Mount Mercy Academy  Fall 2012

Horizons

growth & gratitude

pictured above: Erika Jurek ’13, daughter of Jenny Stewart ’83
We give thanks to our Alumnae, donors and friends! It is because of you that Mount Mercy Academy has remained a school of choice for the education of young women in the Mercy tradition for 108 years!

With your help we will continue the growth of our school. Currently tuition is $8,500. Almost 70% of our families require financial assistance. Your support will help alleviate the cost of tuition for our Mercy families and continue to provide scholarships to incoming families.

Please consider making your gift to the Annual Fund today. Whatever amount you give, EVERY GIFT COUNTS and will make a difference for our Mercy girls. Please consider joining our Red Jacket Society with a gift of $88 or more. You can also pledge a monthly amount and your credit card will be automatically charged every month. Visit our website at www.mtmercy.org to make your gift today or return your Annual Fund appeal with a check made out to Mount Mercy Academy.

Thank you for your continued support of our Mercy girls and quality education at Mount Mercy Academy! We are so blessed to have so many compassionate and dedicated Alumnae who give back to MMA. Whether it is through mentoring our Mercy girls, giving a financial gift, volunteering, or simply supporting the school by attending our special events – we are truly grateful!

Here is a candid interview with five Alumnae, talking about why they do, what they do...

Maureen Canney ’52
How have you contributed to Mount Mercy Academy?
I volunteered at Mount Mercy for over 30 years by researching missing Alumnae and developing and managing a memorial card program. Also, I have contributed to scholarships to benefit Mount Mercy Academy students.

Why do you contribute both financially and through volunteering to Mount Mercy Academy?
Fundamentally, because Mount Mercy was such a big part of my life and I appreciated my time there.

What advice would you have for someone who is thinking of volunteering or contributing financially?
It’s a wonderful thing to do.
Anita Durkin Crotty ‘63

Why do you give back to the school?
We each have ways that we give of our time, talents and treasure. Moving into retirement gave me a greater opportunity to share all three. I chose to share with Mount Mercy Academy because it has always been close to my heart.

My daughter Meghan is from the class of 2002 and I look forward to my granddaughter, Keira, being in the class of 2028. I want Mercy to be here for generations. I believe in Catholic, single-gender, secondary education. I believe in the words of Catherine McAuley, “No work of charity can be more productive of good to society than the careful instruction of women.”

The 21st century needs strong women, continuing to build on the foundation of the 20th century women before them. I want MMA to instill in every young woman who comes through the doors, the same spirit it instilled in me. Paraphrasing my friend Peggy Moran who said, and we all concurred, “We are the Class of ’63, give us a book, we can do anything!” I want each young woman to be able to say: “I am an MMA grad, a strong women, give me any task, I can do it!” This is the reason that I serve on the Board of Trustees. This is the reason I volunteer as the current keeper of the Memorial Program. I enjoy my time volunteering, I have a good time doing it!”

Sister Joan Benoit ‘53

How do you contribute to the academic programs at Mount Mercy Academy?
I work in the Learning Lab. I am there to help give tests, to tutor students who need a little help and to assist them in their school work.

Why did you return to teach here?
My own student years at the Academy were a wonderful experience. I’d like to give back a little to the Academy for all those years.

Colleen Eagan ’85

How do you remain involved at Mount Mercy?
I stay involved by attending events such as the McAuley Gala and the gift gathering parties, Taste of Mercy, the Alumnae Fish Fry, MMA5K, Graduations, Ring Days, etc. I helped plan our class reunion and I am a loyal contributor to the Annual Fund. I enjoy reading Horizons and the weekly eBlast.

Jennifer Hallinan Licata ‘03

Why do you continue to support MMA?
The events are always fun – it’s great to be around others who share the Mercy Spirit. My years at MMA were a great experience that helped me become the person that I am today – so I feel that supporting current and future MMA students is a way to give back.

How do you contribute to enhancing the culture of Mount Mercy Academy?
One of my main goals as a teacher at Mount Mercy, and also a young Alumna, is to act as an example for the students. I try to demonstrate all the qualities that I ask my students to have. In our school community, it is important to exhibit respect, gratitude, and a positive attitude every day. It is my hope that by doing so, I can encourage the people that surround me every day at MMA to do so as well.

