

MILTON
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ALUM

Fall / Winter 2018

Thy Traditions Dear

Milton Hershey School® Alumni Magazine



Homecoming Weekend Scrapbook

View more photos online at mhsalum.org

Pages 14 & 15

Dear Milton Hershey School Family:

Another wonderful Homecoming has come and gone—the 45th for the Class of 1973. It is during the good times that I sometimes think back to issues in the 1990s that divided us for more than a decade, the affect it had on many of us, and just how far we have come.

Today, the relationship between the school, its alumni and the alumni association has never been stronger. It has taken time to rebuild the sense of trust and commitment to mission that I believe Mr. Hershey envisioned when he helped create our alumni association. Certainly some credit must go to the MHSAA officers these last several years. The work of the alumni association board, alumni in general and the officers who have led that board since midway through 2016 have really had an impact on the cooperative advances that have been made. A great deal of this revitalization has happened because of the continued success and growth of Milton Hershey School—in the number of students, student and alumni success, career technical education, and programs and facilities that are, by far, some of the greatest strides in modern MHS history. The vision of our President, Pete Gurt '85, for MHS and his relationship with staff and students is one of the driving factors in not only the school's success, but also the redevelopment of the relationship between the school and its alumni.

Still, life sometimes makes it difficult to understand and appreciate what is right in front of us, even as we look over the horizon for the next big thing. Thankfully, almost every graduate—and certainly those I spoke with during Homecoming—fully understands the opportunities and doors opened to them by this wonderful home and school. MHS remains a driving force in our lives, whether we graduated last year or in 1940 like John Williams, who was the oldest graduate to attend the Homecoming Banquet.

For me personally, Dick Purcell '61, an alumni association officer and leader for all alumni, was the embodiment of what an alumnus should be. He was, arguably, one of the most uniting members of our alumni association. Yet, when Dick died, there were not many pictures of him at alumni events—not because he wasn't there, he most certainly was, but because he did not need nor want credit. His joy came from alumni being together in support of MHS, nothing more, nothing less. When it came to supporting MHS and enhancing the Hersheys' legacy, Dick used to say, "we need everybody," and he did more to be inclusive in the work of the association than most will ever know.

The sentiment of inclusion is more important today than ever before. The strength of our alumni brothers and sisters in support of our younger graduates honors the Hersheys' vision and is a powerful testament to the family Milton and Catherine created. It is best accomplished when we all engage in whatever manner we can.

Milton Hershey School will be reaching out this year in new and exciting ways to support graduates of all ages with the goal of building the alumni family network. We are asking all of you to play a role in providing that support to graduates and current students. Please, visit mhsalum.org to learn about the opportunities to give back. I believe we all have a responsibility as Mr. and Mrs. Hershey's children to embrace their vision and, whenever possible, to give back in some small way for all we received.

Come back often, enjoy every minute, take nothing for granted, get involved whenever you can, and remember, "we need everybody" to continually strengthen and enhance the legacy of Milton and Catherine Hershey and the family they created in 1909. You may be a Milt or a home guy, but above all else, you are "Always a Spartan!"

All the best,

R. J. Carfagno '73

Sr. Director, Alumni Relations

Thy Traditions Dear

The Mission of "Thy Traditions Dear" is to share the stories of the Milton Hershey School family with our alumni, students, staff and retirees in honor and celebration of our founders, Milton and Catherine Hershey.

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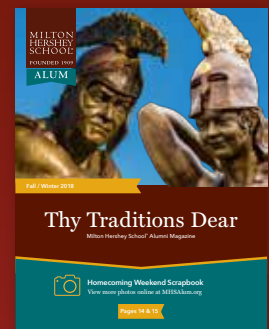
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Introducing the new **mhsalum.org**: Designed with all Spartans in mind, it provides simple navigation to the resources and information you need. As a young alumnus, everything you need to stay connected is in one place – CES details, career service support and the latest events on campus. If MHS is a little farther back in your mirror, you'll still get news and photos related to alumni events, and learn about opportunities to assist your alumni brothers and sisters, give back to MHS students or help share the story of your home and school.

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Discovering a career with *purpose*

By Susanna Compare '18



"We have the opportunity to change the trajectory of others' lives," Matthew shared. "The conversations you have, the things you do and the lessons you teach are the moments that can define somebody."

