

monarch

# CHRONICLE

Bishop McGann-Mercy



Diocesan High School

spring-summer 2011 newsletter

## The Best of 2011



*Amanda Termine*  
**Valedictorian 2011**

Being well-rounded is a goal that many students strive for, but few are able to demonstrate excellence in academics, athletics and extra-curricular activities. Amanda Termine is one such impressive student. In addition to making Principal's List every quarter during her tenure at Mercy, Amanda was a member of the Sr. Mary Euphrasia Chapter of the National Honor Society, was awarded the President's

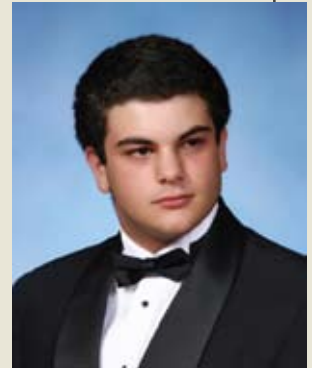
Award for Educational Excellence in 2010 and won the St. Michael's Book Award for Academic Achievement with a Social Conscience in 2010. Through receipt of this national award, Amanda was recognized for her demonstrated commitment to leadership in volunteer service and academic achievement.

In addition to volunteering at Peconic Bay Medical Center, she still managed to find time to swim as an individual competitor for McGann-Mercy in 10th, 11th and 12th grades as well as take a leadership role in the school's choir. Performing every year, she served as librarian of the chorus in her sophomore year and president in her senior year; she was also a member of the Chamber Choir in the 11th and 12th grades. As if that were not enough, Amanda also participated in the McGann-Mercy Theatre Company. In her spare time, she works as a lifeguard and swimming instructor in the Children's Program at St. Joseph's College in Patchogue.

Graduating with an Advanced Regents with Honors Diploma, Amanda will continue her pursuit of academic excellence at Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences where she is enrolled in a six-year Pharmacy Doctorate program.



*Rocco Pascale*  
**Salutatorian 2011**



Combining academics, sports and extracurricular activities was also made seemingly easy by the 2011 Salutatorian, Rocco Pascale. While remaining very active in baseball and basketball throughout his education at McGann-Mercy, Rocco was able to achieve the honor of Principal's List eleven times and Honor Roll once, as well as receive the President's Award for Educational Excellence in 2010. A member of the Sr. Mary Euphrasia Chapter of the National Honor Society, he also served as its President during his senior year. In 2010, Rocco was also a member of the National Society of High School Scholars.

It was Rocco's ability to combine academics with his passion for baseball that made him really shine. Finding success early on at McGann-Mercy, Rocco was named JV Baseball's Most Valuable Player in 2008 and Team Captain, and received the 2009 Varsity Baseball Coach's Choice Award. In 2010, he was named Varsity All League Baseball Player and MVP of the Suffolk County Class C Baseball Championship Series. Rocco was also a member of the 2011 team that won the Suffolk County Class C Baseball Championship and the Long Island Class C Baseball Championship. This past winter, Rocco was the recipient of the New York State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance – Suffolk Zone Award. Criteria for this prestigious award includes demonstrated achievement in academics and physical education, outstanding character, school-wide leadership and service as a role model for "living a healthy lifestyle" inside the school as well as in the community.

Between maintaining his 99.133 weighted GPA and baseball, Rocco also managed to play an active role in the Rico Memorial Foundation, a not-for-profit foundation founded by his grandfather.

Having graduated with a Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors, Rocco will begin his studies this fall at Manhattan University with a focus in engineering.

# Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School

***Congratulates the 77 members of the Class of 2011 for all of their achievements including receiving more than \$9.1 million in college scholarships!***



## **COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES OFFERING ADMISSIONS TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2011**

Academy of Dramatic Arts  
Adelphi University  
Albany College of Pharmacy  
Allegheny College  
Anna Maria College  
Assumption College  
Bentley University  
Boston University  
Bowling Green State University  
Bryant University  
Catholic University of America  
Champlain College  
Chestnut Hill College  
Clark University  
College of Mt. Saint Vincent  
College of Saint Rose  
Concordia College  
Cornell University  
CUNY Hunter  
CW Post Long Island University  
Daemen College  
DeSales University  
Dickenson University  
Dominican College  
Dowling College  
Drexel University  
Elmira College  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University  
Emerson College  
Eugene Lang College of the New School  
Fairfield University

Five Towns College  
Fordham University, Lincoln Center  
Fordham University, Rose Hill  
Framingham University  
Franklin Pierce University  
George Mason University  
Hawai'i Pacific University  
Hofstra University  
Holy Family University  
Iona College  
Ithaca College  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice  
Keuka College  
Kings College  
Kutztown University  
Lasell College  
Lehigh University  
LeMoyné University  
Leslie University  
Loyola University  
Lycoming College  
Lynchburg College  
Manhattan College  
Mansfield University  
Marist College  
Marymount Manhattan College  
Merrimack College  
Misericordia University  
Molloy College  
Moravian College

Mt. Saint Mary College  
New England Institute of Technology  
New York Institute of Technology  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Oklahoma University  
Pace University  
Providence College  
Quinnipiac University  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Roanoke College  
Rutgers University  
Sacred Heart University  
Seton Hall University  
Siena College  
St. Bonaventure University  
St. Francis College  
St. John Fisher College  
St. John's University  
St. Joseph's College, Brooklyn  
St. Joseph's College, Hartford  
St. Joseph's College, Long Island  
St. Michael's College  
St. Thomas Aquinas College  
Stevenson University  
Stonehill College  
Suffolk Community College  
Suffolk University, Boston  
SUNY Binghamton  
SUNY Cobleskill

