We cut the ribbon to MAC’s newest addition, the ACWC! An event shared among Board of Trustees, faculty and staff, and prestigious community officials.

Mountie alums from far and wide joined the rest of the MAC family for a great Homecoming weekend full of fellowship, food and fun.

Work is nearly completed on our former gymnasium. An anonymous $500,000 gift to Mount Aloysius will memorialize Mercy Sister Virginia “Ginny” Bertschi, RSM.

Congratulations to MAC’s scholarship recipients; read about our student speakers, gracious donors, and benefactors at the annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner held in their honor.

President Tom Foley looks out over the class of first-year students as Mount Aloysius College faculty and staff process onto Whalley Plaza in front of Old Main for Fall Convocation 2014. This year’s class is the second largest in College history.
Dear Friend of Mount Aloysius College:

Welcome to the winter issue of the Mount Aloysius Magazine. The issue brings you broad strokes of a very full, first semester of the 2014-2015 academic year as we pursue “The Good Life” as our campus-wide theme. Announced first by me at move-in day as we welcomed our freshman class; Rev. William J. Byron, SJ developed it more deeply at Convocation. Concluding that the good life is “one lived generously in the service of others,” his words moved us to publish them in a monograph here on campus. They so moved the editors of Vital Speeches of the Day, that they too published his words for an international audience—a first for Mount Aloysius.

Expounding on our theme from a Mercy perspective, Sr. Sheila Carney, RSM of Carlow University used the “lives well-lived” of Catherine McAuley and Francis Ward to illustrate “The Good Life” through their history and illustrative poetry. Next, NYU Philosophy Professor Dr. Larry Jackson gave an outstanding Fall Honors Lecture titled “The Pursuit of the Good Life—from Aristotle to America.” That discussion in Alumni Hall, together with five engaging discussions with students and faculty from several different disciplines gave us a robust and busy two-days of intellectual diversity and exploration.

Our Delta Epsilon Sigma and Phi Theta Kappa Honors Societies sponsored a Faculty Panel Discussion exploring The Good Life from the perspectives of spirituality, art & culture, psychology, finance, and health. The discussion was far-reaching, and a solid contribution to our discourse on The Good Life. And, finally—for the semester—our Theatre Department showed us the dark-side of our theme with “Nickel & Dimed,” a Joan Holden play, based on a book by Barbara Ehrenreich.

Other contributions to our theme included explorations in Connections classes, and a Living Well series coordinated by Career Services. And stay tuned; the spring semester looks extremely promising. We’ll tell you more in our next issue of the Mount Aloysius Magazine.

Interspersed within these events we managed to complete the artistic dressing and formal Dedication of the Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center an 87,000 square foot addition to the campus which came in ahead of time and under budget. See page 29 for a look inside at all the art displays. Our Dedication—emceed by former Board Chair Dan Rullo, Esq.—drew supporters and well-wishers from throughout the State and surrounding counties—all coming to witness part of Mount Aloysius College history—the completion of a Campus Master Plan that began in 2000. Capping it all was Homecoming and Alumni Weekend where Michele and I made new friends and discovered more “inside history” of this cherished institution.

Welcome to another edition of Mount Aloysius Magazine. Enjoy and keep in touch.

All the best,

Tom Foley
A Moment’s Peace

Enjoying a quiet moment on the Ihmsen Hall Patio.
Winter 2014-2015
Mount Aloysius Magazine

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Any person with limited language skills will be eligible for assistance in language skills from the College upon request. The College will provide such assistance to assure that any person with limited English language skills will not have language act as a barrier either to admission or to participation in programs of the College.

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Philosophy of Mount Aloysius:
As a Catholic College founded and sponsored by the Religious Sisters of Mercy, Mount Aloysius College provides a setting in which students are encouraged to synthesize faith with learning, to develop competence with compassion, to put talents and gifts at the service of others, and to begin to assume leadership in the world community. With emphasis on values of justice, hospitality, mercy, and service, the College’s liberal arts core curriculum provides the necessary basis for leadership and the knowledge and skills for success in a wide range of professions. Mount Aloysius is a Mercy College.
Mount Aloysius College launched the 2014-2015 academic year on a sunny, late summer afternoon with the All-College Convocation held on September 4, 2014. Following tradition, the event was held on Whalley Plaza in front of the Main Administration Building. Bagpipes cutting through the warm afternoon silenced the rustling and whispers of students seated in rows of chairs facing the stage.

Sr. Helen Marie Burns, RSM, Vice President of Mission Integration delivered an invocation and welcome to all those gathered. She called on all to remember the beginnings of the College some 75 years ago, when Sisters Mary de Sales Farley and Mary Silverius Shields opened the doors of the institution that would one day become Mount Aloysius College. She also formally announced the theme for the academic year, “The Good Life,” and added her insight that a good life begins by realizing that life is indeed good, thanks to the benevolence of a good and gracious God. Following the Invocation, Mr. Frank Crouse, Vice President for Enrollment Management presented the incoming class of 2014 to the faculty and staff and all those present.

President Foley expanded on the theme of “The Good Life,” pointing out that the Greek word *Eudaimonia*, commonly translated to “happiness” in English, is from two root words that translate to “good” and “spirit.” He pointed out that throughout the ages; philosophers such as Epictetus, Aristotle, and Socrates have suggested that *Eudaimonia* may not indicate just happiness, but instead the highest form of human good. The President promised more discussion along this vein as part of the Fall Honors Lecture titled, “The Pursuit of Happiness: from Aristotle to America,” by Dr. Larry Jackson. He went on to speak more directly to the incoming freshmen, relaying advice from his son Andy, who is a similar age to many of our students. He defined what “The Good Life” is not, and referenced *Groundhog Day*, a Bill Murray classic, as an example of the process of evolving from a self-centered individual to someone who appreciates the goodness around him.

Rev. William J. Byron, SJ, Ph.D., was introduced by Dr. Thomas Coakley, Professor of English. The Jesuit cleric has served as President of three institutions of higher learning and is currently Professor of Business and Society at St. Joseph University. He has received over 30 honorary degrees, including one from Mount Aloysius during Commencement 2011.

Father Byron began by offering his own definition of “The Good Life,” as “a life lived generously in the service of others.” In order to live the good life, he urged students to not be passive but to actively push onward, following the map of their dreams and aspirations. He urged students to get in touch with their strongest desires, their deepest dreams, but to be realistic in their pursuit of these aspirations. He reminded students to have respect for their own feelings, their gut instincts, their likes and dislikes. While the “head” may be a reasonable guide, Father Byron suggested that we should follow our hearts, sometimes even when our reasoning would tell us not to. The gut feelings, the
innate inclinations, may be the will of God for your life.

Along with dreams, faith provides another road map for our futures. Father Byron pointed to Christian Scriptures, and particularly the Beatitudes, as exemplifying the qualities of “The Good Life.” St. Paul, in his letter to the Galatians, urges his followers to be “guided by the Spirit,” and Father Byron urged us to follow his instructions. St. Paul cites nine fruits of the Spirit which may be considered values of “The Good Life.” These fruits—love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control—should be considered as guides to living.