Why is it so important to teach here at MMA?
The Mercy Girl for Life slogan is real. What better way to promote Mercy than by returning and being a part of our growing future. I am able to be a part of the things we do at Mercy to make us better every year.
The Mount Mercy Alumnae Association proudly announces the 2012 Mercy Honors Honorees. The awards recognize distinguished Mount Mercy Academy graduates and affiliates. Awards in three categories will be presented at a gala dinner to be held at Romanello’s South Restaurant on Thursday, November 8, 2012 at 6:00 pm.

The **Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award** is presented in the name of the Sisters of Mercy Foundress. The award honors alumnae who have distinguished themselves in the areas of faith, family, community and career. The **Spirit of Mercy Award** honors persons who exhibit the Spirit of Mercy in their professional and personal lives, most notably for their commitment and dedication to their community. The **Mercy Devotion Award** is presented to a faculty or staff member at the Academy who has served as an inspiration for students and has earned the respect and admiration of students and colleagues over the years. The **Mercy Charism Award** is given to those lay people who exemplify the charism of the Sisters of Mercy in their work, ministry or personal mission.

### Catherine McAuley Distinguished Alumna Award

**Bonnie Kane Lockwood ’73**

Following Mount Mercy Academy, Bonnie Kane Lockwood graduated from Trocaire College and worked as an X-Ray Technologist at Buffalo General Hospital. While working full-time and raising her family, she attended the State University of New York at Buffalo and Medaille College earning her degree in Media Communications. Bonnie is Director of Special Projects for Congressman Brian Higgins working with municipal leaders, businesses, non-profits and residents on project development, problem solving, funding requests and grant opportunities. Prior to joining the Congressman’s staff in 2005, Bonnie worked 16 years in both a legislative and administrative capacity for the City of Buffalo as South District Councilmember, legislative assistant to then-Councilmember Higgins and in the Department of Strategic Planning. Bonnie follows a long tradition of Mercy involvement. Her late mother, Patricia Doyle Kane ’47, was the 1989 Spirit of Mercy Award recipient. Bonnie is a role model for women in community involvement.

**Tracy O’Grady ’85**

A cum laude graduate of Canisius College in Communications, Tracy O’Grady explored her interest in the culinary arts, which was a departure from her academic background. Tracy always knew that she wanted to cook and began pursuing her passion in various restaurants in Washington, D.C. training classically under several renowned chefs. It was during this time that Tracy accepted the position of Sous Chef at Washington, D.C.’s renowned Kinkead’s Restaurant. She worked her way up to the Executive Chef position achieving recognition in several culinary magazines. The opening of her elegant restaurant, Willow, was a realization of Tracy’s culinary dream. Tracy has received several prestigious awards in cooking competitions, including representing the United States at the Bocuse d’Or competition in Lyon, France. She has been featured in a number of magazines including Elle, The Washington Post and Smithsonian, as well as guest appearances on NBC’s Today Show.
John Glose, born and raised in West Seneca, is a Physical Education Teacher for Erie II Chautauqua-Cattaraugus County BOCES Baker Road Alternative Education Center. He is the Head Coach of the Varsity Soccer, Basketball and Tennis Teams at Mount Mercy Academy. John exemplifies what it means to be an endless support system and positive force by giving young women from the community the opportunity to visit Mercy, connect with current athletes, and experience the spirit of Mercy firsthand. In addition to supporting the MMA community, John is a sports camp coordinator and volunteer coach for numerous sports. He is totally dedicated to helping students and athletes develop their full potential in sports, in academics and in life. Over the past five years, John’s work, support, volunteerism and example have made him a part of the Mercy family, earning him one of our 2012 Spirit of Mercy Awards.