SUNY Cortland  
SUNY Delhi  
SUNY Farmingdale  
SUNY Fredonia  
SUNY Geneseo  
SUNY Morrisville  
SUNY Oneonta  
SUNY Oswego  
SUNY Purchase  
SUNY Stony Brook  
SUNY Westbury  
Syracuse University  
University of Alabama  
University of Buffalo  
University of Central Florida  
University of Connecticut  
University of Dayton  
University of Massachusetts-Amherst  
University of Mississippi  
University of New Haven  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Scranton  
University of Vermont  
Vaughn College  
Villanova University  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute  
Wagner College  
Western New England University  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
York College



## Gold Award Girl Scouts of America

This spring, five McGann-Mercy young women were awarded the highest award achievable in the Girl Scouts (on par with Eagle Scout), the Gold Award, for a project that directly benefited the local community and environment.

Emily Venesina, Lauren Valle, Shannon Nunez, Nicole Venesina, and Alexa Klink (pictured left to right), as part of a nine person team, raised over \$18,000 over the span of ten months to purchase six Big Belly Solar Powered Compactors that were placed in various parks and beaches in Southampton.

These compactors, which are the size of regular trash receptacles, can hold five-times its capacity, reducing the number of trips necessary to empty them, ultimately reducing emissions, fuel and operating costs. And the cost of the compaction is free – taken from the sun! To raise funds for the project, the girls held a spaghetti dinner, presented their project at local community and civic organizations (Kiwanis, Lion's/Lionesses Clubs and Knights of Columbus), sold the ever-famous cookies, sent out a mailing that blanketed businesses from Montauk to Manhattan and a car wash.

*\*monarch\**  
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Deborah Kneidl, Director Institutional Advancement

## Medallion Ceremony



The seniors weren't the only ones celebrating a big transition this year. Forty-nine 8th graders celebrated their "moving" up from the junior high to the high school at the Medallion Ceremony on June 17th. Sharing the spotlight were 24 students (7th & 8th grade) who were inducted into the National Junior Honor Society based on the criteria of scholarship, citizenship, leadership, service and character.



## Bishop Murphy's Visit

With a full agenda, Bishop Murphy came to visit McGann-Mercy on April 11th. Bishop Murphy started his whirlwind visit by blessing the school's new chapel, which was completed in Fall of 2010. Not one to let dust settle under his feet, he continued with a tour of the school, stopping by Mrs. MacDougal's classroom to give her religion class first hand reflections and answer questions about his time spent in Rome. Finally, the morning wrapped up with an open forum luncheon with Bishop Murphy and select students from each grade. The topic of conversation varied, but the underlying theme was student involvement in ministry and extracurricular activities and how they can coexist.



## Walter Squires – Eagle Scout

On July 2nd, Walter Squires, incoming senior at McGann-Mercy, was honored with the designation Eagle Scout at a ceremony held at St. Rosalie's Roman Catholic Church in Hampton Bays. His project entailed constructing 14 outdoor Stations of the Cross, depicting the crucifixion of Jesus Christ for the grounds of St. Rosalie's. To cover the cost of construction to build each station, a combination of wood housing and resin plaques, Walter raised over \$1,400 through various local bake sales.



**Save the Date**

BISHOP MCGANN  
**MERCY**  
HIGH SCHOOL

Annual Golf Classic  
&  
Hall of Fame Induction Dinner  
Honoring  
Tom Patri '77

Thursday, September 29, 2011  
Rock Hill Golf & Country Club, Manoreville  
Call 631-727-5900 ext. 34  
for more information  
or log onto [www.mcgann-mercy.org](http://www.mcgann-mercy.org)



## Principal's Dinner Raises More than \$100,000

On March 12, 2011, Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School held its Annual Principal's Dinner at Giorgio's in Baiting Hollow, raising over \$100,000 for the McGann-Mercy Tuition Assistance Fund. During the event, the Principal's Award was bestowed upon Kevin O'Connor, President of Bridgehampton National Bank, Father Henry Leuthardt '79, Associate Pastor at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Ronkonkoma was given the Catherine McAuley Award, and Dr. Steven Cheeseman '89, Associate Superintendent of Schools for the Diocese of Rockville Centre, former McGann-Mercy HS Principal, was honored for his many years of service at the school. Photo Caption: Pictured from l-r: Principal, Mr. Carl Semmler, Fr. Henry Leuthardt '79, Dr. Steven Cheeseman '89, Mr. Kevin O'Connor, and Fr. Gerard Cestare.

## McGann-Mercy Senior Signs with Wagner

This past May, McGann-Mercy senior, Kayleigh Macchirole of Greenport, signed a Letter of Intent to attend Wagner College and accepted a scholarship to run track there. Between athletic and academic awards, she will be receiving \$22,000/year for a total of \$88,000. Macchirole will be joining the ranks of some of the area's best as she runs with Wagner College on Staten Island, a NCAA (National Collegiate

Athletic Association) Division I school in Track and Field and a member of the Northeast Conference.

While at McGann-Mercy, Kayleigh was named All-League, All-County and All-State for her efforts in grades 10 and 11; she was named All-County this year. She was also a member of the 4x400 meter relay team, which broke the school record, three-years running. This year, the Winter Track 4x200 meter relay team,

of which she was a member, also broke the school record. Finally, this June, she and her fellow relay teammates brought home the Gold at the New York State Championships.