During summer 2018, Susanna Compare '18 interned with the Office of Communications at Milton Hershey School. She worked directly with the team, offering ideas, conducting interviews and writing a variety of stories. This is one of the articles Susanna wrote about houseparenting.



Rachel and Matthew Blount are a long way from home—1,312 miles to be exact. In Hershey, their hometown of Norman, Oklahoma seems a world away. But for these third-year houseparents at Milton Hershey School, the school's mission to help children from low-income families break the cycle of poverty has made the move well worth it.

Both Rachel and Matthew appreciated the adult mentors they had in their lives. Their positive experiences made them want to become role models to children in need as a way to give back for all that was given to them.

"I hope I can be that missing link in someone's life ... that maybe I can be that person to listen to and care for them," Rachel said.

Before becoming houseparents, the couple worked in a state treatment center for at-risk youth. Rachel

was a counselor and Matthew a security guard. Feeling like they needed a change, they researched houseparenting as a career and soon found MHS. The mission and history of the school, as well as the exceptional resources it offers students, intrigued the Blounts.

"We wanted to positively impact and change lives," Matthew said.

At MHS, they found the opportunity to do just that. In their roles, Rachel and Matthew help the nine elementary boys in their student home get ready for school, transport them to activities, assist with homework, cook regular meals, plan family activities and offer constant support. They also are dedicated to opening their students' minds to new experiences for growth and success, such as learning how to network, taking care of their own garden and actively learning how to solve problems.

The Blounts have always valued family, and they work to incorporate mutual respect and compassion into the family-like environment their students enjoy. They are intentional about planning activities that bring their students together and create memories.

As they enter into a new year of houseparenting, Rachel and Matthew are excited to continue building relationships while empowering their students with the tools they need for a brighter future.

Milton Hershey School is growing to serve more students. We are seeking knowledgeable and committed couples to make a positive impact on future generations of Milts as houseparents. Encourage someone you know to learn more about this "worth every minute" career opportunity. Learn more at: mhskids.org/careers.

Milton Hershey School to develop skilled carpenters with new carpenter hybrid apprenticeship program

THE PENNSYLVANIA APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL APPROVED THE SCHOOL'S SECOND APPRENTICESHIP AFFILIATION

Milton Hershey School recently received Pennsylvania Apprenticeship Council approval for its second apprenticeship affiliation. This one is with Pyramid Construction Services and it is part of the MHS pre-apprenticeship and hybrid apprenticeship program that was finalized by the Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry in February 2018.

“The goal of our pre-apprenticeship program is to provide opportunities for students who want to enter the workforce directly after high school,” said Dave Curry, MHS director of Career and Technical Education. “We’re providing programming in the career fields they want to pursue that will ultimately help lead our students to sustainable, wage-earning careers without having to go to college.”

Culinary Arts was the first pre-apprenticeship pathway to be offered to MHS students. MHS and Hershey Entertainment & Resorts formalized an agreement in February to offer the pre-apprenticeship opportunity to MHS students who would like to pursue a culinary career.

There are more than 1,300 apprenticeships available in Pennsylvania. MHS is working to provide pre-apprenticeship opportunities to students in all 11 career pathways within its award-winning Career and Technical Education program.



MHS seniors learn from alumni through distance learning

Milton Hershey School seniors participated in distance learning with several alumni in October.

“Ten alumni FaceTimed with our students to talk to them about the transition to college,” said John Karavage, an MHS capstone teacher. “The students loved it because they got to hear first-hand knowledge. We could say it in class and it could resonate with a few, but when a former MHS student is telling them, it really sinks in.”

MHS alumni shared with students the struggles they faced when starting college, the differences between MHS and college life, and how the capstone course helped prepare them for life after graduation. It’s conversations like these that provide eye-opening lessons for seniors.

Learn more about alumni volunteer opportunities at mhsalum.org.





MHS President's Message

Dear Alumni Brothers and Sisters:

2018 is an important year for all of us. It is a year to truly reflect on the incredible generosity of our founders and how their gift has transformed all of our lives.

Nov. 13, 1918 marks 100 years since Milton Hershey donated 5,000 shares of common stock—the same amount originally issued to form the Hershey Chocolate Company—to the Hershey Trust as trustee for The Hershey Industrial School (now Milton Hershey School).

