putter," Beliveau says, explaining his former coach's motto. "This lesson is true in all aspects of life.

"If you want to be a quality, well-rounded person, you must invest your time around other quality, well-rounded people. I was able to do this for four years while at Misericordia. Today, I am happy because I have a great family, great friends and a great quality of life. This is all due in part to understanding that if you want to be a quality person, you should surround yourself with quality people," he adds.

It also helps if you apply yourself inside and outside of the classroom, according

to the son of Michel and Cynthia Beliveau of Newton, N.J. Like a lot of graduating high school seniors, Beliveau was unsure about his future career after visiting 14 colleges and universities. He eventually chose MU and its sport management program — one of the few programs in the country that is housed in the Department of Business.

"Having classes such as business law, marketing, accounting and business financial principles mixed in with my sport management classes really helped to develop me as a business person and not just as someone who understands the history of sport," says Beliveau, who landed a job as the assistant concession director for the Sussex Skyhawks of the Can-Am Independent Baseball League after receiving his Bachelor of Science degree.

"Without these core classes as part of my curriculum, there is no way I would have been prepared for a career in business."

Today, Beliveau is a financial advisor for the financial advisory team of Wealth Management Group, LLC of Clark, N.J., that works with "people from all walks of life to accomplish their unique financial

objectives." He received the New Advisor of the Year Award in 2010 and was also selected as one of Sussex County's top 20 Business Professionals Under the Age of 40 in the region.

The former scholar athlete also offers his opinion and insights on topics ranging from retirement planning to comprehensive financial planning when starting a new business as a guest commentator on the weekly financial talk show, *Your Financial Future*.

Beliveau is a licensed broker of life, health and accident insurance, and has worked in the areas of mortgage, insurance, investments and financial planning since he entered the industry in 2009. He has provided financial services to teachers, business owners, corporate executives and retirees.

"Misericordia is a place I called home for four of the most influential years of my life," adds Beliveau, a board member of the local Jaycees and the New Jersey Support Group Leader for the National Alopecia Areata Foundation.

"Misericordia taught me many great life lessons as well as providing me with a great foundation that has helped me excel in the career of my dreams."

# Care at the Capitol

Alumna treats world leaders as a nurse in the Office of the Attending Physician

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

**L**ike most childhood pets, Cuddles the cat holds a soft spot in the heart and mind of Peggy Meck Amory '01, BSN. To this day, a broad smile overcomes her face whenever she thinks of the feline that helped shape so much of her future when she was an impressionable three year old.

She was wrapped around my neck like a scarf all day long, recalls Meck, a graduate of the Misericordia University Expressway RN to BSN program. I would spoon feed Cuddles, listen to her heart with my ear and bandage her paws. I knew then I needed to care for something in my future.

Today, Meck is an established registered nurse who has held regional jobs with Erwin's Home Health & Hospice, Luzerne Intermediate Unit and Wilkes Barre Mercy Hospital. She recently landed her dream job after the Office of the Attending Physician (OAP) on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., selected her over scores of other applicants.

I am honored to have been selected for this position, she says proudly. Each morning as I walk to the Capitol, I love looking at the dome and I feel so blessed to have been chosen to work at our nation's capital. I am taking care of people who are writing history. They will be written about in books.

OAP is the first responder to the U.S. Capitol and its grounds during a medical emergency. It also covers presidential inaugurations, Medal of Honor ceremonies, 4th of July events, State Funerals and many more. During her shift, Meck is stationed in one of nine health units providing acute and emergent care services in direct support of thousands of stakeholders of the Capitol complex, including members of Congress, visiting dignitaries and tourists, alike. The office also offers routine services, such as health screenings, treatment of minor injuries and illnesses, and medical referrals.

We are first responders for any encounter on Capitol Hill, says the daughter of Olwen Meck and the late Joseph Meck of the Alden section of Nanticoke, Pa. Our training for such an event is extremely intensive. We are responsible for the health unit we are at and anyone who may walk into our unit. This is all done under the direction of the Attending Physician to Congress. Nurses also are responsible for any emergency run that may happen in or around the building we are in.

Meck's career choice may have been molded during playful moments with her cat, but it was the Center for Adult and Continuing Education's Expressway Program that enabled her to reach her full potential. I would not have completed my Bachelor of Science degree in nursing or have the wonderful career I have without the Expressway program, she says. It enabled me to work full time and attend classes at night. It is a wonderful program that also allowed me to network with other nurses.

**Peggy Meck Amory '01, BSN, poses for a picture with the U.S. Capitol in the background.**





# Law of the Land

**Brian T. Egan, Esq., '96** poses for a picture on the steps of the United States Supreme Court.

Alumnus sworn in to the United States Supreme Court Bar to practice law

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Brian T. Egan, Esq., '96 feels people would be far more productive and happy if they lived by the simple 15th century proverb, "Do right and fear no man." Instead of "hatching schemes or worrying about the repercussions of skullduggery," people should put their nose to the grindstone, he says.

It's a practice and philosophy that has served him well in life and in business, as Egan was recently sworn in to the United States Supreme Court Bar to practice law. Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr., presided over the panel, which included seven of the nine sitting justices of the highest court in the nation.

"Being admitted to the Supreme Court is an immense honor," says Egan, who graduated magna cum laude from Misericordia with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and he received his Juris Doctor degree from St. John's University School of Law. "The formal admission ceremony is conducted with the expected level of great formality. It was the easiest court appearance I ever had to make because I didn't have to say anything. I was still nervous when great jurists such as Chief Justice Roberts, Justice Scalia and other the justices look directly at you when you name is called.

"Literally, these justices have the final word. It also was special because one of my sponsors to the bar was my mentor, Eugene Wishod, who now serves as senior counsel to our firm."

Since graduating from then College

Misericordia, the Patchogue, N.Y., native and resident has been a law clerk with the Hon. William L. Underwood, Jr., a justice of the New York State Supreme Court, established the Egan & Golden LLP law firm with his partner, Karen Golden, Esq., served as chairman of the Professional Ethics Committee for the Suffolk County Bar Association and remained active in community civic organizations.

"The education I received at Misericordia was truly priceless to me and gave me a solid foundation to thrive in law school. To this day, I thank Sister Regina Kelly every time a judge compliments one of our firm's briefs," he says.

Egan concentrates his practice in the fields of commercial litigation and municipal law, while also serving as special counsel to the Suffolk County comptroller, the village attorney for the Village of Patchogue and is a special assistant district attorney in Suffolk County.

His path to the courtroom, though, was paved by the honorable intentions and influence of his grandfather, Thomas F. Egan, II, an attorney whom he described as a "typical Irish, dinner-time barrister who filled the room with his voice and dominated the table." Egan received an early lesson in life at the impressionable age of six and vowed to follow his grandfather's lead. "At that very moment," he says, recalling the one-sided conversation he heard, "I thought to myself this was a guy who would never be taken advantage of. A seemingly straightforward answer is far different when analyzed through a legal prism.

"I resolved then that I should learn

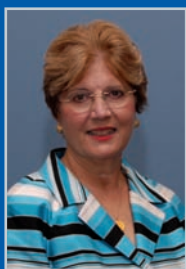
these rules to protect myself, my family and my friends. Later as an adult, I added clients to that same list."

Egan can trace his family roots in Long Island back to 1641, so you can see why the son of Tom and Jean Egan has a special affinity for his hometown region. It's that same familiarity and feeling of belonging that connected him with Misericordia and its mission of service to others. That's one of the reasons why Egan serves on the board of managers for the Brookhaven-Roe YMCA and is an active member of the Greater Patchogue Chamber of Commerce, where he volunteered to organize its nonprofit arm, the Greater Patchogue Foundation, Inc.