## 2nd Annual McGann-Mercy Student Talent Show Raises More than \$2,500 for Haiti Relief Efforts

The students of Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School produced, directed and starred in the 2nd Annual Mercy for Haiti Talent Show, raising more than \$2,500 for the relief efforts in Haiti, where they still struggle to recover from last year's devastating earthquake and hurricane. Sponsored by the McGann-Mercy Student Organization, the talent show was chock-full of talent with over 30 acts performing for more than 300 spectators. With the now famous quote from Mother Theresa, "We can do no great things, only small things with great love" featured prominently on the front of the stage as a unifying theme, students opened their hearts by performing such acts as a martial arts demonstration, singing, instrumental pieces, dancing, and poetry readings; many of the students performed original pieces.



## Special Person's Day

On May 17th, over 100 people near and dear to the hearts of our 7th, 8th and 9th graders came to McGann-Mercy to see what "Living Mercy" is all about.

## Staff Profile: Barbara Poerio



Helping children and young adults to succeed and achieve their goals is in the blood of Barbara Poerio, McGann-Mercy's new Director of Guidance. Having grown up in East Quogue, Barbara's tie to the area could not be denied after she transferred back from LaSalle University in Philadelphia to Dowling College in her senior year of college and graduated with a bachelor's degree in elementary and special education. She earned her master's in counseling from CW Post.

When it came time to combine her education with her passion, she made the unselfish decision to stay at home to raise her three sons and ensure that their fundamentals were well established to prepare them for the future. Eventually she entered the field that she had longed to belong to for so long by accepting a position as a preschool teacher, once again working to establish those fundamentals so critical for the future of today's youth.

Calling on her special education experience, Mrs. Poerio joined the McGann-Mercy family in 2005 as resource room teacher, working with those students in need of a little extra help and guidance to get themselves ahead. After establishing herself as a valuable, caring and dedicated employee, she was given the opportunity to transition to the guidance department as a counselor.

During her tenure, she has witnessed and responded to the constantly evolving needs of the student body. This includes aiding the 9th and 10th graders as they adjust to the rigorous course loads by providing and reinforcing time management study skills as well as encouraging parents to become involved and working together to help students achieve the increasingly higher standards in education. At the behest of former Director of Guidance, Mr. Joseph Cannon, who retired this summer, McGann-Mercy adopted the Naviance Program. This program helps facilitate the college and scholarship application process, allowing students in 10th and 11th grades to start planning early for their future after graduation.

As she takes the helm of the guidance department this fall, Mrs. Poerio looks forward to further developing the services to enable students to achieve their dreams and goals. She has already planned a "College Board Panel" for November 8th, during which students and parents will have access to college and university representatives to learn the ins-and-outs of their institution and the application process. There will even be on-the-spot interviews with select colleges, saving time and angst for students and their parents. A trend that she would also like to promulgate is taking the SAT subject test, in addition to the traditional SAT. The SAT subject test requires the student to demonstrate content knowledge on a particular subject, further adding to their arsenal as they begin the college selection process.

On the personal front, Mrs. Poerio enjoys cooking, walking and spending time with her family. She and her husband, Frank, look forward to watching their three sons, Michael, who is 14, Brian, who is 12, and Jake, who is 7, grow up and take advantage of all life has to offer. She hopes that whatever she does for her own family and the Mercy family will have an impact on the emotional, spiritual, and educational development of the children with whom she comes in contact and gives them the drive to strive for excellence.



## Babies, babies, babies ...

### Congratulations to:

Coach **Jeff Doroski**, his wife, Lyndsay, and big brother, Christian, on the birth of Hannah Lauren Doroski (pictured, left) on July 14th. She weighed in at 7 lbs., 8 oz. and 18.5 inches.

Coach **Eddie Meier**, his wife, Nicole and big sister Mallory, on the birth of Edward Ryan this June.

**Larissa (Piemonte) Froeschl** and her husband on the birth of their first child, Stefano Franciso on July 23rd. He weighed in at 8 lbs., 6 oz.

Religion teacher, **Michelle Nappi**, is proud to announce the birth of her granddaughter, Anya, on May 22 to daughter Clare (Nappi) Larsen '95, as well as her other daughter, Carly (Nappi) Shephard '02, graduating from St. Joseph's College with an EMBA and a Masters in Science in Organizational Behavior.

Music teacher, **Jamie Calandro** and his wife, Dympna, are expecting a little boy in December!!!

## Engagements ...

**Janessa Greene** on her engagement to Ryan Senn (pictured, right) on April 22, 2011. They will marry on September 24, 2011 and relocate to South Carolina.



## A Fond Farewell

At the end-of-the-year party, faculty and staff came together to honor and bid a fond farewell to five faculty members. This year the Mercy family said goodbye to Mr. Joseph Cannon, Director of Guidance, Ms. Paula Nickerson, Athletic Director, Ms. Janessa Greene, Teacher, Michelle Pirraglia, Library Clerk and Mr. Michael Dorman, who retired in Summer 2010 after working at Mercy for 45 years as a teacher and in many other capacities. Best wishes to everyone and good luck in your future endeavors. (Continued on page 8.)





## Shining Shoes for El Salvador

In preparation for the school's annual mission trip to El Salvador, students and faculty alike hunkered down to raise money by shining the shoes of their fellow classmates and faculty members. The more than \$400 raised through this effort was used to purchase school and art supplies for the local school as well as maintain one of the houses built during last year's mission.

*Principal Carl Semmler polishing the shoes of Erika Smith, senior and mission participant.*



## Ethics & Leadership Club at Camp Herrlich

On the weekend of May 20th, the Ethics & Leadership Club at McGann-Mercy made their third annual pilgrimage up to Camp Wilbur Herrlich, in Putnam County, to help prepare the camp for its summer activities. Whether anchoring the dive float in the middle of the lake, cleaning out lodges, preparing the playground or planting gardens, our students worked hard! While the students knew that their efforts are very much appreciated by the hundreds of children from the inner city and surrounding areas that attend the camp, Camp Herrlich surprised them by presenting them with a plaque in recognition to be placed on the playground.