Father Byron concluded by encouraging students to wrap themselves in these nine Pauline qualities, to take everything this academic year has to offer them, and most importantly, to just go, to get moving, go forth, and have the best year that they have yet experienced.

Following the resounding applause for Father Bill Byron, Mr. Philip Devorris, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Mount Aloysius College, thanked him for sharing his wisdom with us. And Dr. Rebecca Zukowski, Associate Academic Dean and Chief of the Nursing Division offered the assembly “A Call to Excellence” in the year ahead. Dr. Jane Grassadonia, Vice President for Student Affairs, closed the gathering with a prayer.

As attendees left the Convocation warmed by the event and the late summer afternoon, they left richer, too, with a deeper understanding of “The Good Life.”
The dedication of the College’s new Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center took place on October 3, 2014. It was a regional event that called together legislators, community leaders from throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and especially the southern Allegheny Mountains, students, faculty, the Board of Trustees, and architects and builders of the 87,000 square-foot facility. The Dedication was the culmination of many years of planning, fund-raising, and construction.

Welcomed by Vice President for Institutional Advancement Jennifer Dubuque, the crowd settled as our own Vox Nova offered the National Anthem.

Former Board of Trustees Chairman, Attorney Daniel W. Rullo offered opening remarks and kept the podium, serving as emcee for the afternoon. In the course of his remarks, Attorney Rullo thanked the many people and organizations whose efforts led to the completion of the facility. These included the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Gov. Corbett. The College received a $10 million RACP bond grant from the state which funded part of the cost of the construction of this facility. It is the largest state grant in the history of Mount Aloysius College. He also thanked and acknowledged State Sen. John Wozniak, and his staffer, Tom Simmons.

He noted the assistance of Cambria County Commissioners who helped facilitate the state grant. He recognized Blair County Commissioner Ted Beam, State Sen. John Eichelberger, State Rep. Frank Burns, and Somerset County Commissioner John Vatavuk, along with representatives from U.S. Sen. Pat Toomey’s office.

During his remarks, Attorney Rullo also thanked the many donors who helped make the project a reality. These included PJ Dick Incorporated and Trumbull Corporation; The McLanahan Corporation along with Mike and Astride McLanahan, Reliance Bank and Tim Sissler, the Sheetz Corporation, and Joe Sheetz, and Ann and Bill Benzel.

Two student-athletes, Laura Stahli (tennis) from Johnsonburg and Nolan Doyle (basketball) from Pittsburgh, talked about their experiences. Both students watched the facility take shape around them and have already enjoyed competing in the new state-of-the-art arena. Following the students’ remarks, Mount Aloysius College President Tom Foley took the podium.

President Foley said that the spirit of the Mercy sisters remains evident in every corner of the facility. “Montesquieu once said that ‘it is only the adventurers who accomplish great things.’ When Sister Mary Ann Dillon came to Mount Aloysius, she found a college high in spirit, sense of mission and community, but a bit less than she preferred in the practical arts of admissions and course offerings, and even that within an aging infrastructure. Sister Mary Ann is an adventurer in the best sense of the word,” he said. “And she went after those issues in a systematic, plan-ful way—ever confident that the resources would appear in time to match her lofty goals for this college. And so they did.

“And with the help of successive and outstanding board chairs—Ed Sheehan, Joe Sheetz and Dan Rullo—and successive capital campaign leaders—Mike McLanahan, Dan Rullo, Ann Benzel, Adele Kupchella and Bill Polachek—she
embarked on an aggressive Campus Master Plan, the culmination of which you see in this building today.

“The ACWC holds a state-of-the-art training room, home, visiting and student locker rooms, home-team workout rooms, and space for both food and bookstore services. It also contains offices for two college VPs, for leaders of our division III athletic programs, the entire staff of our Institutional Advancement office and half of our business faculty. There are also three classroom spaces, in which our faculty has already hosted 731 class meetings in 29 different courses, spread over nine disciplines.”

President Foley thanked those whose work, vision and financial support created the ACWC. These included “Tony Misciagna and Louise and Ray Walker; the McLanahans, the Sheetzes, the Benzels, the Calandras, the Smiths—and so many others,” he said, “who have sponsored significant pieces of this building campaign and including the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania which funded the most significant part of the ongoing campaign; state legislators, county officials from Cambria, Blair and the whole region (from whence 90% of our students come) and our supporters from the federal level who came all the way from Washington to be with us today.

“And so today, we express our gratitude to those who made this building and dug the ground around it, to those who planned it and to those who watched over the multiple changes in these plans over the last two years. And so, we thank the leadership and the workers at PJ Dick Inc. and Trumbull Corp. I want to thank our in-house team, all the people here at the College who already had full-time jobs but who took on this major assignment so graciously and the leader of that team—Senior VP for Administrative Affairs Suzanne Campbell. We are also in great debt to our Arts Team, Dr. Don Talbot, Sister Guiseppe DaBella, and our leader there, Trustee Ann Benzel.”

President Foley offered special thanks to Suzanne Campbell. “She was always on top of upcoming decisions—informing me on exactly how many decisions I had to make in the next week and giving me whatever I needed to make the best decision possible.

“I like to quote novelist Elie Weisel who says that “God made man because he loves stories.” I believe that especially on a day like today. On our mural upstairs, it says that “a school is four walls with tomorrow inside.” God made man because She loves stories—and this building will make thousands of new stories possible. Thank you everyone.”

Sr. Eric Marie Setlock, RSM called the assembly to prayer before introducing The Most Reverend Mark L. Bartchak, Bishop of the Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown. Bishop Bartchak blessed both the ACWC and a replica of the original Mercy Cross designed by the late Sr. Maria Josephine D’Angelo, RSM.

The distinctive cross—still used by the Sisters of Mercy internationally—will be placed within the facility.
Mount Aloysius College Marks 75 Years during Homecoming/Alumni Weekend

Our 2014 combined Homecoming/Alumni Weekend was a hit! The blockbuster weekend took place October 3-5. Events included the 75th anniversary of Mount Aloysius as an institution of higher learning.

Combining that historical anniversary with Alumni Weekend and Homecoming, the weekend started with the formal dedication of the College’s Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center. The facility opened for use last November. Since then it has been formally decorated with stunning permanent displays depicting the heritage and history of the College, and its special place within the broader southern Allegheny Mountain region.

After the dedication, Homecoming/Alumni Weekend festivities continued. Later Friday evening, the Mount Aloysius Class of 1964 marked its Golden Anniversary at a reception in the College’s Wolf-Kuhn Gallery, located on the first floor of Old Main.

The event was amazing and the pictures speak for themselves. These women have lost none of their spirit. Suffice it to say that a certain bell hanging quietly for several decades was shocked to life in the waning hours of the evening. The bell lost none of its clang, and the collective adventurous spirit of the class of ’64 is alive and kicking.

On Saturday, October 4th, two athletic events started the day. In the ACWC, the Mount Aloysius volleyball team took on Alfred State College. Outside on the baseball field, the Mounties took the field against the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown in a double-header.