Barbara Ryan has had a powerful impact on students at Mount Mercy Academy, several Catholic elementary schools and various parishes throughout Western New York for many years. Barbara received Bachelor’s and Master’s Degrees in Education from D’Youville College and Canisius College, respectively. She taught at both elementary and high school levels and, in addition, was Director of Development at Mount Mercy Academy. Barbara served as Principal of Annunciation School in Elma, New York and Queen of Heaven in West Seneca, New York. Barbara currently serves as Director of Religious Education at St. John the Baptist Parish in Boston, New York. Barbara has been involved in outreach programs to benefit area institutions, including St. Luke’s Mission of Mercy, the West Seneca Food Pantry, Reaching Out to Africa, Harvest House, Catholic Charities and the Valley Community Association. Barbara received the Hillery Foundation Award from Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School in 2009. She exemplifies the Spirit of Mercy.

After graduating from Mount St. Mary Academy, Catherine attended Niagara University earning a Bachelor’s Degree in History. She continued her academic pursuits with a Master’s Degree in Rhetoric and Communication Studies from the University of Virginia. Catherine began teaching at St. Teresa’s School in Buffalo in 1983 and has taught at Mount Mercy Academy from 1985 to the present. Catherine is Chairperson of the Department of Social Studies, Middle States Internal Coordinator, serves as Dean of Students, Director of Strategic Initiatives and is the Summer School Coordinator. She has served in various administrative capacities of the Catholic Forensic League at both local and national levels. In her 28 years at Mount Mercy Academy, Catherine has indeed been a role model and inspiration to her students and colleagues.
Catholic Health Partnership Team in service of Mount Mercy Academy and Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School: David Zapfel, Nancy Preskop, Anne McGillicuddy.

The Academy of Science and Healthcare at Mount Mercy Academy, in partnership with Catholic Health, is the direct result of the efforts of these three individuals over a three year period. Through his position as Project Manager for Staff Development at Catholic Health, David Zapfel has taken the lead in supporting the implementation of the Partnership between Catholic Health and two South Buffalo High Schools: Mount Mercy Academy and Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School. With David Zapfel’s facilitation, the Academy of Science and Healthcare has evolved and is now flourishing at both high schools. This guidance has provided opportunities never before imagined for hands-on experiences of potential careers in science and healthcare. Nancy Preskop, Program Coordinator for Catholic Health, is the facilitator of the preparatory component of the Partnership providing age-appropriate field trips, speakers and camps for 9th and 10th grade students, as well as helping to reach out to the local 8th grade students for their participation. Anne McGillicuddy is presently Director of Volunteers and Guest Relations at Mercy Hospital and is the liaison to the professionals in the various departments at Mercy Hospital. She works with these professionals to arrange internships for 12th graders and mentors for 11th graders, both of which are integral elements of the program. Each of these three individuals makes the Academy of Science and Healthcare in partnership with Catholic Health a reality.

Alumnae, family and friends are invited to honor our 2012 Mercy Award Recipients. For further information, to make reservations, or to be a patron sponsor, please call the Alumnae Office at 825-8796. All proceeds benefit the Academy Scholarship Fund. Anne Marie Kuwik ’84 is Chairperson and Leanne Maloney ’05 is Special Events Coordinator for this year’s Mercy Honors celebration.

Leanne Maloney ’05 has joined the staff at Mount Mercy Academy as the new Event Coordinator. Leanne will be responsible for planning the major fundraising events at Mercy including the Taste of Mercy, McAuley Gala and the MMA 5K Race. Leanne graduated from State University of New York at Fredonia in 2009 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Communication Studies. Her experience in event planning and marketing, as well as her role on the MMA Alumnae Board of Directors, makes her an invaluable member of the team.

Brittany Finnegan-Zandi, who held this position previously, was recently promoted to the Director of Institutional Advancement. Brittany’s responsibilities include overseeing all development activities for the Academy including Scholarships, Annual Giving, Sponsorships and Special Events. Brittany has worked in the Institutional Advancement Department since 2008. She has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Communication with a concentration in Public Relations from the State University of New York at Buffalo. She is a member of the WNY Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and is the Chair of their National Philanthropy Day 2012.
Megan Sheehan ’13
Named National Merit Scholar Finalist

Megan M. Sheehan, a senior at Mount Mercy Academy was named a National Merit Scholar semifinalist. The National Merit Scholarship Corp. has run its national awards program since 1955. The 2012-2013 semifinalists were chosen from an initial pool of 1.5 million students across the United States, who took last year’s PSAT/NMSQT, the qualifying test. The 8,300 National Merit Scholarships, which are worth over $32 million, will be awarded in the spring.