## Reason for Hope - Internet/Technology

This spring, graduating senior, Anya Augustyn, Mr. Semmler, McGann-Mercy Principal, and Deb Kneidl, Director of Institutional Advancement, appeared on Fr. Frank Pizzarelli's television show, *Reason for Hope*, which aired on Telecare. Anya was invited to speak because the show theme of the internet and social media fit nicely with her senior thesis.

## Battle of the Bands for Japan

This year's Battle of the Bands, sponsored by the Key Club, was very special. In addition to attracting an unprecedented 11 bands from school districts across northern and eastern Long Island, the event raised over \$3,700. The proceeds were donated to Catholic Relief Services for their work in tsunami ravaged Japan and the



Christian Foundation for Children and the Aging for their mission in El Salvador. Mercy had two bands perform - 24601

(pictured, above right) and Nuclear Funeral (pictured, left).

This year's winners were as follows: 1st place - Project Thalen from Mt. Sinai, 2nd place - The Blazin' Beaverducks from West Hampton, 3rd place - The Malicious Biscuits from Center Moriches and 4th place - Dear Tragedy.



## McGann-Mercy Hosts May 9th Kickoff of **ALS Ride for Life 2011**



presentation at Riverhead Town Hall, the students from McGann-Mercy presented Chris with a donation of \$2,000, collected through daily collections in homeroom and in the lunchroom. In a general consensus of the students, Chris is someone to be respected and revered for his strength, inspiration and dedication.



On May 9th, Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School in Riverhead served as the kick-off point for the 2011 ALS Ride for Life. After a brief program and a blessing by the school's Chaplain, Fr. Jerry, 7th and 8th graders (110 students) accompanied Chris Pendergast, the organization's founder, and other Ride for Life team members on the first seven mile leg of their ride as they walked from McGann-Mercy to Riverhead High School to pick up members of the Riverhead Honor Society and continued to Riverhead Town Hall. Before leaving the school, Chris was thrilled by the announcement made that a scholarship fund has been established in his name for a current Mercy student who exemplified the works of the Sisters of Mercy by volunteering his/her time to serve those who are sick, poor or uneducated. The scholarship fund will help offset their current tuition expenses.

Ride for Life, founded in 1998 by Chris Pendergast, is an organization dedicated to developing awareness about amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS – a.k.a. Lou Gehrig's Disease), supporting patients with ALS and their families, and raising money toward finding a cure for ALS through research.

Mr. Pendergast, a 1966 graduate of Mercy High School, was stricken with this debilitating disease in 1993. As a member of the McGann-Mercy family, the school's 7th and 8th graders have adopted Mr. Pendergast's struggle and cause as their own. At a



### No Texting While Driving!!!

Beth Hanlon of Elizabeth Hanlon Allstate Insurance came and presented the dangers of texting while driving, a distraction to all drivers, but particularly common with new drivers. At the end of the presentation, all members of the McGann-Mercy student body "pledged" to not text while driving.

### Congratulations Scholars of Latin & French

Special congratulations go out to the following winners in the National Latin Exam: Nico Bossey, Margaret Tuthill, Jack Pavelcheck, Grace Lukachinski, Katherine Brownfiel, Rebecca Lukachinski, Taya Coniglio, Monica Healy, Elizabeth Morgan, Danielle Allen, James DeRicco, Melissa Wilson and Alana Fernandes. They competed against over 150,000 Latin students from the fifty states and twelve foreign countries. Not to be outdone, four students of French placed in Le Grand Concours Exam! Félicitations to Keara Galvin, Claire O'Kane, Veronica Marrinan and Acknel Pierre.

# STAFF happenings

(Continued from page 5)

## Congratulations to Us!!!

After a two year planning process and a week long on site survey in April, Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School is proud to announce that they have been recommended for Accreditation from the Commission for Secondary Schools of the prestigious **Middle States Association** by the visiting survey team.

This accreditation signifies excellence in education and adherence to the standards set forth by the Association. As part of the voluntary "Excellence by Design" accreditation process, the school is required to evaluate itself, a proactive process which helps identify areas in which it excels and areas in which the school would like to improve. It is through these self-evaluations that McGann-Mercy is able to revise and revamp its long-term strategic plan, incorporating Middle State recommendations.

## Transitions

Welcome to ...

**Phil Lombardi** (pictured, right) as he returns to his alma mater as the school's new guidance counselor.

**Jill Weiler** who joins the Mercy family as its new librarian.

**Amanda Raszka** as a new full-time English teacher. Amanda worked at Mercy last year as a leave replacement.



## Congratulations to ...

**Stacie Stueber** as she starts her new role as Principal of Our Lady Queen of Apostles in Center Moriches. Our loss is definitely their gain!

Good luck to you all!

## SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS

*This summer, McGann-Mercy had over 100 students grades 3 - 12 participate in its Summer Enrichment and Sports Programs. Whether it was learning how to build a rocket, work a crime scene, see what it was like during the civil war, explore the world of Harry Potter, cook, express themselves through art, or refine their skills in tennis, soccer, baseball, basketball, or lacrosse, a good time was had by all!*





## McGann-Mercy Student Wins at 9th Annual Teeny Awards

On Sunday, June 5, 2011, Laura Lynne Duffy of Cutchogue, a graduating senior from Bishop McGann-Mercy High School, was awarded the honor of "Lead Actress in a Comedy" at the 9th Annual Teeny Awards for her performance in "Noises Off" this past fall. The Teeny Awards, sponsored by the East End Arts Council, is a high school theatre recognition program modeled after the Tony Awards.