In the afternoon, the Mount Aloysius women’s soccer team played Hilbert. Back in the Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center, the volleyball team returned to the court against Shenandoah University. Finally, back to the soccer field as the MAC men took on Hilbert late in the afternoon.

A Student/Parent Dinner in the Cosgrave Dining Hall gave Mount Aloysius students and their parents their special time. One hour later, a high-spirited group of seasoned Mounties took control of the Wolf-Kuhn Gallery (it used to be the Library folks). While a silent auction took place, recent grads mixed with more seasoned Mounties. There were smiles wall-to-wall. The night was crowned with the 2014 Alumni Dinner, which took place in historic and venerable Alumni Hall.

During the evening, Mrs. Marie Little of Hollidaysburg was named Distinguished Alum of 2014, and Somerset County Attorney Daniel W. Rullo, recent Board of Trustees Chair, accepted the moniker of Honorary Alum of Mount Aloysius College.

That evening, the Cosgrave Lobby was jumping as a Mountie Mixer rocked the house all night long. The eclectic mix of generations respected each other’s musical motifs and shared a swaying dance floor.

Early Sunday on the Ray and Louise Walker Athletic Outdoor Complex softball field, the Mountie women’s softball squad took on the trifecta of Penn State-Altoona, then Lycoming, and finally Pitt-Greensburg. The MAC women’s tennis team took on Washington & Jefferson College at home.

Throughout the weekend, alumni, students, family members, faculty, and staff participated in face painting, “Build-a-Mountie,” old time photos, silent auctions and many more activities for young and not so young. Games took place simultaneously around campus in many locations.

Everyone went home happy and looking forward to more fun next year. Keep in touch Mounties!

DO YOU KNOW YOUR BOARD?
The Alumni Board Directors include Jacob Claar, ’11 - President, Helen Boyko, ’68 - Vice President, Marissa Gracey, ’09 - Secretary, Melissa Meyers, ’02 - Treasurer

If you are interested in more information call (814) 886-6396.
Mount Aloysius Magazine | Winter 2014-2015

Mount Aloysius College | Cresson, PA

Page 1

The boy loved the train, but she had for nearly every came back had such nice we got her.

Page 2

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Page 3

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Page 4

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Page 5

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Page 6

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Page 7

The boy loved the train, but she had for nearly every came back had such nice we got her.
Golden Graduates

CLASS OF `64 MEMORIES

1. Monica Ludwig - The nuns were powerfully strong women who set such a good example. In particular, she remembers Sisters Silverius, Fides, Thaddea, and Assumpta.

2. Neva Scaramizzino Shaw - Neva had a car and would take her friends to the “Penn Way” Restaurant, singing Christmas carols on the “million dollar” golden staircase, and Sister Thaddea sang Shakespeare Sonnets.

3. Mary Rosetta Feighner Hibernik - Fond memories of Sister Urban, dissecting frogs in Sister Assumpta’s class, Sister Silverius, the registrar, wearing caps and gowns to chapel, and talking with Father Tom Florentine.

4. Lillian Whren Duke - Loved going to school at the Mount, has such good memories, the sisters took such interest in the girls. She was fond of Sister Gertrude Marie.

5. Fortuna D’Aloisio Cimbotti - Was a non-traditional student. The sisters gave her additional help because she had been unsuccessful at other institutions, and fond memories of Sister Silverius.

6. Judy Topper McKim - Had a wonderful experience and feels the Mount prepared her for life; she did not have a good experience in high school and the Mount “whipped her into shape.” She was fond of Sister Benedict Joseph and Sr. Benedicta (Art).

7. Eileen Devine - Snow and tobogganing down the hills on campus, walking to “Penn Way” for peanut butter fudge marshmallow sundaes, riding on the bus to St. Vincent College and St. Francis for mixers (and self-imposed “no smoking” on the way to Greensburg and Loretto!), picnics at the Rocks in beautiful Prince Gallitzin State Park and going to the drive-in movies in Eileen’s car, Marie’s great hair cuts for $1, Diane Pyah making cards for a quarter, going to Mass wearing the required caps and gowns, with pij’s underneath, lights out in the dorms and having to study by moonlight, napkin rings, paying 25 cents for extra starch in our button-down shirts, and bowling in Cresson.
After a reception in the Wolf-Kuhn Gallery, the spirited MAC grads from yesteryear convened in Alumni Hall for a repast served, appropriately, family-style. Vice President for Institutional Advancement Jennifer Dubuque welcomed everyone. After a blessing from Sr. Helen Marie Burns, RSM, the gathering had a fine meal before Mount Aloysius President Tom Foley officially welcomed the group, showed videos of Alumni Hall, old and new; aerial vistas of campus, Move-in Day, and our recent Convocation.

Two highlights of the evening were the naming of an Honorary Alumnus to the College and the announcement of the Distinguished Alumnus for 2014.

Alumni Association President Jake Claar ’91 presented the award to Somerset, PA, Attorney Daniel W. Rullo. Atty. Rullo was named an Honorary Alumnus of Mount Aloysius College in recognition of his decade of service to the College’s Board of Trustees and his family’s scholarship endowment. President Foley noted that during Rullo’s tenure as Board of Trustees Chairman, the College completed the Ray and Louise Walker Outdoor Athletic Complex, which includes soccer, softball, and baseball fields completed two years ago with the addition of the Mountie Stables; renovations to historic Alumni Hall; and the completion of the 87,000 square-foot Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center.

Last April, Mount Aloysius honored Rullo with the 2014 Walker Award. The Walker Award is named in honor of long-time friends of the College, Ray and Louise Walker whose generosity, along with others, made possible the Mount Aloysius College athletic field complex.

Dan Rullo is a partner in the law firm of Barbera, Clapper, Beener, Rullo & Melvin, LLP and has served with them since 1978.

Following remarks from Mr. Rullo, Claar introduced Mrs. Marie Little of Hollidaysburg, PA as the 2014 Distinguished Alumnus award winner. A Clearfield native, Mrs. Little is a 1989 graduate of Mount Aloysius College. An education at The Mount is a family tradition. Several members of her family were also educated here. Mrs. Little is known throughout the region for decades of service as a champion of the arts and an active advocate for education. Her service to the community and to Mount Aloysius College is well documented.