"For me, Misericordia felt like home shortly after I arrived as a freshman," says Egan, who is married to the former, Jennine Rizzo. "I have a close-knit family and the personal attention and support I received from faculty and staff gave it a familiar feeling. I also identified with its charisms because my family has been active in our community for generations, so that came naturally to me."

In addition to the U.S. Supreme Court, Egan is admitted to practice law in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, the U.S. District Courts in the Southern, Eastern and Western Districts of New York, and all the New York State courts. What he is most proud of, though, is the personal attention his law firm provides. "Lawyers can and should work in downtown communities," he says. "Lawyers should be engaged in their communities and lend their leadership and skills to local organizations and neighbors."

# Alumni News



**Helene Flower  
Reed '66**

For more information about alumni events and news, follow MU on [twitter.com/misericordialum](https://twitter.com/misericordialum).

Misericordia football undefeated since 1924. Cute, yes, but I know it's true because it says so on my T shirt. As amusing as the words may be considering we have yet to actually field a football team, I think the sentiment bears some merit.

You see, I believe that it is the enduring spirit of Misericordia that has been undefeated since 1924. In the years between 1924 and the present, Misericordia has been through one world war, several other wars, police actions and skirmishes, political unrest and social upheaval not to mention depressions, recessions and concessions.

We have seen the arrival of men on campus, a name change and now a football team. Many other institutions of higher education have not survived in such a rapidly changing world. Misericordia has not only survived, it has thrived! We have been able to adapt and grow to accommodate a changing society with ever evolving demands. The fact that we have been able to do so while maintaining the core values established by the Sisters of Mercy has not been accidental. Misericordia has always striven to stay true to the Mercy spirit.

We are continuing to grow and a new excitement surrounding the establishment of our football team is permeating campus. We have a fine new football coach in the person of Mark Ross. In the next year, we will see the construction of a new residence hall, a new baseball field and a new multi sport field house among other projects.

September 2012 will see the first test of the T shirt sentiment. Will Misericordia football remain undefeated since 1924? Who can tell? We can only wait and see. Regardless of what the outcome may be on the football field that day in the not too distant future, I know what will remain undefeated is the Misericordia spirit born from the values established by the Sisters of Mercy, nurtured through the decades by this institution and lived daily by the loyal alumni of Misericordia.

We are Misericordia proud! We are a spirit undefeated since 1924.

*Helene Flower Reed*

## Class Notes

Stay in touch with friends, classmates and the MU community during the year by posting updates about your career, family and accomplishments on [coulgarconnect.misericordia.edu](https://coulgarconnect.misericordia.edu), or on [facebook.com/MisericordiaAlum](https://facebook.com/MisericordiaAlum), or on [twitter.com/misericordialum](https://twitter.com/misericordialum).

**'79 Susanne Behr Traudt '79** has accepted a position with Albany's College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering as a senior safety engineer. This is a partnership organization of research and development for semiconductor technologies and academia where she is the safety and health engineer for the Nanobiological Science Constellation.

**'88 Beth Cardell, MS, OTR/L, '88** was presented with the College of Health Distinguished Teaching Award from the Division of Occupational Therapy at the University of Utah College of Health. Beth is an assistant professor. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in OT from Misericordia.

**'95 Kimberly Ann Serafin '95** and Keith Scott were married on May 15, 2010 at SS Peter and Paul Catholic Church. Kim is employed with Mercy Special Care. The couple resides in Exeter, Pa.



**'96 Bridget Ann McLaughlin '96** and Michael John Brogan were united in marriage on Nov. 26, 2010

at St. Cecilia's Church, Exeter, Pa. Bridget is employed by the Pittston Area School District as a sixth grade teacher. The couple resides in West Pittston, Pa.

**'99 Heidi Stepanski Gowden '99** and her husband, Sean, welcomed their second daughter, Evangeline Violet, into this world on Nov. 4, 2010. She is adored by her 4-year-old sister, Giada Sophia.



**'02 Justin Kreller '02** and Stacy LaCoe were united in marriage on Oct. 10, 2010 at Our Lady of Victory Church, Harveys Lake, Pa.

**'05 Vanessa Sivala and Matthew Lanfrank '05** chose St. Patrick's Parish as the setting for their June 19, 2011 wedding. Vanessa is a physical therapy supervisor for the brain injury unit at John Heinz Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Matthew is a vendor managed inventory trainer at Kraft Foods, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Following a wedding trip to Playa Mujeres, Mexico, the couple resides in Old Forge, Pa.

**Continued on the next page**

**SAVE THE DATE!**



**HOMECOMING 2011**  
SEPT. 30, OCT. 1 AND 2



## Continued from the previous page

**Melissa Sorber '05** and Eric Jarrot were united in marriage on July 23, 2010 in a beautiful outdoor ceremony. Melissa is a fifth-grade teacher in the Lake-Lehman School District. The couple resides in Lehman, Pa.

Colleen Rooney and **Jeffrey Murray '05** chose St. Paul's Church as the setting for their Oct. 23, 2010 wedding. Colleen is an occupational therapist and Jeffrey is completing his orthopedic surgical residency. The couple resides in Blackwood, N.J.

**Heather Beretski '05** and Joel Antolik were united in marriage June 26, 2010, at St. Faustina Church, Nanticoke, Pa. Heather is employed by Sam's Club and the Dallas School District as a substitute teacher. The couple honeymooned in Aruba and resides in Miners Mills, Pa.



**Meghan Paulson Giliam '05** and her husband, Richard, welcomed their son, Jacob Alexander

Giliam, on Feb. 14, 2011.

'07

**Jaime Runnels '07 and Daniel Heintzelman '07** were married on Sept. 18, 2010 in Williamsport, Pa.

Jaime is employed with Booz Allen Hamilton as a senior consultant and Dan is employed with PPL Corp. as a staff accountant. The couple resides in Hatfield, Pa.



'08

**Nancy Fine '08** and Eric McCullough were united in marriage on Sept. 18, 2010 at St. Frances

Cabrini Church, Wyoming, Pa. Nancy is employed by Friendship House in Scranton, Pa., as a therapeutic staff support worker. The couple resides in Nanticoke, Pa.

'09

**William Michael Gagliardi, Jr. '09** and Beth Ann Huntzinger were united in marriage on May

22, 2010 at Meade Street Baptist Church, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. William is employed with CareGivers America. The couple resides in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., with their two dogs, Scout and Adali.

**Amy Czuba '09** and Chad Hummel were united in marriage on May 29, 2010 during an outdoor ceremony at Bentley's. Amy is a pediatric occupational therapist at John Heinz Institute of Rehabilitative Medicine. The couple honeymooned in Riviera Maya, Mexico. They currently reside in Plymouth, Pa.

**Andrea Moon '09** and Brandon Collins were united in marriage on July 17, 2010 at Sacred Heart of Jesus Church, Dupont, Pa. Andrea is an occupational therapist with Tier Occupational Therapy Services, Hallstead, Pa. Following a wedding trip traveling through Europe, the couple resides in Avoca, Pa.

**Nichole Sechrist Garinger '09** and her husband, Conrad, welcomed their first child, Clayton Jasper Garinger, on Feb. 8, 2011.

## Philanthropy supports the Misericordia University mission

### IBEW Local 163 supports scholarships

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union 163 has made a \$10,000 pledge to the University general endowment fund in support of scholarships for students.

IBEW recently presented a check for \$2,000 as part of its five year commitment. At Misericordia, 98 percent of students receive some form of financial aid through grants, scholarships and loan assistance.

### PNC presents tax credit check to MU

PNC recently presented Misericordia University with a check in the amount of \$5,000 through funds made available in 2010 by the Pennsylvania Educational

Improvement Tax Credit program earmarked for K 12 educational improvement programs.