Duffy was joined at the ceremony by fellow nominees, Christopher Bender, Nicole Chiuchiolo, Kat Dickoff and Stephanie Strippoli. Dickoff and Strippoli were recognized for their efforts as stage managers for "Noises Off" and "Bye Bye Birdie", respectively.

## Bye Bye Birdie



*This spring, the McGann-Mercy Theatre Group performed its version of the classic, Bye Bye Birdie. A good time was had by all!!*



## O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou, Romeo?

On March 29th, McGann-Mercy was lucky enough to have Knight Horse Productions, a Shakespearean Drama Company, come and share their love for the works of Shakespeare. Sounds fun, right? It was!!! Performed in a theatre-in-the-round format, company members not only brought such classics as MacBeth alive in a serious, but whimsical, manner geared toward the appropriate age group, they also pulled students in to help act out the selected scenes. What was more exciting than seeing the drama unfold, were the reactions and laughter from the students who learned to appreciate the works of an author who is responsible for much of the English that is used today.



## Gotta Cut Loose - Footloose

This summer, four Mercy students joined the North Fork Community Theatre in Mattituck in its adaptation of Footloose. The theatre company was lucky to have Danielle Allen, graduating senior Keara Galvin, Emily Horn and Patrick O'Brien as part of their cast.

# ALUMNI

## ALUMNI PROFILE FORE!!!

Few of us are lucky enough to be truly passionate about something and make it one's life avocation. Tom Patri, who graduated from Mercy in 1977, is one such person. He has made hitting the links his life, combining the love for a game that he discovered when he was eleven years of age, with the business savvy to make a career out of it.

Instead of finding a young Tom Patri on the streets riding his bicycle or playing ball, he could be found at Spring Lake Golf Course in Middle Island. During the mid-70's, playing golf wasn't

"cool," there was no Tiger, no Freddie Couples yet. While attending Mercy, he worked toward his goal of playing college golf. However, his dreams were almost squashed when funding was not available to support a golf team. So, at the age of 14, Tom spearheaded a dinner dance to raise money to keep the team and his dream alive. Well, 250 guests later, his efforts paid off. With over \$15,000 raised, the golf team was safe during his tenure at the school. Not bad for a freshman!



An All-State player while at Mercy, he also won two Long Island Catholic School Championships, the Long Island Boys Championship, the Metropolitan Golf Association Junior Championship and 15 other metropolitan area junior events. He set himself up nicely to achieve one of many goals – to play golf in college. After graduating from Mercy, he headed South, attending Florida Southern College. While playing for FSC, Tom was named a First Team

All-American selection twice and earned the title of 1981 NCAA II National Champion. After graduating with a Bachelor in Science degree in Political Science, Tom forwent the typical career path and stayed true to his passion for golf. After playing competitive golf professionally for eight years all over the world, Tom channeled his love for the game to helping others experience the game through his eyes. Starting a new chapter in his life in 1990, he began an 11-year stint at the prestigious Westchester Country Club in Rye, New York as the Director of Instruction. Over the past 30 years, he has earned many honors and recognitions. He was recognized as one of Golf Digest's Top 25 Instructors in New York State in 1999 and 2000, in 1998 Metropolitan PGA Teacher of the Year, 2006 South Florida PGA Teacher of the Year, 2004 and 2006 Southwest Florida PGA Teacher of the Year. Most impressively, Tom has been named One of Golf Magazine's Top 100 Teachers in America since 2000!

He authored a book, *The Six Spoke Approach to Better Golf Learning*, in 2003 and has become a recognized authority of the game through his numerous appearances on NBC-TV, the Golf Channel, as well as the MSG Network. He has also published numerous articles that appeared in Sports Illustrated, Golf Magazine, Golf Digest and Golf Illustrated, to name a few. Since 2007, he has also been writing a golf column for The Naples News. A second book is under wraps and will be released in the not to distant future.

Tom currently splits his time between New York and Florida. He is the Founder and Owner of TP Golf Services in Naples, Florida where he resides with his wife, Denise, and ten-year old son, PJ, who is already following in his father's footsteps. While in New York, he can be found at Friar's Head in Riverhead where he is The Director of Instruction.

McGann-Mercy is proud to honor Tom for his commitment and dedication to the game of golf as he is inducted into the McGann-Mercy Hall of Fame at the annual golf outing on September 29, 2011. For more information on the Hall of Fame Induction Dinner or golf outing, call 631.727.5900, ext. 21.



## Scenes from El Salvador

As in years past, Mercy Religion Teacher, Mrs. Nappi accompanied a group of 10 student missionaries to El Salvador. The group travelled with the Christian Foundation for Children and the Aging to a remote village near Santa Ana from August 6th through the 13th. The group spent the past 12 months raising money to purchase art and school supplies for the local school and materials for ongoing housing projects. These pictures show their efforts being put to good use.



# ALUMNI happenings

**1962: Austin J. Carbone** settled back to Maine last year after spending quite a few years out of the country.

**1965: Diane (Kappeler) DePascale** has lived in Ohio since 1975. She has five grandchildren, ages 5-16. An Attorney/Counselor at Law, Diane is also an Ohio Bar Association Board Certified Specialist in Family Law, so she spends most of her time counseling parents in domestic and/or juvenile court cases.

**1967: Clarence Koblentz** sold his company in Lakeland, Florida in 1990 and has "sort of" retired. He has three children, 35, 26, and 16, and three grandchildren.