Marie serves as President of the Hollidaysburg Area Arts Council, which she and her husband, John initiated in 1998. Teaching is also a passion. She taught “Survey of Western Art” to adult students through the Graduate and Continuing Education division. She also served as Director of Education for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art (SAMA) and was instrumental in introducing art to hundreds of children in area school districts. She is Past Board President of both the Mount Aloysius Art Alliance, and Historic Hollidaysburg. She is also active with Art in Common.
Shown here, from left, are: Blair County Commissioner Ted Beam, Jr.; Board of Trustees member Michael McLanahan, State Representative Frank Burns; Board of Trustees member Ann M. Benzel; Board of Trustees member R. Adele Kupchella; Board of Trustees member William Polacek; The Most Rev. Mark Leonard Bartchak, Bishop of the Altoona-Johnstown Diocese; Sr. Helen Marie Burns, RSM, Vice President of Mission Integration; Board of Trustees member Paul Calandra; Board of Trustees member Edward Sheehan; Former Board Chair Attorney Daniel Rullo; Sr. Eric Marie Setlock, RSM; Mount Aloysius College President Tom Foley; Student-athlete Laura Stahli; Student-athlete Nolan Doyle; PJ Dick Project Manager, Joseph P. Carozza; Mount Aloysius Director of Facilities Mr. Gerald Rubritz; Senior Vice President for
Administration Suzanne Campbell; State Senator John Wozniak; Cambria County Commissioner Thomas Chernisky; Mr. Clifford Rowe, CEO of P.J. Dick Inc.; Cambria County Commissioner Mark J. Wissinger; State Senator John Eichelberger; Cambria County Commissioner Douglas R. Lengenfelder; Administrative Assistant to the Senior Vice President Shelley Campbell; Somerset County Commissioner Pam Tokar-Ickes; Mount Aloysius Director of Security William Trexler; Mount Aloysius Athletic Director Ryan Smith; Somerset County Commissioner John Vatavuk; Mount Aloysius ACWC Facilities Director and Head Baseball Coach Kevin Kime; and PJ Dick, Inc. Construction Manager Ralph Melocchi.
Learning happens in a variety of ways, but the lessons best remembered are learned from experience. Christina Koren led four Mount Aloysius College students to Dublin, Ireland for the 2014 Youth Mercy Pilgrimage. Here are some of her recollections…

—Christina Koren, Director of Residential Life

My companions were Ms. Mackenzie Horne (senior history/political science major), Ms. Elizabeth Boyce (junior radiology major), Ms. Courtney Sable (sophomore english major) and Mr. Aaron MacGuire (sophomore accounting major). Throughout our 10 days together we participated in Mercy conference sessions and explored Ireland. One weekend included a bus trip to Belfast in Northern Ireland. Once there, we were welcomed with warm hospitality by friends of President Tom Foley who also exposed us to the rich history of both Ireland and Northern Ireland.

The conference showed us the work of the Mercy Sisters. They identified key societal concerns and made a commitment to resolving them. The Mercy Sisters are focused on diverse issues like clean water in third world countries, child endangerment, and child slavery. The conference provided each representative from Mercy higher education institutions with an overview of Catherine McAuley and the works of the Mercy sisters. Everyone shared in the thrill of serving others for the greater good. I was honored to be a part of that type of community.

We rediscovered the spirit of the Mercy community from this trip. I was impressed with the support and surprised, too, by our own group's sense of cohesion. We were five acquaintances starting out not really knowing each other well, but by the end of the trip, we had so many memories. Here is the travelogue of one intrepid travelling Mountie—Mackenzie Horne.

—Mackenzie Horne, Mercy Presidential Scholar

Traveling along the road to the north consisted of mental cataloging. Objects were assigned a number, which I meticulously filed away in my brain; call it a product of my obsessive compulsive disorder. The landscape, the concept of time, and the idea of family were assigned the numbers one, two, and three, respectively. And as we drove through the countryside in the pounding rain (“What would Ireland be without a little rain?” Courtney asked groggily, as she was still coming off of the after effects of vicious jet lag), I thought of how the picturesque slopes, the calmed passing of time, and the thoughts on the action of the family unit in the Emerald Isle compared and contrasted to my grasp of these concepts from an American perspective.

It was easy to see the differences in geography. Ireland is a place where the bare mountains seem craggier in their nakedness; few trees and shrubs dot the tips of hills in the country. While the green was more breathtaking than any other natural color that I had observed, I could not ignore the twinge of homesickness brought on by memories of the enveloping forests of Pennsylvania. The change of pace was also a substantial surprise for me; hours seemed to congeal and pass more slowly. The humor of the Irish people was not rushed; in fact, there was not a single facet of their lives
that seemed to be speeding out of control. But it is the difference in the family unit that I was and am still so intrigued by.

After receiving a warm welcome from our hosts in Belfast, it seemed so easy to assume that the Irish family was more tightly knit; the month-long family holidays to Cyprus, the investment in the leisure of children, and the overwhelming support of betterment through education seemed to support this claim. However, as this adventure wrapped inevitably towards its end like a spool of shamrock green ribbon, it was necessary for me to reconsider my original thoughts on family.

The four people whom I shared my adventure with had once been strangers; Chris, Courtney, Aaron, and Elizabeth had been little more than names put to tentative, fuzzy images of friendly faces in my mind. After exploring the cobbled streets of Dublin, laughing as the ocean spray threatened us along the coast, and sitting in the house of Catherine McAuley on Baggot Street, the five of us were a family. We were brought together in a unit that was entirely reminiscent of a true blood family, and it was the hospitality, patience, and loving example of the Irish people that helped to develop this wondrous relationship.

Mackenzie Horne

Horne, a junior from Berlin, PA and a Berlin Brothersvalley graduate, is a political science major and a two-year captain on the Mount Aloysius Women’s Soccer team. Horne is an editor and writer for the school newspaper The Belltower. She is also a Mercy Presidential Scholar, campus tour guide, and is involved in the Political Action Committee, another student club on campus.

During the Mercy International conference, the group participated in the following sessions:

- Catherine McAuley’s Story—Gift and Challenge to Us today
- The World Needs Mercy, Can You Respond?
- A Leader is a Dealer in Hope
- Catherine and Her Spirituality
- Life Discernment 101
- Mercy at the United Nations
- Tour of the Mercy International Centre
- The Vision and Mission of Mercy
Anonymous $500,000 Gift to Mount Aloysius Will Memorialize Mercy Sister

An anonymous benefactor with a long memory and a generous heart has donated $500,000 toward the renovation and re-purposing of the Mount Aloysius College’s former gymnasium—the Health and Fitness Center. President Tom Foley noted that, other than a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, this gift is the largest in the College’s current capital campaign.

“We are extremely grateful for this gift,” said President Foley. “The donor has directed us to memorialize the work of Sr. Virginia “Ginny” Bertschi, RSM, who worked shoulder-to-shoulder with former President Sr. Mary Ann Dillon, RSM, as her Administrative Senior Vice President. Together with the Board of Trustees, they engineered the formulation and execution of a Campus Master Plan. The recent completion of the Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center marks the culmination of that plan.”

President Foley noted that the scope of achievement by the Bertschi-Dillon team is remarkable and made an historic impact on the beautification of the 193-acre campus. “Sister Ginny Bertschi with Sister Mary Ann Dillon oversaw the construction of two modern dormitories—McAuley Hall and Misciagna Residence—a 40 percent expansion of Cosgrave Center, the complete remodeling of the Nursing wing, the general beautification of the grounds—including the brick-framed entrance to the College, the funding of the brick walkways, and so many other improvements which protect the many architectural highlights of Old Main while integrating the modern campus that is Mount Aloysius College today.”