Megan is one of only four girls chosen from the seven all-girl high schools in Western New York. She is currently enrolled in three AP classes and upon graduation, will have completed seven. She is the recipient of a full scholarship to MMA for the outstanding score on the Catholic High School Entrance Exam.

Megan is an active participant in the school community. She is a Mount Mercy Academy Student Ambassador, the Vice President of Student Government, the Co-Editor and writer for the Mercienne (school yearbook), a member of the National Honor Society, a McAuley Scholar, as well as enrolled in MMA’s Academy of Science and Healthcare.

Sheehan is just as active on the field as she is in the classrooms and hallways of MMA. She plays both Varsity Soccer and Basketball and was voted Captain of her Varsity Soccer team this year.

“I am not sure about college yet but I am considering a major in Biomedical Engineering, followed by medical school,” states Sheehan. “My dream schools are Harvard or Stanford.”

Mount Mercy Academy commends Megan M. Sheehan for this outstanding achievement.
Mount Mercy Academy's Alumnae Board is proud to welcome six new members for the 2012-2013 school year: Peggy Flanagan Barrett '73, Margaret Whalen Brady '99, Maureen Evans '85, Michele Donohue Nostrant '86, Lauren Fitzgerald Turner '00, Caroline Schuler Ventresca '94. The officers who will lead the Board this school year are: President Anne Marie Kuwik '84, Vice President Laura Ortiz '83, Secretary Leah Staszak Gallagher '99, and Treasurer Patricia Keane Marren '82. Other alumnae continuing on the board are: Ann Muldoon Galli '76, Joanne Sullivan Lyons '57, Louise Rutecki Lukasiewicz '60, Shannon McCabe Murphy '58, Mary Waters McDonald '81, Katherine Riedy '78, Rosanne Simoncelli Wilson '75. Mount Mercy's Alumnae Board works tirelessly each year on various school events. We truly appreciate these hard working women of Mercy.

Marylouise Nanna '55 was recently inducted into the Buffalo Music Hall of Fame. Marylouise is the founder, music director and conductor of the Ars Nova Chamber Orchestra and the annual Viva Vivaldi Music Festival. She is a member of the first violin section of the Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra. Marylouise is a 2002 Distinguished Alumna.

Sister Sheila Marie Walsh '56 was elected to the position of Councilor for the Leadership Team of the Sisters of Mercy, New York, Pennsylvania, Pacific West Community. Sister Sheila served on MMA's Board of Trustees for the past three years.

It is a story that we hear often — students who fall in love with foreign countries while studying at MMA and make it their life's mission to help those who need it the most. What makes Elaine Eason '59 unique is she joined the Medical Missionaries of Mary, taking the name Sister Jean Clare and is now celebrating her Golden Jubilee with the community. She has been working with the poor and impoverished for the past 50 years!

Sister Jean Clare's journey began when two Medical Missionaries of Mary came to MMA to talk about their work in Africa. Elaine was introduced to them by her teacher, a Sister of Mercy, and what was to be an interview for background for her thesis on Nigeria blossomed into "a life of friendship, adventure, purpose, struggle and growth!" Sister Jean Clare's assignments have taken her to Nigeria where she "found the people and the country welcoming and fascinating. Lots of suffering and poverty but lots of real joy, too," to the Leadership Team of her Congregation; and to "Southwest Virginia to work with the Appalachian people, in a rich mountain culture." ... where she "found ... a deeper awareness of a God who permeates every aspect of daily life, an appreciation of the cruelty and incredible beauty of nature, and the importance of family. Together, we struggled against unjust structures in the mining industry and the prevalence of domestic violence. Together, we laughed and we cried!"

Presently, Sister Jean Clare is working in Brazil. She writes, "Here, too, people struggle to live in the midst of poverty and ever increasing violence, both against humanity and the environment. Here, too, I find the people resilient. They have learned both to work together and to celebrate life! Here, too, many find God in the midst of their pain. Here, too, I have found a home." Congratulations Sister Jean Clare Eason, MMM. We are happy Mount Mercy Academy helped set you on your life's journey, as you wrote, "How did this journey begin? I was blessed by being born into a family of loving parents, who chose to send me to Catholic schools. I am an only child so, after my parents, school friends and teachers were my mentors."