### Grace Episcopal Church donates to WWC

The Rev. John Franklin Hartman of Grace Episcopal Church, Kingston, Pa., presented a gift to the Women with Children Program at Misericordia University in support of the novel program's emergency fund.

The church raised \$1,000 from its 3rd Annual Grace Episcopal Charity Golf Tournament in June. The gift will be placed in an emergency fund for the upcoming academic school year. It can be accessed by students to provide food, clothing, medicine and other auxiliary items.



**President MacDowell poses with Peter J. Danchak and Michael Dennen.**



**Rev. Hartman gives check to Vicki Austin.**



**President MacDowell and Judith Ellis accept the check from Michael J. Kwashnik and Jeremy Moderwell.**

## Students ready for annual Fall Phonathon

It's even easier ... take the call and be Misericordia Proud!

Misericordia University students, faculty, staff and alumni callers are ready to process your gifts in support of the University. University outreach begins Sunday, Sept. 18 and runs through Thursday, Oct. 27. All alumni and friends can initiate or renew their giving over the phone, on-line, or by mail. Don't forget that every gift is tax deductible. Talk to you soon!

For more information about the Fall Phonathon or to have your questions answered, please contact Owen Baillie, assistant director of development, at obaillie@misericordia.edu or by calling (570) 674-8027.

Planning the pilgrimage, first row from left, are Jess Harper, Candace Levanavage, Sarah Munley, Andrew Roccograndi; second row, Lauren Gorney, Chelsea Mixon, Dr. Christine Somers, director, Campus Ministry; third row, Elizabeth Murdock, Dan Kimbrough, assistant professor; Ryan Hassick and Amy Lahart, Student Success Center.

# The Heart of Mercy

Students participating in Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders

STORY BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

**I**nspired by the story of Catherine McAuley, the foundress of the Sisters of Mercy, nine Misericordia students participated in an international pilgrimage to the Mercy International Centre in Dublin, Ireland, from Aug. 5-14

They joined high school and college students from Australia, New Zealand, and other Mercy-sponsored institutions at the Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders. Designed to engage them in the history and charism of Mercy, the organizers hope students return to their schools better equipped to be leaders in their own communities and throughout the world.

MU students who attended the Campus Ministry trip included Lauren Gorney '12; Jessica Harper '13; Ryan Hassick '15; Candice Levanavage '12; Chelsea Mixon '12; Sarah Munley '13; Elizabeth Murdock '12 '15; Grace Riker '13; and Andrew Roccograndi '12. They were accompanied by Amy Lahart, director of the Student Success Center, and Dan Kimbrough, assistant professor of communications.

The students traveled to the Mercy International Centre, the original house of the Sisters of Mercy that was built by McAuley in 1824, to see how the spirit of Mercy is carried out by students around the world. They learned the story of

Catherine McAuley and the rich heritage of the Sisters of Mercy. They were asked to carry on the mission of justice and mercy when they returned home.

Among the speakers the students heard from was Marilyn Lacey, RSM, director of Mercy Beyond Borders, a non-profit charity founded in 2008 to help the women and girls of Southern Sudan.

Levanavage says she wants to see where the mission of Misericordia started. "I hope to gain a better understanding of Catherine McAuley's legacy while learning more about what other Mercy institutions are doing to promote all of the hard work that this incredible woman strived for," she said before the trip. "I have a love for the charisms that Misericordia holds dear to its heart and will be honored to share that with the other institutions at the conference."

Hassick, whose career will also be dedicated to helping people, hopes to incorporate the lessons he learns in his future plans — both on campus and when he someday operates his own physical therapy clinic. "I am motivated to learn as much as I possibly can as an individual and then use this inner personal growth to help my University community grow," he also outlined before departing for Ireland. "I hope to gain a new understanding of where the Mercy's charisms came from. I

also hope to gain ideas to bring back and use them to start up new programs, clubs or initiatives on our own campus."

Murdock wanted to learn more about Catherine McAuley, including the beliefs and lifestyle on which Misericordia was founded. "I would like to find a greater sense of the origin of our charisms and hope to learn different ideas to bring back to Misericordia," she said before the trip.

By returning to the country of her ancestors, Riker wanted to learn more about her roots and MU's. When students choose a college, they are really choosing a second home to grow in," she said before the journey. "I love everything about the University, so this trip caught my eye because it is a place where I could learn more about our history.

"This trip also gives me a chance to get back to my roots."

The trip included an excursion to Northern Ireland with a tour of Belfast and a visit to the Giant's Causeway. They also met with an Irish family and studied the history of conflicts and the peace process in Northern Ireland.

Other speakers included Jude McCann of the Community Foundation of Northern Ireland, a foundation that manages funding and programming to tackle social exclusion, poverty and social injustice.

Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders: Follow and learn more about the students' trip via the Campus Ministry trip's blog site: [w.mucampusministrytravelblog.tumblr.com](http://w.mucampusministrytravelblog.tumblr.com)



Sandra Sellani '82  
composes marketing magic  
during 20-year career

# Marketing Masterpiece

STORY BY JIM ROBERTS

**E**ven the most talented music composers start with a blank sheet of paper and add notes one by one to assemble something that is engaging and captivating.

Sandra Sellani '82, a classically trained pianist and a graduate of Misericordia with a Bachelor of Music Degree, composes successful marketing departments where none existed before. Entering the marketing field by accident, Sellani found her acumen for the field by seizing upon an opportunity.

"I was working directly with patients for a convalescent care corporation doing music and recreational therapy. The marketing director resigned. I told management that I would take over marketing until they hired someone. I ended up keeping the marketing director job for six years while also overseeing the patient music activities and doing music therapy. The company grew from one to four centers while I was marketing director and I realized I was hooked on marketing," says Sellani.

Many people struggle to understand how a music therapy major from a small Pennsylvania college could make a successful transition to a competitive business discipline such as marketing, but Sellani explains it easily.

"It made sense. Marketing has both creative and strategic elements – not too different from the study of music. There's a process required in getting a piece of music up to performance level. I think the

study of music gave me a sixth sense about strategy and creative execution in the business world. Also being on a stage performing gave me huge confidence as a public speaker, which I have also done for nearly 20 years. It seemed natural to be on a stage communicating to an audience, whether through music or the spoken word."

Sellani's marketing career continues to build to a crescendo. Now residing in Newport Beach, Calif., and holding an MBA degree from Pepperdine, she's obtained VP positions in the health care industry and commercial real estate, helping each organization to grow significantly. In three cases, Sellani crafted the marketing departments and marketing strategies as virtual start ups and started her own consultancy firm to assist others.

"I'm working on my third start up of an internal marketing department," she says. "I think there's still an evolution in the understanding of marketing. Some still see it as one of many functions of the organization. It's much bigger than that. I always tell organizations: 'Marketing is far too important a job to be left to the marketing department.'"

"In other words, every member of the organization needs to understand the marketing and brand strategy and use it as a guide in how they do their own work. No matter what their title is, they will impact the brand every day. How you answer a phone, resolve a customer complaint or send an e-mail will reveal your contribution to the brand. Everything

communicates," she adds.

Sellani turned her knowledge of branding into a popular book, *What is your BQ? (Brand Quotient)*, that reached the No. 2 ranking for marketing books on Amazon.com. "I was inspired (to write the book) by two things – my music therapy internship at Napa State Psychiatric Hospital and a strategy class in graduate school," says Sellani. Fascinated by the medical professional's ability to assess personality, she sought to create an assessment tool for an organization's brand (sometimes known as the personality of the organization) from existing research and her own insights.

Her nationwide book tour created a bit of apprehension. "What can I teach these business leaders that they don't already know?" In the end she observed, "They were experts in their respective areas, but this was new and exciting to them. They ate it up and wanted more."