President Foley noted that Sister Virginia Bertschi was a remarkable administrative leader. “By all accounts, Sister Ginny was smart, resilient, and a tireless asset to Mount Aloysius College. She embodied dynamic commonsense, and was a model of creative stewardship as, together with Sister Mary Ann Dillon and the rest of the College’s Board of Trustees, they found new ways to advance the College. It is the wish of this generous donor,” he said, “to memorialize her contributions to the College and to the community by naming this great student space, ‘The Bertschi Center and Technology Commons.’”

Replacing the old gymnasium, the Health and Fitness Center—The Bertschi Center and Technology Commons occupies central space on campus. The building sits just off the central red-brick walking mall that connects the Main Building westward toward the Library—adding access to Cosgrave Center and paths to two residence halls—Ihmsen and Misciagna—along the way.

Plans for repurposing the multi-purpose facility call for student-centered spaces where commuter and residential students can relax, socialize, study, conduct meetings, enjoy games, and manage the business of over 100 student clubs, teams, and organizations on campus. Kitchen facilities will allow students to enjoy snacks and will also give the College an additional venue for its growing roster of special events.
Scholarship Recognition Dinner

It’s our way of saying ‘thank you’ and it really is so much fun. The annual event is the Scholarship Donor Recognition Dinner held each year, usually at the end of October. The event is an opportunity for student scholarship recipients to meet those whose generosity helped make their education possible, and for the philanthropists to meet face-to-face with the students their generosity supports. Held this year in the Cosgrave Dining Hall, there were well over 200 in attendance.

The event began with a welcome from Vice President of Institutional Advancement Jennifer Dubuque, followed by remarks from Mount Aloysius College President Tom Foley. Ms. Dubuque offered some special recognition to the attendees. And the night ended with closing remarks from Board of Trustees Chair Philip Devorris.

But a highlight of the night is hearing words of gratitude directly from students themselves, and this year was no exception.

This year, attendees heard from Mount Aloysius students, Mr. Annamarie Barnish, class of 2015, and Mr. Bryan Jordan, class of 2016. Student Body President Adam Pernelli, stood in for LeLand Espinosa, class of 2015, who was down with a seasonal bug.

This year seven new scholarships became available for Mount Aloysius students. These were the Dean & Angela Damin Scholarship, funded by Mr. Rene’ and Mrs. Janet Damin; the Edgar & Augusta Henderson Memorial Scholarship, funded by Mr. Gerald B. Henderson; the Lachlan Magee Scholarship, funded by Mr. Nathan and Mrs. Kristy Magee; the LINK Computer Corporation Scholarship, funded by the LINK Computer Corporation; the Pat Cuthbert Nursing Scholarship, funded by Ms. Patricia Cuthbert; the Robert J. Gildea Sr. Family Scholarship, funded by Ms. Patricia Gildea ’47; and one specially designated scholarship funded by Ms. Gloria L. Ogle, ’49.

During the evening 208 students thanked benefactors who represented 98 endowed scholarships. The histories, people, and reasons that moved the generous benefactors to establish these endowed funds are as varied as the stories behind the students whose scholarship and gratitude honors that generosity.

Enjoy the photos of attendees on the accompanying page.

DID YOU KNOW—At Mount Aloysius College, fully 94 percent of students receive some form of financial aid. Many students represent the first in their families to attend college. The average financial aid package is $10,000. Mount Aloysius College awards millions of dollars in scholarships each year and also offers grants and work-study assistance. Through solid stewardship, Mount Aloysius College maintains affordability for students while offering them an education that enables their becoming technology-ready, community-ready and job-ready upon graduation. Mount Aloysius College offers one of the most affordable liberal arts educations in the northeastern United States.

Contact the Institutional Advancement Office for information on creating an endowed scholarship at (814) 886-6393, or The Admissions office regarding further information about Mount Aloysius College at (888)823-2220 or visit the College’s website at www.mtaloy.edu.
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Wikipedia defines adaptive capacity as the ability of a system to adapt if the environment in which the system exists is changing. In other words, can a system—in this case a community disaster response system—adapt in real time to ongoing changes as the scope, type, and nature of a disaster a it unfolds.

When Nursing Division Chief and Associate Dean Rebecca (Becky) Zukowski, Ph.D., saw the email, she admits to being a little nervous. The correspondence was from Purdue University's Daniel Aldrich, Ph.D., a world-renowned, Harvard-educated expert on disaster readiness. Dr. Zukowski had just published her dissertation titled "A Quantitative Study Identifying Adaptive Capacity and its Impact on Response and Recovery in Communities Affected by Major Disaster." Her paper was published in the July 2014 issue of *Prehospital Disaster Medicine Journal*. Dr. Aldrich wrote: “I found your dissertation on adaptive capacity online and thought it was very well done; I plan on citing it in a paper I am completing on the 3/11 disaster in Japan.” Becky needn't have been nervous.

This has been an awesome year for Dr. Zukowski and, in turn, for Mount Aloysius College Nursing. She earned her Doctoral degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania with the publication of her dissertation. She was named to the Editorial Board of the prestigious journal, *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*. Her research was initially unveiled in Los Angeles last October at the International Council on System Engineering (INCOSE) convention. Her presentation, the highlight of the INCOSE convention, was also webcasted throughout the country.

“The aim of my research was to determine if a relationship existed between the development of adaptive capacity and disaster response, with recovery outcomes. Communities and organizations develop plans and contingencies to deal optimally with disasters,” she said. “My work explored variables in the methods communities use to conduct their pre-disaster preparation. I looked at other variables including socio-economic profiles of those impacted by the disaster, and then quantified outcomes. While there is indeed a direct correlation between the scope and type of preparation and outcomes, much more research needs to be done as we work our way toward best practices. And in this field,” she added, “we continually work at getting better.”

» Nursing Chief Becky Zukowski Makes Strong Contributions

Associate Dean Rebecca Zukowski, Ph.D.

**DID YOU KNOW**—The Mount Aloysius Nursing program includes an educational continuum that starts with earning an RN, through to the achievement of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree. In this dynamic healthcare environment, it is imperative that nurses continue to advance their education. At Mount Aloysius College, we streamlined the RN to BSN process—including an attractive online option—to facilitate nurses’ personal and professional goals.

The Mount Aloysius College Nursing Division is accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and is fully approved by the Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing. Mount Aloysius College has been continually educating nurses since 1965.
Nursing Professor Selected as National Testing Author

Ms. Margaret Boyce, MSN, RN, MBA, Assistant Professor of Nursing was selected as a volunteer author of the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX). NCSBN, headquartered in Chicago, is responsible for developing and administering the NCLEX-RN and NCLEX-PN licensing exams. Ms. Boyce was approved by the Pennsylvania Board of Nursing and selected by NCSBN to participate on the NCLEX RN Item Development Panel of subject matter experts held in Chicago, IL from August 11-14. Ms. Boyce was nominated for the NCLEX assignment on the basis of clinical specialty and nursing expertise. All nurses in the United States and its four U.S. territories must take the NCLEX. The licensing exam identifies those candidates who demonstrate minimal competence to practice nursing at the entry level.