**1968: Bob Devery** retired in January 2011 from a 24-year career as an air traffic controller. Having traveled extensively and bitten by the travel bug, he began a new career as a vacation and travel planner. Currently, he is a top representative with Expedia Cruise Ship Centers planning cruise and land travel worldwide.

**1971: Robert Rivera** has been living and working in Geneva, Switzerland for the past 10 years as a financial fund manager for a Swiss brokerage firm.

**1976: Joan (McCool)-Szykiewicz** was widowed suddenly on December 31, 2005 after 20 years of marriage. She re-married in 2010 to Patrick Kelly and currently lives in Wading River. She is president of a family-run business.

**1979: Christopher J. Weber** owned and operated Holey Moses Cheesecake in Westhampton Beach, while living in Riverhead, until 2004. He went back to school and earned his B.A. in Elementary Education from Rhode Island College in 2007. Christopher

is currently teaching English and Social Studies at Saint Paul School in Cranston, Rhode Island. He will earn his M.Ed. in Special Education from Providence College in May, 2012. He is married and has two children, Charles and Marianne.

**1989: Pamela (Duggan) Rate** has been working at the Island Nursing and Rehab Center for the past six years and loving it.

**1995: Congratulations to Clare (Nappi) Larsen** on the birth of her little girl, Anya Patrice Larsen on May 22, 2011.

**1996: Joshua Fishbein** just returned from two months in Germany, visiting family and will be moving from Florida, back to New York. He will be beginning his graduate study in Drama Therapy at NYU this Fall.

**Kimberly Lanza** has been dividing her time between New York City and Miami, working as an architect. Her latest and most prized project to date was the Soho Beach House, a members-only, high-end hotel located in Miami, Florida. She was core team member and Interior Coordinator for the project.

**Christine (Colmenares) McKeon** married fellow classmate, Dan McKeon. They have three little boys. Dan is an assistant principal for Northport High School. Christine just completed her masters in nursing and currently works as a clinical care manager for Emergency Medical Services at Peconic Bay Medical Center in Riverhead.

**David Silvestre** will be graduating from LECOM (Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine) in June 2012. He plans to specialize in anesthesiology.

**1998: Ashley Sikora** has been living in Baltimore, Maryland for the past

five years. An attorney and graduate of the American University Washington College of Law, she recently began a new job as the Assistant State's Attorney for the Carroll County State's Attorney's Office. In this position, she prosecutes crimes ranging from assault to DUI to robberies.

**2002: Carly (Nappi) Shephard** just graduated from St. Joseph's College with two Masters – EMBA and a Masters in Science in Organizational Behavior. She currently works as Marketing and PR Director for Hampton Jitney in Southampton.

**2005: Stacey Kiel** was just accepted into the RN program at Suffolk County Community College. She starts August 29th and is very excited. Good luck!

**2006: Cadet Steven Anthony Malandrino** graduated from West Point on Saturday May 21, 2011. While at West Point, he concentrated his studies in American Legal Studies. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the US army within Infantry branch and is reporting to Fort Bliss, Texas for his first assignment.



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with any updates and contact information.

## Monarchs are L.I. Kings



Last year's dream season just got "one-upped" by the 2011 varsity baseball season. In addition to the League VIII Championship title and the Section XI Class C title, the Monarchs took home the Long Island Class C Championship when they bested Friends Academy 5-2 at Farmingdale State College on June 5th. The team moved on to a regional playoff game where they fell to the eventual New York State champion, the Tuckahoe Tigers. It was an impressive season for Coach Meier, Coach Smith, and the Monarch baseball team.

## NYSPHSAA School of Distinction

When EVERY varsity team in a New York State high school earns the New York State Scholar/Athlete Award, they are considered a "School of Distinction". Bishop McGann-Mercy High School earned that honor for the first time ever during this 2010-11 school year when all fourteen varsity teams earned a composite GPA of 90.0% or better. Congratulations to the following teams:

Varsity Baseball.....	91.925%
Varsity Boys' Basketball.....	90.643%
Varsity Girls' Basketball.....	94.655%
Varsity Football.....	93.342%
Varsity Golf.....	90.744%
Varsity Boys' Soccer.....	93.873%
Varsity Girls' Soccer.....	93.571%
Varsity Softball.....	91.310%
Varsity Girls' Tennis.....	95.125%
Varsity Boys' Indoor Track.....	93.549%
Varsity Girls' Indoor Track.....	96.022%
Varsity Boys' Outdoor Track.....	94.916%
Varsity Girls' Outdoor Track.....	96.022%
Varsity Volleyball.....	95.660%



## It's a Three-Peat for Girl's Spring Track

Coach Tricia Nunez and Coach Gregg Cantwell led the Lady Monarchs to an impressive third straight League VIII title—and an even more impressive third straight undefeated season!



## Junior High Suffolk Zone Award

Kudos to Leo Ellis and Micaela Zebroski on winning the NYSAHPERD Suffolk Zone Physical Education Award. Criteria for this junior high award includes demonstrated achievement in physical education, as well as outstanding character and leadership. Great job, Leo and Micaela!

## Varsity Girls' Crew Earn Scholar/Athlete

The New York State Scholastic Rowing Association recently announced that the Spring 2011 McGann-Mercy girls' crew team earned Scholar/Athlete Team recognition when the student-athletes achieved a 90.889% GPA. Congratulations, Lady Monarch Rowers!

## Section XI's Highest Award Conferred

The Gold Key Award is the highest honor that a Section XI athlete can earn for sports participation. It is awarded to athletes who letter in eight junior varsity or varsity seasons in grades 10-12. Six seniors earned this prestigious award—Amy Boden, Sean Cappiello, Matthew DiLandro, Tom Kretz, Kayleigh Macchirole, and Liam McArdle.