When presented with her alma mater's current marketing tag line, "Learn to succeed," Sellani says, "I love the tag line. What I learned from my experience at Misericordia is that while motivation comes from within, we do not succeed alone. It's always about collaboration – getting talented people to work together as a supportive team. When playing an instrument as part of an orchestra, you need to listen to the music that others are producing, not just your own, and find a way to create something that is meaningful and enjoyable to your audience."

Follow Sandra Sellani '82 on Twitter @SandraSellani

Susan O'Neill Mayo '71, middle, is presented her award by Leslie G. Sarasin, Esq., CAE president and CEO of the Food Marketing Institute, left, and Richard N. Jurgens, chairman and CEO of Hy Vee, Inc., and chairman of the FMI Board of Directors



# *Finding a rewarding career in* Home and Heart

Alumna serves customers, community as consumer affairs professional

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

As a high school student in Suffern, N.Y., and an undergraduate student at Misericordia, Susan O'Neill Mayo '71 wanted to be a home economics teacher. But a move south and a lack of teaching jobs ultimately set her on a decades-long career of serving consumers and the community.

"You never know what you can do with what you have," Mayo says. "It's about seizing the moment, identifying opportunities, persevering and doing what's right. That's what's important."

In 2010, Mayo left the Farm Fresh grocery store chain in Virginia after an award-winning, 33-year career in consumer affairs. Along the way she was instrumental in establishing and directing the Farm Fresh Foundation, the company's charitable arm, which led her to her latest work in the nonprofit sector as chief marketing officer for the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia.

After graduating from Misericordia in 1971 with a Bachelor of Science in home economics education, Mayo moved to the Norfolk, Va., area with her husband, Thomas, a commissioned U.S. Navy officer. Finding no teaching positions, she took a job working in dietetics at a local hospital and then as a nutrition educator for the Dairy Council before leaving to

have her first of two children.

As a grocery-shopping mother with an interest in consumerism, rooted in her nutrition and home economics background, she began to notice some things her local Farm Fresh could do to benefit consumers and the company.

"I wrote a letter to the president of the grocery store chain that eventually employed me throughout my career," she says. "I said I thought his stores were great, but that he really needed a consumer advocate to be the liaison between the consumer and management."

She soon was offered a job of her own creation, one which allowed the company to better understand its customers, educate consumers and receive feedback on what shoppers liked or didn't like. She went on to spend a career providing information to consumers, such as nutrition and wellness information, food safety guidance and money saving tips, while also leading communications strategies and community relations.

By the time she left Farm Fresh, Mayo was vice president for consumer affairs and public relations. This year, she was awarded the prestigious Esther Peterson Award for Distinguished Service in Supermarket Consumer Affairs by the Food Marketing Institute. Mayo says it was the highest honor she could receive, not only as recognition for her work, but also because of its namesake. Esther Peterson was a pioneering consumer

advisor, who also worked as a special assistant for consumer affairs for two U.S. presidents.

In addition to her role as a consumer advocate she worked with 1,500 nonprofit organizations to provide charitable support on behalf of Farm Fresh. She also facilitated an associate assistance program that helped employees through difficult financial times.

After leaving Farm Fresh to start Susan T. Mayo Consulting, LLC, a marketing and public relations firm, her main client was the Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia, an organization she helped establish and served as chair of the board. The Foodbank hired her as its chief marketing officer in December, and she now directs its public relations, marketing and donor relations. She also continues to work with several nonprofits through her consulting firm.

As a student, Mayo chose Misericordia when her mother told her to pick a Catholic college. She fell in love with the school on her first campus visit. Coming from limited financial means, she worked through college and took on loans to support herself, and she says it was all worth it for the experience Misericordia gave her.

"If it wasn't for Misericordia, I wouldn't have experienced the success I've had in my life, personally and professionally," Mayo says. "Misericordia really shaped my destiny and helped me become the person I am today."



# 85<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY



## Maintain your MU friendships for a lifetime by registering on CougarConnect

For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at:  
[alumni@misericordia.edu](mailto:alumni@misericordia.edu) or visit: [cougarconnect.misericordia.edu](http://cougarconnect.misericordia.edu)

**Alumni Volunteer Program:** Contact Virginia Conrad 05 at (570) 674 6228  
to be an admissions, alumni/development or career services volunteer.







2011 Alumni Welcome Ceremony.



Marshals for the 85th Annual Commencement ceremony.



A presentation is delivered at the Washington, D.C., brunch.



OT alumni at AOTA Conference in Philadelphia, Pa.



Capt. Christine Pufnock Beck '01, O.T.R./L., and her dog, Bradford.



The Class of 2011 featured four valedictorians.



Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md.

# ALU Photo





Alumni entertain residents at Mercy Center.



The May 2011 Alumni Welcome Ceremony.



St. Patrick's Day volunteers at the Mercy Center.



The president addresses alumni in Washington, D.C.

M N I

# Album

Make more alumni connections.  
Visit [cougarconnect.misericordia.edu](http://cougarconnect.misericordia.edu) by  
using your unique log in ID located above  
your address on Misericordia Today.



Alumni participate in Washington, D.C., event.



Alumni Association's annual Valentine Dinner Dance.



4th Annual Valentine Dinner Dance in Insalaco Hall.



The annual Alumni Welcome Ceremony.



# Making a difference one patient at a time

Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association presents Master Clinician Award to Huber '92

Lynne M. Huber '92, O.T.R./L., poses for a picture outside the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's Center for Rehab Services.

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Lynne M. Huber '92, B.S., O.T.R./L., is old school.

She became a health care professional for two altruistic reasons: To simply make a difference and because of the childhood memories that lingered from her own grandmother's lengthy hospitalizations. "I just remember wanting to help her," she says today.

The natural instinct to help others that she nurtured as a second grader has expanded from family members to patients and to the next generation of health care providers. As a senior occupational therapist at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's (UPMC) Center for Rehab Services in Pittsburgh, Pa., she helps people regain independence and redevelop skills for daily living after an illness or injury.

The Altoona, Pa., native also is a resource for higher education and the occupational therapy profession. She is a clinical fieldwork educator to students from several academic programs, including Chatham University, Duquesne University, the University of Pittsburgh and the Community College of Allegheny County, and is also a guest lecturer to Master of Occupational Therapy programs at Chatham and the University of Pittsburgh.

As the senior OT at UPMC, she is a resource to other occupational therapists and acts as an ambassador for the

department in educating other health care professionals as to the role of an OT. She also collaborates with speech-language pathologists and physical therapists to develop the best course of treatment for patients, including the facilitation of interdisciplinary meetings to communicate those needs back to the medical doctor.

"Many of the students that Ms. Huber trains are placed with her by special request of the referring academic program, indicating her strong skills in structural clinical training, supervising and mentoring," wrote Joanne Baird, MA, OTR/L, assistant professor at the University of Pittsburgh. "Ms. Huber has influenced area practitioners with the ongoing, consistently high quality of her professional contributions."

In nominating Huber for the 2010 Master Clinician Award, Baird and other colleagues submitted a letter and accompanying materials to the Pennsylvania Occupational Therapy Association. Huber received the award at the annual conference in October thanks to her dedication to profession and the support of her peers.

"I was very humbled by the award," she acknowledges. "I was overwhelmed at being nominated and was very honored to find out that I had won. I just do my job to the best of my ability. As my

parents taught me, any job worth doing is worth doing well. That is what I do every day.

"I don't do it to be recognized or honored, but it was very nice someone thinks that what I do is important," Huber adds.

It was Misericordia University that "pulled it all together" for Huber. After receiving an AS in occupational therapy in 1985 from Mount Aloysius College, she worked as a certified occupational therapy assistant before enrolling in Misericordia's program and also working as a teaching assistant and resident assistant.