Mount Aloysius Nurses Excel at Licensure Exam

Our Nursing Division graduates have once again exceeded the National Council Licensure Examination (NCLEX) average pass rates at both the state and national levels for the third consecutive year. The NCLEX results reflect first-time test-takers between October 2013, and September 2014, which is the most current data available. Students take the exam subsequent to graduation from a baccalaureate, diploma, or associate degree program. A student must pass the exam in order to become licensed to practice as a registered nurse.

Mount Aloysius College’s pass rate of 92.05 percent places it well above the state’s average pass rate of 82.82 percent. The average national pass rate for the reported time period for first-time students is 81.74 percent, according to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing website.

This year, 155,585 candidates tested in the United States and achieved an average national pass rate of 81.74 percent. Pennsylvania had the sixth largest number of candidates, with 7,164 testing from 84 programs with an average pass rate of 82.82 percent. Eighty-eight Mount Aloysius College students took the exam this year.

Mount Aloysius Nursing Marks Golden Anniversary!

Did you know that the Mount Aloysius College Nursing Division will celebrate 50 Years of nursing education in 2015? By our count approximately 3,200 nurses have graduated from our program since 1965—the year Mount Aloysius began educating generations of nurses. Are you a Mount Aloysius Nurse? If so we would very much like to hear from you. Drop us a line or send us your contact information and let us know about your career.

If you are practicing, let us know what has changed clinically and what hasn’t. Are you part of a family of nurses—second, third or fourth generation? Is nursing in your DNA? Let us know that too.

In 1965 nursing and health care in America were very different. On July 30, 1965, President Johnson, with the help of former President Harry S Truman, signed the Social Security Amendments which established Medicare and Medicaid. The signing took place at the Truman Presidential Library in Independence, Missouri, and President Truman was presented with the first Medicare card. They promised the nation that they would “improve a wide range of health and medical services for Americans of all ages.” Indeed they did.

Since that day, oceanic changes have shaped and reshaped the social, economic, technological and ethical platforms upon which the United States cares for its people—young, old, rich and poor. Seeing a need to reform the system, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was signed March 23, 2010. And so change in health care continues.

We invite you to send us your stories and your thoughts and keep in touch with Nursing at Mount Aloysius College. Send your memories stories and photos to Jennifer Dubuque – jdubuque@mtaloy.edu.
Faculty Panel Discusses “In Search of The Good Life”

As Mount Aloysius continued exploring The Good Life, a faculty panel conducted a public discussion on the topic. In mid-November in the Cosgrave Meeting Rooms, faculty discussed The Good Life from five points of view—spirituality, art and culture, psychology, finance, and health. The event was sponsored by the College’s chapters of Phi Theta Kappa and Delta Epsilon Sigma national honor societies. Seated, from left, are Dr. John Whitlock, Assistant Professor in the Science and Math Department; Kimberly Asonevich, Chair of Business and Information Technology; and Dr. Donald Talbot, Associate Professor of English and Fine Arts. Standing, from left, are Dr. Anthony Dragani, Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Campus Coordinator of Delta Epsilon Sigma; Dr. Ryan Costanzo, Associate Professor, Educational Enrichment Program and Campus Coordinator of Phi Theta Kappa; Sr. Helen Marie Burns, RSM, Vice President of Mission Integration; and Dr. Mary Shuttlesworth, Assistant Professor of Psychology.

Brittany Anderson, D.B.A.
Professor of Business and Information Technology/Accounting

Brittany Anderson, D.B.A., is the newest member of the Accounting department for the fall semester of 2014. Ms. Anderson teaches Principles of Accounting and Auditing.

Anderson received her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in Accounting from Kaplan University, online. She is on schedule to complete her Doctoral degree (Ph.D.) in Business Management, concentrating in Accounting, in 2015.

Ms. Anderson has held a number of educational positions prior to her arrival at Mount Aloysius College. Her teaching credits include courses in a variety of subjects including pre-algebra and basic math. However, she is focused primarily on accounting, from introductory courses to specific courses such as Government and Not-for-Profit Accounting. She has also developed coursework in Management Principles.

Ms. Anderson is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Alpha Beta Kappa Honor Society, Sigma Beta Delta, and the Golden Key International Honour Society.

Matthew P. Arsenault, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Political Science

Dr. Matthew P. Arsenault is Assistant Professor of Political Science. Dr. Arsenault earned his Bachelor of Arts in International and Comparative Politics, and Asian Studies, a Master of (International) Development Administration, and a Master of Arts in Political Science from Western Michigan University, MI. He also attended the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI and the Institute for Qualitative and Multi-Method Research at The Maxwell School of Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY. He earned his Doctorate of Philosophy in Political Science in the fields of Comparative Politics and American Politics from Western Michigan University, MI. Dr. Arsenault also worked as a socio-political adviser to the U.S. Army in Iraq.

He is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha Honor Society, and was a Presidential Management Fellow with the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Andrea T. Cecilli
Director of Campus Ministry

Andrea T. Cecilli is Director of Campus Ministry. Prior to her arrival at Mount Aloysius, Ms. Cecilli was the Administrative Director and Campus Minister for Educational and Spiritual Life at Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, CT. She implemented a Campus Renew Program, an issues discussion group known as Breads and Spreads, as well as a Christian-athletes group known as S.T.R.I.V.E. She provided crisis intervention and grief support to members of the campus community.

Cecilli earned her Bachelor of Arts in Music from Long Island University of Brookville, NY, and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Theology from Barry University, Miami Shores, Fl. She earned 20 pre-doctoral credits in Theology at the University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, IN. She is currently enrolled at Fordham University, Bronx, NY, pursuing the Doctor of Ministry degree.

Cathleen Golden, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Business & Information Technology

Dr. Cathleen Golden is an Assistant Professor of Business & Information Technology. Dr. Golden brings 18 years of higher education experience to Mount Aloysius College. Her primary responsibilities at Mount Aloysius are teaching Business Administration courses.

Before joining the Mount Aloysius faculty, Dr. Golden taught business and technology courses at Westmoreland County Community College, Youngwood, PA and the University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. She resides in Indiana, PA with her three children, Evan, Eliza and Daniel.

Dr. Golden earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Business Education from Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg, PA, a Master of Education in Higher Education Administration from Ohio University, Athens, OH, and her Ph.D. in Business from the University of Missouri. Dr. Golden’s research interests focus on effective strategies for teaching Business Ethics.
Emily G Houseknecht, P.T., D.P.T.
Assistant Professor of Physical Therapist Assistant

Emily G. Houseknecht, P.T., D.P.T. has been promoted to Assistant Professor in the Physical Therapy Assistant program. Dr. Houseknecht had been an adjunct faculty member, serving during the 2013-2014 academic year. Houseknecht’s clinical physical therapy experience includes service at Upper Valley Medical Center, Troy, OH; Miami Valley Hospital, Dayton, OH; Green Memorial Hospital and Soin Medical Center, Xenia, OH; and Flagship Rehabilitation, Martinsburg, PA.

Emily Houseknecht earned her Bachelor of Science and Doctorate in Physical Therapy at Lebanon Valley College, Annville, PA. She recently completed her CEEAA certification.