Helen Moran '70, better known as Nellie, published her first novel, a mystery, entitled A Sleeping Dog. It is available on Amazon.com, BN.com for NOOK, Dog Ears Bookstore and the Tara Gift Shoppe, both on Abbott Road. Her second book Thoughts, Words and Ramblings is a collection of mixed genres including poetry, short stories, meditations and columns originally written for the “Buffalo Irish Times.” It is also available on Amazon.com and will soon be available at Dog Ears and the Tara Gift Shoppe. Nellie will be addressing the 20th Century Club at their November 5th luncheon, discussing her publications.

Mary Lynn Ryan '79, has been inducted into the Buffalo Broadcasters Hall of Fame. Mary Lynn is the CNN Southeast Region Bureau Chief. She has received many honors over the years including the Peabody Award. Mary Lynn is a 2002 Distinguished Alumna.

Child Care Resource Network recently named Marie Cannon '83, Chief Executive Officer. Marie is the former Executive Director of Holy Cross Head Start. She has a master’s degree from the University at Buffalo.

Gerry Bauer-Stafford '60, has always loved to write. After graduation, she attended Buffalo State Teachers College and taught elementary school students in various subjects. Soon after, she became a freelance writer, and her articles and book reviews have been published in national and regional newspapers and magazines. More recently, Gerry penned the Young Canaller. It is her first children's book, modeled on a boy that Gerry read about many years ago. The story's main character Kevin and his father leave their farm in Ireland and venture to New York City where they encounter many interesting characters and situations along the way. Kevin works as a horse driver who pulls the packet boat "The Gypsy Queen" down the Erie Canal. Gerry and her book were recently featured in the Lockport Union Sun and Journal. Congratulations Gerry and best of luck with your writing career!
Maureen E. Gannon Burns ’85 is enjoying her position at Bishop Timon-St. Jude High School as the Communications Manager. Prior to joining the Advancement Team at Timon, Maureen was the Director of Advancement for South Buffalo Catholic School, overseeing the public relations and development for the Ambrose Catholic Academy, Notre Dame Academy and Trinity Catholic Academy. Having worked at St. Francis High School in Athol Springs as the Director of Development some time ago, Maureen commented how nice it was to be back at the High School level. “Telling the story of what is happening at Timon is such a great career choice! The students, faculty and staff make my job so easy!”

The family and friends of Heath Anne Schwabl ’91 would like to express their heartfelt thanks to all those who attended or made a donation to the Remembering Heath Benefit that was held on June 2 at the Buffalo Irish Center. They would also like to thank the Class of 1962 who generously raised funds through their 50 year reunion to also benefit the Heath Anne Schwabl Memorial Scholarship Fund. Our special thanks to Amy Kessler Goodnough for the donation of her Mercy ring for the scholarship winner. If you would like to make a donation to the Heather Anne Schwabl Memorial Scholarship Fund, please make your check payable to Mount Mercy Academy and in the memo please indicate that is it for Heather’s Scholarship.

Nora (Buckley) Robshaw ’94 recently started her own law practice (focusing on estates, real estate and criminal defense). “It’s busy with the kids (Fiona 5, Liam 3, and Shannon 1) but very fun!”

Kate Webster ’06, was appointed Director of the Animal Care Center of St. John in the Virgin Islands. She was working at the Buffalo Zoo when she accepted the position in the Virgin Islands.

Jennifer Loft ’06, successfully defended her thesis and was awarded a Masters of Arts in Global Gender Studies from the Transnational Studies department at SUNY at Buffalo. She is now preparing to begin doctoral studies in Global Gender Studies at UB. She is planning a career in collegiate teaching.

Alyssa Haj ’08 is a 2012 graduate of the New York Institute of Massage. She is a massage therapist in a doctor’s office in Blasdell. “I am happy to be accepting new patients and invite all MMA students, both current and alumnae, to call me for an appointment.” She is also finishing a B.A. in Music Performance from Buffalo State College.