## County's Top Athletes Honored

On Sunday, June 5th, the top two senior athletes in each of Suffolk County's sixty-three high schools were honored by the Suffolk Sports Hall of Fame. Receiving the annual Dellacave Award for McGann-Mercy were Rocco Pascale and Olivia Schumann. Congratulations, Rocco and Olivia!

## Introducing McGann-Mercy's New Athletic Director

Bishop McGann-Mercy High School in Riverhead is pleased to announce that John Lonardo has accepted the position as athletic director, and started in his new role on August 1st.

Mr. Lonardo, who left his post as athletic director at SUNY Old Westbury, brings a solid background of management, administration, a demonstrated dedication to sports and the athletes that play them, and the ability to be a visionary to McGann-Mercy. During his eleven year tenure at Old Westbury, he instituted many changes that resulted in bringing SUNY Old Westbury to the forefront of Long Island athletic venues, including the opening of the Jackie Robinson Athletic Complex in 2006. This complex is considered to be one of the premier baseball complexes on Long Island. In addition to serving as Old Westbury's Athletic Director, John also served as the school's head baseball coach, earning the honor of all-time leader in wins, with a record of 271-199-3. He has developed numerous All-League players, with three of his players signing professional baseball contracts. An active member of the Long Island Sports Commission and the NCAA Division III Chairman Committee, he has also received

numerous awards for his efforts, including Louisville Slugger Coach of the Year, Knickerbocker Conference Coach of the Year and Skyline Coach of the Year.

Mr. Carl Semmler, McGann-Mercy's principal, looks forward to working with Mr. Lonardo, stating that "as important as his accomplishments and accolades are, what makes Mr. Lonardo a true fit for the McGann-Mercy family is his understanding and commitment to cultivating the student athlete. His recognition that success in athletics can go hand-in-hand with academic achievement and his proven track-record at Old Westbury ensures that our standards of excellence for the McGann-Mercy student athletes will be respected and protected."

Mr. Lonardo holds a Master of Arts in School Counseling from Long Island University's CW Post campus and a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education from Queens College. He also just completed an internship in Administrative Leadership at Cold Spring Harbor School District.



## We are the Champions!

The Lady Monarchs 4x400 meter relay team broke record after record en route to the New York State Championships at Caledonia-Mumford High School on June 10-11. Setting a new school record of 3:57.43, the foursome of Kayleigh Macchirole, Olivia Schumann, Sasa Vann, and Lauren Woodhull, as well as alternate Delina Auciello, brought home the GOLD. They also competed at The New Balance High School National Championships in Greensboro, North Carolina. Great job, ladies!



*McGann-Mercy Athletes Receive Legislative Proclamation: On Tuesday, June 21, 2011, members of the McGann-Mercy Varsity Baseball Team and the Girl's Track 4x400 Relay Team united at the Legislative Auditorium in the County Center to receive proclamations from Legislator Ed Romaine for their athletic achievements.*

## Athletic Banquet Honors Mercy's Finest

On June 7th, McGann-Mercy's 311 junior varsity and varsity athletes were honored at the annual Athletic Awards Banquet held at Vineyard Caterers in Aquebogue. In addition to numerous underclassmen awards, the following senior awards were conferred:

- Mercedian Award ..... Kayleigh Macchirole**
- Male Athlete of the Year ..... Thomas Kretz**
- Female Athlete of the Year ..... Olivia Schumann**
- Male Scholar/Athlete of the Year ..... Rocco Pascale**
- Female Scholar/Athlete of the Year ..... Amanda Termine**

BE A PART OF THE


  
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631-727-5900

EXT 34

# Remembering McGann-Mercy

## Annual Fund

Gifts to the Annual Fund are an important part of the school's development. While tuition only covers 70% of the costs, donations through the annual fund offset this deficit and help to defray the costs of needed renovations and secure the growth of the school.

## Matching Gifts

Donors employed by companies with matching gift programs can double or triple their contributions by designating McGann-Mercy as the recipient of matching funds.

## Bequests

After providing for your loved ones, you may wish to consider making a bequest to McGann-Mercy in your Will. Through careful planning you can protect your family and contribute to the financial security of the school.

## Tributes

Donors can further the educational opportunities at McGann-Mercy by honoring or memorializing a special person or event.

## Gifts in Action

McGann-Mercy transforms lives .... This is just one reason why you may want to consider a gift to Mercy's various scholarship funds. Gifts fuel the mission of pursuing excellence in education in an environment that is filled with Christian values and Catholic traditions. Whether you choose to support an existing scholarship program or create a new one, providing the opportunity for a Catholic education for a child is a lifetime gift, while creating a lasting legacy.

Alumni, parents and community members give to McGann-Mercy for many reasons and in many ways. Several Mercy Alums and/or families have selected to participate in the financial aid scholarship program by creating a memorial or family scholarship. The decision to take part in a scholarship fund is very personal and reflects your interests and priorities. Below is a listing of the scholarship funds recently established:

The Charles A. Raab Memorial Fund  
The "15 for 70" Memorial Fund  
The Eaderesto Family Fund  
The John McDowell Jr. Memorial Fund  
The Chris Pendergast Scholarship  
The Richard Spanburgh Memorial Fund  
Betty Sweat Memorial Fund

**For more information on how to make a gift to McGann-Mercy please call the Development Office at**

***631-727-5900* ext. 34.**

McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School  
1225 Ostrander Avenue  
Riverhead, NY 11901  
or visit [www.mcgann-mercy.org](http://www.mcgann-mercy.org)



# McGANN~MERCY DIOCESAN HIGH SCHOOL

1225 Ostrander Avenue  
Riverhead, NY 11901  
631-727-5900  
www.mcgann-mercy.org

Summer 2011

Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends,

As a member of the McGann-Mercy High School family, you understand first hand the value of the education we provide to our students. Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School is a non-profit, Catholic school that depends on the Annual Fund to provide vital support for the school's operating budget. The Annual Fund helps to keep tuition as low as possible so that a Catholic education remains affordable for the families we serve, while sustaining our tradition of academic excellence.