Ana Lucrecia MacVean
Professor of Science and Mathematics/ Lab Manager

Ana Lucrecia MacVean, MS, is Professor of Biology. Ms. MacVean will also serve as the Laboratory Manager for the Science and Math departments.

MacVean earned her Bachelor of Science degree and License in Biology (MS) at the University of the Valley of Guatemala, in her native country of Guatemala. She has taught at a variety of universities, teaching such courses as General Biology, Botany, Plant Conservation, Ecology, Applied Ecology, Taxonomy of Plants, and Ethnobotany.

MacVean has authored four books and numerous articles on Guatemalan flora. Her current research focuses on historical herbarium collections from the 18th century. She also plans to continue to make collecting trips to mountain ranges and volcanoes to study the mountain endemic flora of Guatemala.

Jennifer Mahon Kush, M.A.
Coordinator of the Community Engagement and Social Entrepreneurship

Jennifer Kush, will serve the College as Coordinator of the Community Engagement and Social Entrepreneurship. She is responsible for tracking the College’s community service contributions and creating opportunities that foster engagement and create service partnerships between the College and the various communities it serves.

Ms. Kush previously served in student-life positions and as a Sociology faculty member at several colleges and universities. She earned the Bachelor of Arts in Clinical Psychology from Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA. Her Master of Arts in Student Personal Services and Counseling was also received at Edinboro. Kush is completing her Doctoral degree at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in Administration and Leadership Studies. Her research focuses on “at-risk student perceptions of their college experiences.”

Mary E. Shuttlesworth, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychology

Mary E. Shuttlesworth, Ph.D. is Assistant Professor in the Psychology department. Dr. Shuttlesworth received her Bachelor’s degrees in Psychology and Sociology summa cum laude from Lock Haven University, Lock Haven, PA. She completed her Master’s degree in Clinical Psychology at West Chester University, West Chester, PA and her Doctorate in Applied Developmental Psychology at the University of Maryland. The topic of her doctoral dissertation was “Developing Online Content to Engage Head Start Parents in School-Based Prevention Programming.”

Prior to arriving at Mount Aloysius, Dr. Shuttlesworth taught at several colleges and universities across the country. In addition to her experience in the education field, Dr. Shuttlesworth has worked as therapeutic staff support, a family-based therapist, and a consultant with the Baltimore Head Start program, and given expert testimony on developmental expectations for children and adolescents for the Randolph County Courts.

“The Benefits of Making Priestly Celibacy Optional”

Anthony Dragani, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Religious Studies has authored an op-ed on priestly celibacy in the Catholic Church which was published in the online edition of The New York Times. Titled “The Benefits of Making Priestly Celibacy Optional,” his article was part of an online debate focused on the issue of celibacy in the Roman Catholic Church. Dr. Anthony Dragani was one of seven national experts weighing in on the topic.

Now in his 10th year at Mount Aloysius, Dr. Dragani is a member of the Eastern Catholic Church, where married priests are a reality. The salient points of his position were three-fold: “if priestly celibacy were optional, more people would become priests, there would be greater transparency, and celibacy would be a spiritual gift.”

Dr. Dragani and his family reside in Ebensburg, PA.

1964

The Class of 1964 celebrated its 50th anniversary during Alumni and Homecoming Weekend. Twenty-three graduates attended the Golden Grad Reception where they were officially pinned by the Sisters of Mercy. Please refer to the article “Golden Grad Memories” in this magazine for photos and details about the ceremony.

1971

Peter Winklbauer was a recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Elk County Council on the Arts for his service to the community. This award also garnered a commendation from the Pennsylvania State Senate. After receiving his Bachelor's from Mercyhurst, he went on to teach art at Elk County Christian School, and his artwork has been on display throughout the region and at the Mount.

1972

Marie "Toots" (Conron) Fallon passed away on November 6, 2014 from complications following a lung transplant. She was a kindergarten teacher for 30 years with the Binghamton City School District (NY). She remained close friends with fellow classmates Susan (Schlipf) Peo and Joan (Peterson) Borchert. Her family and classmates have requested that donations be made in her memory to Mount Aloysius College in lieu of flowers. If you would like to contact the family, please email alumni@mtaloy.edu.

1976

Bill Mortenson has recently retired after over 33 years as a staff accountant with the U.S. Department of Defense. Throughout his service, Bill worked in duty stations in Washington, DC, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Letterkenny Army Depot, Cleveland, and six months in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Storm in 1991. Bill plans on relocating to Western Pennsylvania in the near future.

1979

Renee Martin-Nagle received the 2014 International Aviation Women’s Association’s Aviation Industry Woman of Excellence Award. This award recognizes women who are leaders in the field of aviation, have a demonstrated commitment to the advancement of women in the industry, and are respected as team players by men and women alike. She is the third woman to receive this honor. Currently, she is the founder, president, and CEO of A Ripple Effect, PLC, an environmental consulting firm, and is a Visiting Professor of International Environmental Law and Policy at the University of Pittsburgh School of Law.

2001

Beth (Yartin) Coke has been promoted from lead accountant to plant controller at General Cable Corp. in Altoona.

2004

Abbie Tate is the treatment supervisor for the Blair County Prison. She supervises the county’s work release program and oversees drug and alcohol programs, the GED program, and many other efforts. Her current focus is helping inmates with serious mental health issues successfully transition into the community and reduce recidivism among this population.

A group of friends from the Class of 1963 met on Hilton Head Island, SC for a great time reminiscing about their days at Mount Aloysius. Per Rosemary (Stoffel) Barry, “We all just picked up where we left off 50 years ago and realized we are still the same ol’ gals.”

Top row from left: Sue (Hald) Bailey, Joyce (Friel) Angelini, Jeanne (Danek) Elek, Gwen (DeRose) Dobas
Second row from left: B.J. (Faherty) Samuels, Barb (Carbonetta) Keith, Kathy (Graham) Wildonger, Carol (Tomer) Bobar
Bottom row from left: Anita (Puga) Fitzgibbons, Rosemary (Stoffel) Barry, Carolyn (Kroeger) Waldron, Carol (Pugh) Jones
Not pictured: Pat (Ahlquist) LePow
1995

Bonnie (Aimey) Leonce was featured for her work with and advocacy for the Barbados deaf community in an article for Barbados’ online newspaper, NationNews.com. She is the only college-trained interpreter in the country. When not teaching sign-language courses or performing professional interpreting services, Bonnie signs for the nightly CBC-TV evening newscast and weather report.

2008

Sean Makowiecki has been hired as UPMC Altoona’s Patient Access Manager. He will supervise 60 employees and is responsible for establishing an accurate, efficient, consistent, and patient-centered admission and registration process.

2011

Renee Schmidt was inducted into the Pennsylvania Softball Coaches Association Hall of Fame in July. The former Southern Huntingdon softball standout led the Rockets to a pair of District Six Class A titles in 2005 and 2006 before continuing her softball career at the Mount.

2013

Gary Boast is the new Associate Dean of Institutional Research at Pennsylvania Highlands Community College. He is responsible for data analysis and reporting in support of the college’s culture of information-based decision making. Prior to his appointment, Gary was an IT leader at FreightCar America. He is also a veteran of the United States Air Force.