Pictured above are some of the Mount Mercy students and Alumnae who competed in the Finn McCool 4 Mile Odyssey on September 8, 2012. They navigated through a 4-mile course, loaded with challenging obstacles, difficult terrain, and a mud pit at the finish, all of it set in MMA’s “front yard” –Caz Park and the Cazenovia Golf Course.

Deceased Alumnae
June 1, 2012 to September 15, 2012
Joan M. Wright Coleman ’33
Margaret M. Maloney Egan ’40
Anne Marie Barrett ’42
Lucy Dellapenta Monaco ’47
Marianne Comerford Fahey ’48
Norine Rogers McDonald ’48
Janet McDonnell Coughlin ’50
Theresa Carmody English ’51
Patricia Hyrick Kless ’51
Mary Ann Fitzgerald Murphy ’52
Elizabeth “Betty” Wiley Trask ’56
Kathleen A. Fleming Steffan ’70
Barbara Ziemen Avery ’73
Cynthia Owczarzak Frank ’73
Laura Merritt Adamczyk ’74
Diana Hawryluk Burns ’75
Margaret “Peggy” Redmond Hayes ’87
Jennifer Elizabeth Wells ’87

We apologize for any omissions and ask you notify Julie Parker at (716) 825-8796 ext. 321.
The 2013 McAuley Gala presents...

**celtic night**

Please save the date for the McAuley Gala to be held Saturday April 13, 2013 at MMA. Chairs Michael and Patricia Glascott invite you to join them as we celebrate Mount Mercy Academy’s premier event, with this year’s theme being Celtic Night!

The McAuley Gala is the largest fundraising event for MMA. Alumnae, parents, faculty, staff, friends and all members of the Mercy community are invited to get involved in the McAuley Gala by:

- Volunteering for the auction committee
- Hosting or co-hosting a gift gathering
- Securing a sponsorship
- Attending a gift gathering party
- Donating a high-value live auction item

**THE KICK-OFF PARTY**
The Gala Kick-Off Party was held on August 23rd at Templeton Landing with over 60 people in attendance. Thank you to our Kick-Off Sponsors Cathy and James Bender, Anita & Patrick Crotty, Ann & Rick Galli, Mary Catherine & Martin Kennedy, Tony & Cathy Kubera, Joan Lillis, Doug & Kathy Lum, Sharon & Doug McCormick, Thomas & Mary Jo Sellers, Raymond & Kathie Seitz, Eileen & David Scott, Nancy & Donald Ware, Rosanne & Rick Wilson.

**ALUMNAE GIFT GATHERING PARTY**
Saturday, January 26, 2013 at 12pm at Curly’s Bar & Grill in Lackawanna. Call Leanne to be added to the guest list!

**VENDOR NIGHT**
Thursday November 29, 2012, Mount Mercy Academy will be hosting a “Vendor Night” featuring various local companies and entrepreneurs such as Lia Sophia, Tastefully Simple, and numerous others. This event is open to the public and admission cost is $10.00, which includes light food and wine. Come and join us for a night of shopping at Mount Mercy’s one-stop-shop as you prepare for the holiday season. If you, yourself are in the business of selling products, please contact Leanne Maloney to be added to the vendor list. A percentage of the proceeds will benefit our 2013 McAuley Gala.

**GET INVOLVED**
If you would like to get involved in the 2013 McAuley Gala, host a gift gathering party, donate an item, or have any questions or suggestions, please call our new Event Coordinator, Leanne Maloney at 825-8796 ext. 306 or email her at lmaloney@mtmercy.org. If you have any questions in regard to sponsorships or live auction items, please contact Brittany Finnegan-Zandi, Director of Institutional Advancement at 825-8796 ext. 324 or email bfinnegan@mtmercy.org.
Mount Mercy Academy was proud to welcome more than 400 registered runners to the MMA5K Race on Friday, June 15, 2012. The early evening weather was perfect as the race route took runners through Cazenovia Park, down North Legion Drive and back again.