"Misericordia holds a special place in my heart," she acknowledges. "It was where I expanded the OT knowledge that started back at the Mount. It was the place that helped pull it all together for me. It was at Misericordia that I also learned a lot more about being part of things."

Today, she is a part of something bigger, a large, state-wide network of health care practitioners and educators who appreciate her dedication and simple approach to occupational therapy. "(The best part about being an OT is) making a difference," Huber believes, and "working with some wonderful people — both patients and the other health care professionals that I work with on a daily basis."





# The face of hope

## for those living with HIV/AIDS

Sister Ruth Neely

STORY BY MARIANNE TUCKER PUHALLA

It starts with a simple handshake. No judging, no criticizing. A warm welcome and guaranteed smile for those who face a lifetime of stigma because of the disease they carry.

As the family nurse practitioner (FNP) at The Wright Center for Primary Care in Scranton, Pa., Ruth Neely '96, RSM, M.S.N., C.R.N.P., is the face of hope for more than 400 HIV and AIDs patients. The facility is the only primary care center for HIV patients in a seven-county region of Northeastern Pennsylvania. With the help of a team of compassionate health care professionals, Sister Neely serves as the navigator, seeing the patients through what must often seem like a maze of treatments, medicine, medical victories and all-too-frequent setbacks.

Her leadership in serving the vulnerable and underserved has earned her a three-year appointment on the Pennsylvania Governor's Health Policy Board, an advisory group within the Department of Health charged with development of the State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP) and making recommendations to the Secretary of Health to shape public policy regarding the health of all Pennsylvanians.

"The sad fact remains that although it is 30 years since HIV was identified there is still a terrible stigma attached to it," she says. "Most people just don't understand. In reality, there is no single face to it. My patients range from 19 to 76 — both women and men, some wearing business suits ... they could be

You can reach Sister Neely at The Wright Center for Primary Care, 640 Madison Ave., Scranton, PA 18510, (570) 961 5670 or at [neelyr@thewrightcenter.org](mailto:neelyr@thewrightcenter.org). For information, please go to [www.thewrightcenter.org](http://www.thewrightcenter.org).

your neighbor, your business partner, your best friend."

Sister Neely earned her master's degree as a family nurse practitioner from Misericordia at the age of 51. This long-term care nurse felt there was a need in the community for the holistic approach to health care that being an FNP allows. Having previously served as coordinator and director of Health Services and director of nursing at Mercy Center Retirement Center on the campus of Misericordia University, she has more than 40 years of experience with direct patient care. She knows the importance of having comprehensive services, including nutrition, mental health counseling and internal medicine, under one roof in the primary care center. She is tremendously proud of her team and the work they do.

In a paper she wrote for a Misericordia class in 1996, Sister Neely stated, "It is crucial that nurses approach the ethical issue of lifestyle behavior choices proactively in order to support the position for nursing that focuses on interdependence. The lack of clear policies on ethical issues presents nurses

with a unique position to seize new opportunities to shape and influence health care delivery on a local or national level." The points she made, she says, are still true today.

"Sisters of Mercy are known for responding to a need. That is what I did. HIV is no longer a death sentence, but a chronic disease that can be treated and managed. I have paved a path to help them through that journey by teaching them how to take care of themselves, and by teaching medical residents how to provide compassionate, holistic care to HIV patients. It is exceptionally rewarding," she adds.

Her concern for patients comes in part from her own experiences. A breast cancer survivor, she knows too well the anguish of a catastrophic diagnosis. Yet, there is a definitive twinkle in her eye when she talks about the work she does, and more often than not, a dance in her step as she breaks into the finale from "Sister Act" or belts out a comic chorus of "My God," sung to the tune of "My Guy." A former participant in a group of singing nuns called "Changing Habits," Sister Neely spent years taking her enthusiasm and singing talent on-the-road, prior to her cancer diagnosis.

She continues to generate smiles wherever she goes and brings a contagious love of living to her patients, who she constantly encourages and cajoles. They are guaranteed to find a safe refuge in her smile.



## ATHLETICS PROFILE: JACK LYDIC

Former Bloomsburg University football standout Jack Lydic has been named offensive coordinator at Misericordia University.

Lydic will also coach the quarterbacks and serve as assistant coordinator of athletics operations.

I'm pleased to welcome Jack Lydic to the Misericordia University family as a member of our football coaching staff, said David Martin, director of athletics. His combination of football experience, knowledge and energy level will be an asset to our program.

Following a stellar career at Bloomsburg, Lydic went on to serve as a professional player/coach in Europe and spent the last three seasons as an assistant coach at Susquehanna University, where he helped the Crusaders to a conference championship in 2009 and was part of the Liberty League Coaching Staff of the Year.

Jack was an outstanding player and has proven to be just as talented as an assistant coach, said MU head coach Mark Ross. I look forward to working with him as we build a football program at Misericordia.



Jack Lydic

Mark Ross, head coach of the Misericordia University football team.



## Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?

STORY BY SCOTT CRISPELL

**M**isericordia University and the Board of Trustees approved the formation of a football program in October 2010 and announced the hiring of Mark Ross as head coach in January 2011. The following is a question and answer interview with Coach Ross so alumni understand his philosophies, goals and strategies as the University's inaugural kick off in 2012 draws near.

**You've been the head football coach at Misericordia since February, how's it going?**

**Mark Ross** I'm happy with where we are at this point. We've achieved some of our recruiting goals. We have some current students on campus who have solid football backgrounds and we have a good group of incoming freshmen. More importantly, we've had a number of high school juniors visit campus as they prepare for their senior seasons.

**When will you start practice?**

**Mark Ross** We will have 35-40 players take part in a non-traditional season this fall. We'll look to practice three days a week. It will give the kids a chance to get acclimated

to college football and will give the coaches an opportunity to evaluate what we have.

**When will your coaching staff begin to take shape?**

**Mark Ross** We have hired two full-time assistant coaches who joined the staff this summer. We have hired an offensive coordinator and an offensive line coach. Their top priorities will be recruiting. Next year, we'll hire two graduate assistants and three or four part-time coaches.

**What are your goals for recruiting?**

**Mark Ross** We have about a dozen freshmen coming in this fall. They are primarily enrolled in 5-year degree



programs so they won't lose a year of eligibility. We hope to bring in 50 freshmen for 2012.

#### What are you looking for in a recruit?

**Mark Ross** The first thing we're looking at is academics. We're not looking to take any shortcuts and we don't want to bring in a player who can't succeed here. After that, we're looking at character and leadership. We'll look for players who served as their high school team captains. With that, we'll also recruit the best football player possible.

#### How does that tie in to what we'll see on the field?

**Mark Ross** We will try to identify kids that can do what we want them to do and we'll put them in the best position to be successful. Our scheme will be versatile enough to adapt to our personnel. Ultimately, we will do what our players do best.

#### What are your immediate goals?

**Mark Ross** We want to create an atmosphere of competition. We want to compete hard every week. If you do that, you will give yourself a chance to win.

#### What has the response been like on campus?

**Mark Ross** Everyone has been very supportive and positive. Everyone I've talked to is looking forward to it. We expect our players to be part of the campus community so I am very pleased to see that everyone is so welcoming.

#### After 10 years as an assistant at Ithaca, what led you to Misericordia?

**Mark Ross** I've always wanted to be a head coach and I am intrigued by the opportunity to build a program from the ground up. Misericordia is close to home for my family. When I visited campus, everyone I met was very welcoming. It seemed like a perfect fit.

#### You worked under two legendary head coaches – Denny Douds at East Stroudsburg and Mike Welch at Ithaca. How will that transfer to your role as a head coach?

**Mark Ross** I've had the opportunity to work under two great coaches and teachers. They taught me so much and let me do my job. I'll try to surround myself with good assistant coaches and let them do their jobs so I can do mine.