2014

Bradley Mikitko received the Delta Epsilon Sigma Undergraduate Student Award. Delta Epsilon Sigma is a national scholastic honor society for students, faculty, and alumni of colleges and universities with a Catholic tradition. This rare award is given to select Delta Epsilon Sigma members who have recently completed their undergraduate programs and who continue to demonstrate outstanding academic achievement. Brad was also elected to serve on the Alumni Association Board in October.

Marriages

Kristin Cessna, ’09 and Vincent Mione – 6/28/14
Angela Feldman, ’11 and Mark Hoover – 5/24/14
Catherine Liedahl, ’11 and Derek Caldwell – 10/4/14
Jenna Shuck, ’07 and Clyde Weyandt, Jr., ’05 – 5/24/14
Kelli Sionka, ’10 and Shane Brant – 5/24/14
Jessica Walters, ’11 and William Moschella, ’12 – 8/23/14
Hannah Zimmerman, ’11, ’12 and Bowie Humbert, ’13 – 5/31/14

Engagements

Kara Gilligan, ’10 to Mason Hanley
Dustin Held, ’13 to Kirsten Garman
Faith-Rosalia Hoffman, ’10 to Sean Ford
Matthew Smith, ’10 to Stephanie Porter
Lennae Zimmerman, ’09 to Kylee Trotter

In Memoriam

Catherine “Katie” Bailey, ’61 – August 13, 2014
Stephanie Kawtoski, ’97 – September 28, 2014
Pauline (Evans) Leventry, ’74 – August 13, 2014
Sarah (Whatmore) Mihalaki, ’77 – June 20, 2014
Bonnie (Behe) Shable, ’97 – September 16, 2014
Sr. Jeane Devaney, RSM – July 5, 2014
Sister Cecilia Meighan, RSM, former President of Mount Aloysius College, died at Mercy Center in Dallas, PA on Friday, September 12, 2014. Sister Cecilia was an Associate Attorney with the Gallagher, Brennan and Gill Law Firm. She taught in the Scranton, PA and Brooklyn, NY dioceses and was Director of the Institute of Law and Religious Life.

We want to know what’s new with you! Submit your notes at: mtaloy.edu/classnotes
While Mount Aloysius student-athletes continue to compete hard on the field, their work in the community this fall has been equally compelling. Since they returned to campus in mid-August, Mountie student-athletes have participated in more than 50 community service projects. The Mercy Youth Initiative, Ebensburg Potato Fest, Project Bundle Up and the Mount’s annual “Pink Out” event are highlights.

On September 20, 2014, the women’s tennis team reached out to local youngsters through our Mercy Youth Initiative, a program designed to give local 7th-, 8th-, and 9th-graders an opportunity to be mentored by college students. The MAC tennis team hosted a “Fitness Fun” workshop in the college’s new Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center. They played soccer, basketball, volleyball, and kickball. The grade-schoolers asked questions about being a college athlete and the Mountie tennis players talked about the importance of doing well in school and staying active and engaged.

The Mount Aloysius men’s tennis team helped out at Ebensburg’s annual Potato Fest on September 27. Mr. Nick Center, Mr. Matt Hample, Mr. Justin Fleegle, Mr. Joey Gearhart, Mr. Adam Pernelli and Mr. Jacob Aravich all helped serve the public with typical quick service and good cheer. “The men did an outstanding job as they received compliments from customers throughout the day,” Head Coach Mike Hample said.

The Mount Aloysius baseball team pitched in again for “Project Bundle Up.” Sponsored by the Salvation Army, this happens in early fall. The program is designed to clothe needy children with winter coats before the cold really sets in. This year the program took place at Boscov’s Department Store at Johnstown’s Galleria Mall. The Salvation Army covers the cost and Mountie baseball volunteers help the kids find their winter coats. All baseball team members, led by Head Coach Kevin Kime and Assistant Coach Pat Smith, took part in the event.

As students arrived for Move-in Day, a receiving area in Cosgrave Center was stacked with gifts bound for Haitian children. In late September, with help from Mount Aloysius students and staff, those gifts were loaded up for the Sisters of the Carmelite Community of the Word in Loretto, PA., and sent on their way to Haiti. Jane Grassadonia, Vice President for Student Affairs, noted that this year’s effort is the fourth year we have helped out the Haitian children through our neighbors in Loretto.

On October 15, the annual women’s volleyball “Pink Out” game took place in the ACWC. The effort generates increased awareness for early detection of breast cancer and raises funds to combat the disease. Mount Aloysius joined forces with Windber Medical Center’s Joyce Murtha Breast Cancer Center for “Pink Out” night that featured the Mount Aloysius match against Penn State Altoona. More than 700 people and over a dozen student clubs were involved this year. Nearly $5,000 was raised.

During Orientation, MAC students attended “Leadership through Service.” Incoming Mount Aloysius students worked on service projects for area school children, U.S. service veterans, and the elderly. The Mount Aloysius cheerleaders also showed their community spirit during the annual Johnstown Halloween Parade. Other campus-wide service projects include Cresson Heritage Days and the Hollidaysburg Pumpkin Fest.

As the weather turns cold, many more Mountie athletic teams have upcoming service events scheduled during winter months as the Athletic Department and the whole campus continues to look for ways to give back to those in need.

**DID YOU KNOW**—During the past two years over 25,000 hours of community service have been forthcoming from Mount Aloysius College students, faculty, and staff. These efforts translate to over a half-million dollars in value to the communities, not-for-profits, and agencies helped by the College. Each of the 100 student clubs on campus has a service component built right into their charters, and a Mount Aloysius College “Connections” seminar attended by all freshmen instills the need and the expectation that MAC students give back to their communities.
All Dressed Up

When you visit the Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center, be sure to enjoy all the new artwork. Coming up the stairs from the Wellness Center to the Main Floor, find seasonal banners depicting iconic Mount Aloysius vistas. They also display prominent regional sites like Altoona’s Mishler Theatre and Johnstown’s Bottle Works. At the top of the stairs, you face the History Wall. Take some time and read the panels—taking you from 1831 right up to today. Turn east and find Mercy Hall. Lined with banners stating the four Mercy values, the hall is also a favorite spot for regional artists to display their “Art for Healing.” Along the south hall you will find posters of many campus plays, lectures and special events. Enjoy!
We saved you a seat. Now put your name on it!

As an important member of the Mount Aloysius community, we want to offer you the opportunity to create a lasting tribute in an affordable, meaningful way by taking a seat in the new Mount Aloysius College Athletic Convocation and Wellness Center (ACWC). Your participation sends a message to present and future students, as well as to the greater community, that you support the mission of Mount Aloysius College.

- For a donation of $250, your support will be commemorated with an engraved nameplate placed on the back of one of the 155 bleacher seats in the main gym.

- Celebrate your graduation year, your family’s name, or memorialize a loved one with your inscription.

- Your gift will help sustain this amazing facility for many years to come and is tax-deductible.

Visit www.mtaloy.edu/takeaseat or call 814-886-6395 for more information.