The 2012 MMA5K Race honorees were the “Race Day Ladies”: Peggy Flanagan Barrett ’73, Sandy Scarcello Breen ’77, Paula Scarcello Fitzgerald ’71, Party Jackson Doctor, Mary Sheehan Moore ’69 and Peggy Sheehan Wade. These women exemplify the spirit of Mercy through their volunteer efforts, having logged hundreds of hours at race-day registration tables administering to thousands of runners over a period of 30 years.

The Race Committee honored Michael Diggins, avid runner, dedicated community member and a tremendous friend of Mount Mercy Academy. In his honor, Mike’s initials were printed on the sleeve of the race shirts. In recognition, a framed race shirt was presented to the Diggins family. Michael Diggins passed away only weeks before the race.

Following the Race, the 400 runners were joined by more than 200 supporters of MMA in the Mercy Grotto on Choate Avenue. The guests jammed to the live music of The Stone Bridge Band, ate Connors’ Hot Dogs (thank you, Karen Connors Erickson ’63 and your committee of Alumnae and friends). The music stopped long enough to present plaques recognizing our honorees and announce the race winners. Seth Yenye finished first for the male runners with a time of 0:16:30 and Anya Bogdanets finished first for the female runners with a time of 0:18:48. The first MMA Alumna across the finish line was Caitlin Donohue ’04 with a time of 0:20:07. Caitlin was 20th overall in the race standings. Congratulations to all the runners.

Thank you to the Race organizing committee, all the people who came out to enjoy the evening and the Sisters of Mercy for the use of their backyard. The proceeds of the MMA5K Race support the Mount Mercy Academy Alumnae Association Scholarship Fund, affording many young women the opportunity for a Mercy education.

Whether you run, walk, party, do all three, or just do one, save the date: June 7, 2013 and join us in supporting Mount Mercy Academy. For a complete list of MMA5K Race results, go to BuffaloRunners.com. To view more photos from the Race, please check out our Facebook page.
Alumnae Cruise in 2014
The date and destination for MMA’s Cruise has been set! We sail on the Carnival Victory ship for five nights from March 3-8, 2014, leaving from Miami with stops in Grand Turks, Half Moon Cay and Nassau. For an inside room, the price is $543, an oceanview room $618, and a balcony room $729. Shirley McCartan Banko ’65 and her committee are, once again, organizing this trip. The price includes all taxes. For more information or to make a reservation, email Shirley at mmacruise@roadrunner.com.

Breakfast with Santa
Are you ready for Christmas yet? Make sure your holiday plans include Breakfast with Santa on Saturday, December 1. For the past several years, our MMA Alumnae Association has invited the big man in red to come to the MMA Dining Hall to visit with good little girls and boys. Santa brings a gift for each child and Mrs. Claus has been known to come with her guitar and sing with the children. Alumnae and friends are invited to bring their young ones for a fun-filled morning. If you would like to come, please contact Leanne Maloney at (716) 825-8796 ext. 306.

Alumnae Fish Fry
Mount Mercy’s Fish Fry is just a few months away - Friday, February 15, 2013. We will be offering dine-in and take out at this event. If you are interested in volunteering, please call the Alumnae Office at 825-8796 ext. 320.

Easy Ways to Cash in for Mercy
Send us your Box Tops for Education (Mail or drop them off to the school). Sign up with your Tops Card for eBox Tops (more information on www.rewardyourschool.com). Adding the Good Search Toolbar ensures that every purchase and web search you make will count as a donation to MMA (more information on www.goodsearch.com).

MMA Forgotten Buffalo: Classic Taverns Tour
If you would like to bar hop while connecting with MMA alums and their spouses and learn some interesting tidbits of Western New York history, we have the event for you! The Mount Mercy Academy Alumnae Association is teaming up with Forgotten Buffalo Tours to present the MMA Buffalo Classic Taverns Tour on Saturday, October 20, 2012. Forgotten Buffalo, the region’s authority on unique landmarks, classic taverns, old world neighborhoods and “Nickel City” oddities presents Buffalo’s original “Off the Beaten Track” tour. The tour will include a stop at 4 or 5 local taverns and one additional historic site in Buffalo. Boarding begins at 5:00 at Talty’s Tavern on South Park Ave. at Sheffield, and the tour begins at 5:30pm. It runs approximately four hours. We expect to return to Talty’s around 10:30 or 11pm.