#### What's the most daunting aspect about starting a program?

**Mark Ross** I was offered the job as I was getting to leave for the American Football Coaches Convention and I spent most of my

### 01 Middle Atlantic Conference Football Standings

	W	L	T
Albright	0	0	0
Delaware Valley	0	0	0
FDU-Florham	0	0	0
King's	0	0	0
Lebanon Valley	0	0	0
Lycoming	0	0	0
Misericordia	0	0	0
Stevenson	0	0	0
Widener	0	0	0
Wilkes	0	0	0

### Misericordia University Football Schedule

Sat. Sept. 1	at Gettysburg
Sat. Sept. 8	at Lebanon Valley *
Sat. Sept. 15	Widener *
Sat. Sept. 22	at King's *
Sat. Sept. 29	Stevenson *
(Homecoming)	
Sat. Oct. 6	at Wilkes *
Sat. Oct. 20	at Delaware Valley *
Sat. Oct. 27	FDU-Florham *
Sat. Nov. 3	at Albright *
Sat. Nov. 10	Lycoming *

\* MAC opponent

time at the convention with the equipment exhibitors. As I was walking around the exhibit room I realized that we need a lot of stuff from helmets to should pads to thigh pads. So I think the most daunting thing is just making sure that we pay attention to every detail.

#### What's the most exciting aspect about starting a program?

**Mark Ross** The fact that we'll have a say in every part of the program. This experience is like writing a book and we're starting with the introduction. We're looking forward to building something that will make the Misericordia community proud.

#### How long will it take to build a successful program?

**Mark Ross** The MAC is a real tough football conference and that makes our job even tougher. It will take a few years to get a full complement of kids into the program. We will measure our success by the progress that we make week to week. With that, we're going to prepare ourselves to win. I don't know what the record is for start up programs, but we're going to shoot for it.

## ATHLETICS PROFILE: CHRIS GRAY

Former Ithaca University football standout Chris Gray has been named offensive line coach at Misericordia University.

Gray will also serve as strength and conditioning coach. Chris is a welcome addition to Misericordia University and our football coaching staff, said David Martin, director of athletics. In addition to his football coaching responsibilities, he will serve as the first strength and conditioning coach at Misericordia, which will benefit our entire athletics program.

After an outstanding playing career at Ithaca, Gray spent a year as an offensive line coach at his alma mater and spent last season at Hartwick College.

Chris played a key role in the success of the Ithaca football team during his career, said MU head coach Mark Ross. His experience as part of a winning program will certainly be a benefit at Misericordia.

Gray was a three year starter at left guard while helping the Bombers to a 24-8 record and two NCAA championships appearances.

Chris Gray





## New Nuclear Medicine Program begins in fall

The Department of Medical Imaging is introducing a new certificate program in nuclear medicine technology beginning in the fall semester for both traditional and adult learners.

The 50 credit program is available over six sessions in a combination of on line and weekend formats for academic course work and weekdays for clinical experiences for anyone who meets the 19 credits of pre requisite courses. The certificate program can be completed in as little as 21 months. It also offers students in the MU medical imaging program an additional area of expertise.

## Health Informatics addresses needs in field

The Center for Adult and Continuing Education now offers an undergraduate certificate in health informatics to meet the need for a skilled workforce in the expanding field of health information technology. The program is designed for professionals and students in health fields, management information systems, information technology and business. The 15 credit certificate can be completed in as little as two semesters in a part time format. The courses can also be applied to a BS in health care management.

## MS specialization in reading offered by TED

The Teacher Graduate Education Program is introducing a Master's of Science in Education with a specialization in reading and a reading specialist certificate beginning with the fall semester. The Master's program is designed to address a specific need in the educational community. It enables teachers who are already certified to obtain both a reading specialist certificate and a master's degree in education with a specialization in reading. It also adds another option for undergraduate students in teacher education at MU who will be able to earn their reading specialist certification in the fifth year of the program.



# FACULTY NOTES

**Kingsley Banya, Ph.D.**, professor and chair of the Department of Teacher Education, was recognized by The Institute for Public Policy & Economic Development for presenting the "best faculty research" at the Fourth Annual Faculty Research Symposium at the University of Scranton. Dr. Banya presented *The New Managerial Class in Higher Education*.

**Cari Tellis, Ph.D., C.C.C.-SLP**, an assistant professor in the Speech-Language Pathology Department, presented her research findings at the 132nd Annual Meeting of the American Laryngological Association in Chicago, Ill.

Dr. Tellis and her colleagues presented, *Use of a Novel Instrument to Determine Oxygen Consumption and Hemoglobin Levels in Human Thyroarytenoid Muscle Pre and Post Exercise*.

**Brenda L. Hage, Ph.D., C.R.N.P.**, associate professor of nursing and director of the graduate nursing program, received the advanced degree scholarship from the Nightingale Awards of Pennsylvania. She will pursue a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree at Chatham University, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Three faculty members were honored at the 85th annual Commencement ceremony. **Kathleen Devine Gelso, R.N., M.S.N.**, assistant professor of nursing, was presented the Judge Max and Tillie Rosenn Excellence in Teaching Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to student learning and development.

**Patricia Marie McCann, RSM, Ed.D.**, associate professor in the Teacher Education Department, was awarded the Pauly and Sidney Friedman Excellence in Service Award, which is given to a member of the faculty in recognition of their service to the University and community.

**Rebecca Steinberger, Ph.D.**, department chair and professor of English, received the Louis and Barbara Alesi Excellence in Scholarship Award which recognizes and promotes the

academic accomplishments of faculty members in terms of their scholarship and/or artistic achievements.

Misericordia University has awarded tenure and promotion to six members of the faculty:

**Allan W. Austin, Ph.D.**, was promoted to professor of history; **Joseph Curran, Ph.D.**, chair of the Religious Studies Department, was promoted to associate professor and tenured; **Thomas Hajkowski, Ph.D.**, director of the Honors Program, was promoted to associate professor of history and tenured; **Cynthia Glawe Mailloux, Ph.D., R.N.**, associate professor and chairperson of the Nursing Department, received tenure; **Steven J. Tedford, Ph.D.**, was promoted to associate professor of mathematics; and **David C. Wright, Jr., Ph.D.**, chair of the History Department, was promoted to professor of history.

**Alicia Nordstrom, Ph.D.**, associate professor of psychology, received an honorable mention for the 2011 Action Teaching Award from the Social Psychology Network for the classroom assignment, *The Voices Project: Using Narratives to Reduce Stereotyping*.

**Kathleen Scaler Scott, Ph.D. C.C.C.-SLP**, an assistant professor of speech-language pathology, has had her book, *Cluttering: A Handbook of Research, Intervention and Education*, published by Psychology Press.

**Jim Siberski, M.S., C.M.C., CRmT**, assistant professor and coordinator of gerontology education, has been named a member of the Mid-Atlantic Geriatric Care Managers Association, a chapter of the National Association of Professional Geriatric Care Managers.

**Denis Anson, M.S., O.T.R.**, director of research and development for the Assistive Technology Research Institute, was presented with the Distinguished Service Award at the Rehabilitation Engineering & Assistive Technology Society of North America 2011 Annual Conference in Toronto in June.



# High

STORY BY PAUL KRZYWICKI

Thomas Hajkowski, Ph.D., associate professor of history, is not the Highlander, the iconic science fiction character, nor is he immortal, but for years he has imagined himself as being a part of important events in world history. With an engaging high school teacher and his own enthusiasm fueling his imagination, key periods from antiquity to the Vietnam war and other epic adventures sprung to life for the teenager.

I would be reading about the great deeds and events of the past and would imagine myself being a part of it or at least being there to see it all, says Dr. Hajkowski, a member of the Misericordia faculty since 2005. I think that's where my initial pleasure and interest in history came from. Even though I think about history very differently now, I still very much enjoy thinking about what it must have been like to have lived in the past.