**I am happy to share with you that Mercy is growing stronger then ever.** In fact our 2011 graduates were offered more than 9.1 million in college scholarships — of which there were several full academic scholarships and Division I athletic scholarships. The varsity baseball team earned the Long Island Class C Championship and the girls varsity track team earned a third straight title and went undefeated. Most notable, for the first time in the school's history, McGann-Mercy was named a New York State Scholar/Athlete School of Distinction. All varsity teams this year had a composite GPA of 90% or better.

Like most Catholic schools our tuition never fully covers our costs. In fact, the cost to educate each child exceeds the cost of tuition by 30%. **For the 2010/2011 academic year, the school provided more than \$1.5 million dollars to offset educational expenses.** This is why your gift to the Annual Fund is so critical. Your donation truly makes providing a Mercy education possible.

Please know that every gift, no matter how small or how large, makes a difference. You are making a worthy investment in the future of our school, as well as in the future of our children. A Mercy education is really "Education at its Best."

Thank you for your support and may God Bless you and your family.

Sincerely,

*Carl A. Semmler*  
Carl A. Semmler, Principal

*Thank you for supporting*

## McGANN-MERCY HIGH SCHOOL'S ANNUAL FUND

Yes, I would like to support the Annual Fund by Sponsoring a Mercy tuition:

- \$8,295 High School Tuition       \$6,295 Junior High School Tuition

Yes, I would like to support the Annual Fund in the amount of:

- \$25     \$50     \$100     \$250     \$500     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to be restricted toward:

- athletics     campus ministry     technology     instructional excellence     Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my donation to be put toward one of the following tuition scholarships:

- The Charles A. Raab Memorial Fund       The Richard Spanburgh Memorial Fund  
 The "15 for 70" Memorial Fund       The Betty Sweat Memorial Fund  
 The Eaderesto Family Fund       The Chris Pendergast Scholarship Fund  
 The John McDowell Jr. Memorial Fund

I would like to pledge \_\_\_\_\_ over the next year. Please charge my credit card \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on a monthly/quarterly basis.

I would like to pledge \_\_\_\_\_ over the next year. Please send me an invoice for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on a quarterly basis.

Enclosed is my check for \$ \_\_\_\_\_, made payable to McGann-Mercy HS.

- Visa     Mastercard     Discover     American Express

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name: \_\_\_\_\_

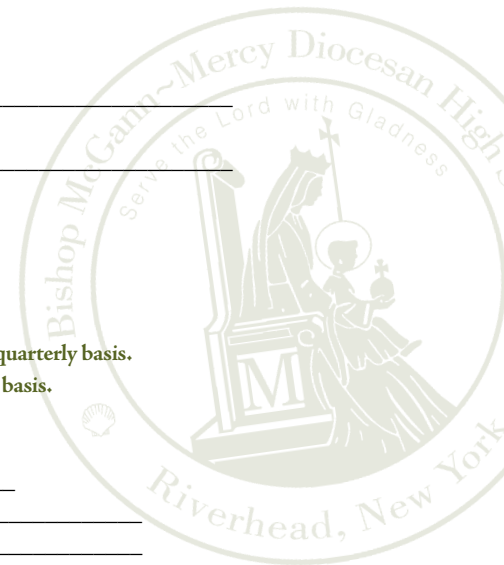
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Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Alumni Year: \_\_\_\_\_

**Matching Gifts Increase the Value of Your Contribution:** Many companies will match contributions made by their employees, retirees or spouses. Contact your Human Resource department to determine eligibility. Matching Gifts can double or triple your gift.

Please contact me to have McGann-Mercy HS included in my estate plans or to set up an annual scholarship fund.

*Education at its Best*



Save the Date:

**Fall Open House**  
for Students and Families  
interested in attending  
McGann-Mercy in  
2012-2013

9am - 12pm, Saturday

**September 24th**

**2011  
Homecoming**

2pm, Saturday

**October 1, 2011**

**Christmas Raffle**  
**December 11, 2011**

**2012 Principal's  
Dinner**

7pm, Friday

**March 23, 2012**



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*Mercy Students Give of Themselves for Others*

## **Giving Up Lunch So That Others Can Eat**



This past winter, 7th and 8th grade students from Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School gave up their lunch period to help those in need. Every Monday for a two-month period ending March 31st, the students made 70 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for Maureen's Haven Overnight Shelter Program, a program overseen by the Peconic Community Council. During the winter months, individuals who are homeless are welcomed as guests of Maureen's Haven into various Houses of Worship on the East End and provided with a warm dinner, a place to sleep, breakfast and a bagged lunch to go.



## **McGann-Mercy High School Hosts Blood Drive**

On March 25th, Bishop McGann-Mercy Diocesan High School hosted a blood drive through Long Island Blood Services, allowing students over the age of 17 who met height and weight requirements to donate blood. When all was said and done, 65 students were registered and 49 pints of blood were collected. Unfortunately, 16 students were disappointed as they were eager to donate, but didn't meet the weight requirements. For many students, it was the first time they have had the opportunity to participate in a blood drive and was an experience they are looking forward to repeating.