We are limited to one bus that seats 50 people, so please mail your check now to reserve your seat! The cost is $50 which includes meal, bus transportation, docent-led guided tour, prizes and giveaways. Must be 21 years of age to participate. For more information, please contact MMA’s Alumnae Relations Office at (716)825-8796.
Raegan

Raegan Bessey was born on May 12, 2012 to Lindsay Drzazga-Bessey ’02 and her husband Ryan.

Avery Anne

Avery Anne Regan was born on June 5, 2012 to Jennifer (Breen) Regan ’99 and her husband, Mike Regan.

Brianna Faith

Brianna Faith was born to Heather (Weber) Palmer ’97 and Tom Palmer on July 11, 2012. Pictured here with sisters: Julia (8), Lauren (6), Samantha (2).

Jacob Anthony

Jacob Anthony Oleski was born on January 7, 2012 to Jennifer (Karnath) Oleski ’93 and her husband John.

Mercy Babies

WEDDiNGS & BABiES

Congratulations to Tara O’Connor ’03 who married John Salzler on October 22, 2011.

Stacey Scheu ’03 recently said “I do!” to Phil Barrett. Congratulations to the happy couple!
We pray each day for those whose names are inscribed in our Memorial Books. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

A special “thank you” to those families who have designated MMA as the recipient of memorials for their loved ones.

Elinor “Ellie” Quinn Auricchio ’56 by Tom & Kathie Brinkworth, Frank (Mac) & Nancy Quinn, Ginny Lyons, Sr. Jane Muldownan, Patrick E. Joyce, Beth Knapp Heidler ’56, Joan Flynn, Dick & Mary Sheehan, Mary O’Shea ’56, Maryellen Thiolf, Dave & Mary Regan ’84 Pietrowski, Melissa M. Byrne, John & Helen Munch, Maureen Winnert Elizabeth Cuddyli “Betty” Durkin by Maggie & Dave McGlyhe, Dave & Sheila Stanchak & Boys, Margaret Mc Grath Margaret Shalloe ’30 by Kristina Connell

Barbara Ziener Avery ’73 by Sr. Mary Ellen Twist & MMA Community, MMA Alumnae Association Annabelle M. Bailey by Bernie & Pat Kennedy


Contact Anita Durkin Crotty ’63 regarding our Memorial Program acrotty@mtmercy.org.

MEMORIALS
(June 1, 2012 to September 15, 2012)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

A special “thank you” to those families who have designated MMA as the recipient of memorials for their loved ones.

Elinor “Ellie” Quinn Auricchio ’56 by Tom & Kathie Brinkworth, Frank (Mac) & Nancy Quinn, Ginny Lyons, Sr. Jane Muldownan, Patrick E. Joyce, Beth Knapp Heidler ’56, Joan Flynn, Dick & Mary Sheehan, Mary O’Shea ’56, Maryellen Thiolf, Dave & Mary Regan ’84 Pietrowski, Melissa M. Byrne, John & Helen Munch, Maureen Winnert Elizabeth Cuddyli “Betty” Durkin by Maggie & Dave McGlyhe, Dave & Sheila Stanchak & Boys, Margaret Mc Grath Margaret Shalloe ’30 by Kristina Connell

Barbara Ziener Avery ’73 by Sr. Mary Ellen Twist & MMA Community, MMA Alumnae Association Annabelle M. Bailey by Bernie & Pat Kennedy

Enjoy a photo collage of the summer of 2012
THE 2013 MCAULEY GALA PRESENTS...

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 13, 2013 AT MMA

celtic night

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2012
12 Taste of Mercy
25 McAuley Scholar Induction

November 2012
08 Mercy Honors Dinner
17 MMA Entrance Exam

December 2012
01 Breakfast with Santa
18 Christmas Concert
20 Lessons & Carols

January 2013
17 Class of 2017 Acceptance Letters Sent
26 Alumnae Gift Gathering Party

February 2013
07 Ring Day Ceremony
11 Spirit Week Begins
15 Alumnae Fish Fry

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