It would be easy to say that Dr. Hajkowski derives much of his passion and zeal for teaching from his parents. After all, Robert and Ann Hajkowski enjoyed successful careers in secondary education as industrial arts and mathematics teachers, but it goes deeper than that. Call it style, substance or even kinetic energy, but any casual observer can see that it's almost second nature for this historian to bring the subject matter to life for his students.

I am very high energy in the classroom, the Linden, N.J., native acknowledges. I really want students to be engaged with whatever we are doing, and I am always trying to get them to share their thoughts about historical texts or imagery or the way that history is

## QUICK INFO

**Link to book review:**  
<http://www.history.ac.uk/reviews/reviews/review/1079>

presented in modern mass media. I think I ask a lot of the students while they are in class with me, but as far as I am concerned reading, processing and discussing texts is the best way for them to learn history.

History as a matter of fact also evolves, as historians, scholars and archeologists are digging constantly into important texts and periods of time to learn more about them or to simply understand a certain aspect of it better. That's what took Dr. Hajkowski to Europe to conduct research on nationalism, one of his favorite topics. The relatively recent phenomenon did not exist for centuries, and he wanted to devote his time into examining how the media could shape national identity for its consumers.

I have always been interested in nationalism and why and how people think of themselves as part of a nation, says Dr. Hajkowski, who also taught history at Cumberland County College in Vineland, N.J., and Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. It is only very recently maybe the last 200 years that Europeans and Americans developed ideas like nationalism or love of country.

What began as his doctoral dissertation in 2000 now expanded into his first book project. He spent nine months in Britain conducting additional research and writing before shepherding the project through the publication and production processes. Manchester University Press

published Dr. Hajkowski's landmark book, *The BBC and National Identity in Britain, 1922-53*, which examines how the BBC constructed and disseminated British national identity during that time period. It is the first study to focus on how the network, through its radio programs, tried to represent what it meant to be British, according to the Misericordia professor.

Most importantly, and most relevant to my book, is the question of what people think makes up the characteristics of different nationalities. What does it mean to be American or Italian? My book is interested in the questions of what it meant to be British, but also at the same time to be Scottish, Irish or Welsh, Dr. Hajkowski explains.

During his research in the BBC's own Written Archives Centre at Caversham, England, Dr. Hajkowski was surprised to find how the BBC tried to reflect the national diversity of Britain by giving access and voice to Britain's minority populations, especially during the late 1930s.

His book has also received a positive review by Hugh Chignell of Bournemouth University and a contributor to *Reviews in History*. There can be little doubt that the small but growing band of broadcasting historians will welcome this important book, Chignell wrote in his lengthy review. Thomas Hajkowski has made a significant contribution to our understanding of the interplay between programming and the broader theme of nation building. His long hours in the archives have produced a book which will surely be featured on cultural history reading lists for a very long time.

The book can be purchased in specialty bookstores and online at Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble.



# Want To **SAVE** on Your 2011 Taxes?

For a 'special group'— those 70½ or older —  
IRA charitable rollovers are back!

Once again you have the opportunity to make direct, tax-free transfers from traditional IRA and Roth IRAs to qualified tax-exempt organizations like *Misericordia University*.

This giving option may prove especially appealing for those who are required to take a minimum distribution from an IRA. The rollover provision provides tax incentives to citizens age 70½ or older to contribute assets from their individual retirement accounts without having to treat the proceeds as taxable income, providing a measure of tax relief.

## The following is a summary of the benefits that apply:

- Your charitable distribution counts toward your required annual minimum distribution.
- You may roll over any amount up to \$100,000 directly from your IRA account.
- This option provides the ability to make a larger gift in 2011 than if you used other assets.
- Rollovers may be used to fulfill documented pledges.
- The rollover generates neither taxable income nor a tax deduction.

## Some restrictions:

- **Time Sensitive**  
Currently this tax incentive ends December 31, 2011.
- **70 ½ Minimum Age**  
You must be in that "special group" at the time of making gifts of cash or stock.
- **IRA → MU**  
Donors must contribute directly to MU through their IRA administrator. However, please let us know that you have requested the transfer so we can look for it to arrive.

## ADVANCE NOTICE FOR 2012 ANNIVERSARY YEARS (those ending in 2 & 7)

The timing for IRA charitable rollovers is perfect for Anniversary Year gifts. Help your class shine at Alumni Weekend by giving a stretch gift or paying a pledge through your IRA!

## Questions or need our tax ID?

Contact **Barbara Merdiushev, Director of Major Gifts and Planned Giving, Misericordia University, Dallas PA**  
18612-1090, 570-674-6167 [bmerdius@misericordia.edu](mailto:bmerdius@misericordia.edu)

## 1924 SOCIETY HONORS FOUNDING YEAR

A new giving category, the **1924 Society**, has been established at Misericordia University to honor our founding year by the Sisters of Mercy. The **1924 Society** recognizes donors who annually contribute \$1,924 to \$2,499. Honoring our founding year provides focus to the mission of the Sisters of Mercy while offering an opportunity for everyone associated with Misericordia to continue to help us live our mission today.

In Memoriam

Tiffany Dickinson '02  
November 1, 2010

Alice Hand Hughes '40  
February 2, 2011

Jorelyn Anne Dunn '74  
May 31, 2010

Constance Szczech '76  
September 28, 2010

Joyce Brink '80  
December 25, 2010

Marie Anna Winslow '52  
January 3, 2011

William "Murph" Murphy '79  
January 4, 2011

"Mary" Melvina Jordan Sweeney '62  
January 8, 2011

Helen Cannon Novelli '62  
February 8, 2011

Alda Giannini Strazdus '37  
February 9, 2011

Kathryn Muller '74  
February 10, 2011

Donna Lucas Lawson '90  
February 15, 2011

Mary Beline Russell '42  
February 18, 2011

John "Jack" Lawson '04  
March 6, 2011

JoAnn Wasowski Haslett '73  
March 14, 2011

Regina Borsik McHale '59  
March 17, 2011

Celia Kluger Freed '49  
March 17, 2011

Mary Susanne Stutz, RSM '55  
March 27, 2011

Ann Gallagher Checkur '61  
March 28, 2011

Mary Lachette Weaver '74  
April 3, 2011

Madonna Zimmerman Jezuit '69  
April 7, 2011

Mary Domitilla Temprine, RSM '46  
April 8, 2011

Sister Mary Domitilla Temprine, '46  
April 8, 2011

Judy Flohr '76  
April 23, 2011

Mary Marjorie Downing '61  
April 23, 2011

John Paltanavich '88  
April 26, 2011

Eleanor Snavelly Hamilton '64  
April 26, 2011

Marian Brown Fearick '40  
April 28, 2011

Mollie Crossin Gill '41  
April 30, 2011

Eugenia McGuire Hoban '67  
May 6, 2011

Ann Marie Dzanko Button '60  
May 9, 2011

Patricia Neilson, RSM '57  
May 13, 2011

Dr. Rosemarie Leandri '63  
May 14, 2011

Alice Coyle '52  
May 27, 2011

Thomas Norton '79  
June 4, 2011

Marie McCarthy Mohan '42  
June 12, 2011

Sister Mary Ferdinand  
June 7, 2011

Kathleen Shovlin '60  
June 18, 2011

Dr. Nancy Chiavacci Sarsfield '58  
June 21, 2011





## CAMPUS VIEWS

### Graduate nursing student receives national scholarship

Lauren Murphy '04, '11, R.N., a graduate nursing student in the Adult Health Clinical Nurse Specialist program, was named by the Clinical Nurse Specialist Foundation as the recipient of the Nancy and Donald Dayhoff Clinical Nurse Specialist Scholarship for outstanding achievement in course work, leadership activities and for an essay that documented the family support she received while seeking her advanced degree.



Murphy

### Active Minds orchestrates Scremfest on campus

The Active Minds student organization orchestrated a Scremfest as part of National Stress Out Week to encourage students, staff and faculty to let off some mid-term steam by screaming at the top of their lungs for 10 seconds.



Members of the campus community participate in the 2nd annual Scremfest.

### Professor, student receive award for documentary

Dan Kimbrough, assistant professor of communications, and communications graduate Eleni Konstas '11 received an Award of Distinction from The Videographer Awards for a documentary that chronicles service work by MU students in Wichita Falls, Texas.

Kimbrough accompanied a team of students, faculty and staff as a volunteer and videographer in order to document the spring break service trip. Konstas

served as an assistant producer and assistant editor, and videotaped portions of the documentary. The 10-minute documentary, *Home is...* highlights the volunteer work of the 21 college students and three chaperones who worked with Habitat for Humanity from March 6-11. The video can be seen at <http://www.vimeo.com/23656378>.

### Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders Conference

Misericordia students held a Cinderella Ice Cream Party fundraiser in the Banks Student Life Center in support of their Dublin Pilgrimage for Young Mercy Leaders Conference.

The fundraiser featured pictures with Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty and other



Chelsea Mixon '12 plays Cinderella.

characters, along with fun activities such as balloon animals, face painting, and magic tricks.

### TEAM Mentoring Program sponsors Cinco de Mayo

The Teaching Each Other About Misericordia Mentoring Program (TEAM), in conjunction with the MultiCultural Club, sponsored a social cookout for Cinco de Mayo for the campus and Meyers High School students who participate in the mentoring program.

TEAM is a pipeline mentoring project involving MU students, staff and faculty, and students from Meyers High School in Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Members of the program provide academic and social support to students and in turn provide useful information about higher education and professional careers.

### Munley honored as a Newman Civic Fellow

Sarah Munley '13, an early childhood and special education major, was one of

135 collegians from 30 states who were honored as Newman Civic Fellows by Campus Compact.

College and university presidents have nominated the best-of-the-best: promising college student leaders who have demonstrated an investment in finding solutions for challenges facing communities throughout the country. Through service, research and advocacy, these Newman Civic Fellows are making the most of their college experiences to better understand themselves, the root causes of social issues, and effective mechanisms for creating lasting change.

### SLP graduate student receives Von Drach Scholarship

Nicholas A. Barone '11, a speech-language pathology graduate student, was awarded the 2011 Von Drach Memorial Scholarship by the Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association at the 52nd annual convention in Pittsburgh, Pa.



Barone poses with mentor Dr. Cari Tellis.

The prestigious \$1,000 scholarship is awarded annually to a student from one of Pennsylvania's 14 SLP schools in honor of Dr. Robert Von Drach.

### The Highlander earns two national journalism awards

The staff of the The Highlander student newspaper won two 2010-11 American Scholastic Press Association Awards, including a first place in the Scholastic Newspaper category for overall content and appearance, and a first place for Outstanding Investigative Reporting by print editor Kate Bunton '11.

The first place ASPA award recognized excellence in the many components that make for a good newspaper. Bunton was recognized for her story, *Sculpture Sparks Naked Discussion*, a report published Nov. 16, 2010.



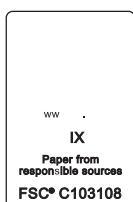


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### SUMMER

**July 23 Oct. 16**

*The Mary Wilson Supremes' Collection: The Gowns that Created a Musical Style & Legacy*

Pauly Friedman Art Gallery hours:  
Monday closed; Tuesday Thursday:  
10 a.m. - 8 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.;  
Saturday Sunday, 1 - 5 p.m.

### FALL

**Sept. 10**

*Sisters Serving Sisters Dinner*

Observe the 10th and 180th  
anniversaries of the Women with  
Children Program and Religious Sisters  
of Mercy at Mohegan Sun at Pocono  
Downs. Call (570) 674 6719  
for reservations

**Sept. 30 Oct. 1 2**

*Homecoming Weekend*

**Oct. 1**

*Athletics Hall of Fame Induction*

Anderson Sports & Health Center.

**Oct. 29 Dec. 10**

*Capturing Realism:*

*ANI Art Academy Waichulis*

Opening reception: Oct. 29, art gallery,  
5 - 8 p.m.

**Nov. 4**

*SLP Distinguished Speakers Series*

The Emotional Roller Coaster of  
Asperger Syndrome and How to

Manage it in the Classroom by Timothy  
P. Kowalski, MA, CCC SLP, 8:30 a.m. - 5  
p.m., Insalaco Hall. Register at (570)  
674 6155.

**Nov. 17 19**

*Misericordia Players Theater*

Lemmond Theater. Tickets: \$5 adults;  
\$3 students and senior citizens.

### WINTER

**Dec. 1**

*Ensemble Evening*

Student performances in dance.  
Lemmond Theater, 7:30 p.m.  
No charge.

**Dec. 2**

*Tydings Trew:*

*A Medieval English Christmas*

Lionheart, the six man vocal ensemble,  
offers rich, true tones and flawlessly  
blended harmonies of carols, chants  
and motets for the Christmas season as  
it was celebrated in the cloisters, palaces  
and streets of England in the 15th and  
16th centuries. Lemmond Theater.  
Tickets: TBD.

**Dec. 7**

*Ensemble Evening*

Student performances in music.  
Lemmond Theater, 7:30 p.m. No charge.

**Dec. 19**

*Mid-Year Commencement*

3:30 p.m. Baccalaureate, Campus  
Chapel; 5 p.m. Commencement,



Edward Hopper's *New York Movie*.

Anderson Sports & Health Center.

### SPRING 2012

**Jan. 21 March 4**

*Edward Hopper:*

*Early Impressions*

Exhibition includes early drawings such  
as 'The Ivory Booth' from 1897 by a  
then 17 year old Hopper. His drawings  
illustrate the artistic style, integrity and  
insight only seen through his paintings.  
Opening reception: Jan. 21, 5 - 8 p.m.

**March 17 March 31**

*Misericordia University*

*Student Art Exhibition*

Mixed Media in conjunction with  
the Department of Fine Arts in the  
MacDonald Art Gallery.

### FALL 2012

*Tour of Italy*

Rome, Florence, Venice. Join alumni  
and friends. Details to follow.

### Dr. Noel Keller's Trips with a Difference

#### FALL 2011

**Sept. 2 12**

*Gems of the Baltic Cruise*

Tallin, Estonia, St. Petersburg, Helsinki,  
Santorini, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Delphi and  
Stockholm and Copenhagen. Starting at \$2,048.

**Oct. 19 29**

*Greece: In the Footsteps of St. Paul*

11 days featuring a 3 day Greek Isles and Turkey  
cruise Athens, Mykonos, Ephesus, Crete,  
Santorini, Thessaloniki, Philippi, Delphi and  
Corinth. \$3,249.

**Nov. 30 Dec. 7**

*Alpine Christmas Markets*

Innsbruck, Salzburg, Oberammergau and  
Munich. Price TBA.

#### 2012

**April 16 24**

*Springtime Tulip Riverboat Cruise*

Features Dutch and Belgian waterways on the  
MS Amadeus Elegant. \$3,549.

**May 17 28**

*Adriatic and Mediterranean Cruise*

Ports include Venice, Dubrovnik, Athens,  
Ephesus, Split Croatia, Venice, Milan. \$3,019.

FOR INFO OR RESERVATIONS, CALL:  
Dr. Noël Keller, RSM, Th.D., tour director,  
Center for Adult and Continuing Education,  
(570) 674-6776 or [snoel@misericordia.edu](mailto:snoel@misericordia.edu).