Milton and Catherine Hershey designed a home and school that they believed, without a doubt, could make a positive difference—and it has.

Each day, we witness the life-changing impact of their commitment when we walk the MHS campus. But to truly measure the full impact of their gift, one must also look at the accomplishments of our more than 10,000 alumni who also carry on the Hersheys' legacy. Through your work within your communities and beyond, it's you—our alumni—who are creating an even larger ripple effect.

At this year's Opening of School Assembly, the Milton Hershey School family was empowered to give back using gratitude, intent, vision and enthusiasm. We hope that you will continue to be inspired and join us in finding ways to give back to MHS and within your own communities to help fulfill the vision of Mr. and Mrs. Hershey.

I am proud to lead our home and school as we strengthen and expand this legacy so more children from poverty can live happy, healthy and productive lives.

Sincerely,

Peter G. Gurt '85, MHS President

Milton Hershey School empowered to give back at 2018 Opening of School Assembly



On Aug. 13, the Milton Hershey School community came together to celebrate the first day of the 2018-19 school year at the annual Opening of School Assembly. MHS students and staff reflected on the gift Milton and Catherine Hershey created more than 100 years ago and learned how they can give back to their own communities using gratitude, intent, vision and enthusiasm.

"Milton and Catherine Hershey's vision was shaped by the sum of their small efforts, repeated day in and day out," said MHS President Pete Gurt '85. "They had no idea their vision would create all this—they started by helping only four children."

Through inspirational videos, music, and live speeches, students, staff and alumni of all ages reflected on how they have used the Hersheys' legacy to find ways to give back to communities across the world.

MHS Spartans take back the Bean at 76th annual Cocoa Bean game

On Sept. 7, the Milton Hershey School Spartans defeated the Hershey Trojans with a final score of 35-7 at the annual Cocoa Bean game. With a pep rally before the game and a campus-wide "Gold Rush," the MHS community came together to cheer on the Spartans and celebrate their victory.

The Cocoa Bean game began in 1943 as a community service project of Rotary and the Hershey Civic Club. All proceeds from the game go to the Hershey Community Youth Alliance for local and international community service projects.



Character and leadership: Brianna's story

When Brianna enrolled at Milton Hershey School as a second-grader from Philadelphia, it took time for her to get used to being away from her family at such a young age.

"It was really hard at home before my grandmother came to help us, so my mom took the initiative to send me and my twin sister to MHS," Brianna said. "At first, it was hard developing without my other family with me."

Now a seventh-grader, Brianna says the support she received at the school has helped her get comfortable on campus.

"MHS helps me a lot with my struggles. It feels good to know someone is always there to help me," she said.

Thanks to the support she receives from others, Brianna has developed an interest in helping people both on and off campus. She is a member of the middle school cheerleading team, student government association, and even takes the initiative to write letters to MHS President Pete Gurt '85 with ideas on how the school can give back to the community.

"Sometimes, people don't have leaders in their lives and they have different motives to do something. You need leaders to show you what's good and bad," she said. "I try to be a leader, but if I'm too shy to say something when I know it's wrong, I'll ask another leader to help me do it."

Learning from other leaders in her life and finding positive role models—including her peers, teachers, alumni and family members—helps boost her confidence thanks to their shared experiences.

"My favorite memory from elementary school is when all the alumni came back and had a big Christmas celebration with us," she said. "It's fun to know how the school was before I came and also meeting other adults who know where I am and what I'm going through."

As Brianna develops her leadership skills and continues to find ways to inspire others, she hopes to return to the school later in life and give back to the place that gave so much to her.

"MHS gives us a lot of opportunities, so it grows in every student to give back," Brianna said. "I hope to come back and give back what the school has given to me."

“

MHS allowed me to start over. They allowed me to be part of their family by letting me in and taking care of me like their own. They gave me memories I'll never forget.



Making the choice to give back

By Tristan, a junior at MHS

In July, I was given the opportunity to participate in the domestic service learning trip along with my peers. Before I signed up for the trip, I viewed the opportunity as a way to make new friends, improve my communication skills, and give back to another community just like Milton Hershey has done for us.

Before the trip, I never willingly did community service. I would do it if it was mandatory or if I would benefit with some type of reward, but this time, I went on the trip through my own choice.

Throughout the domestic service learning experience, I learned I could take something from the trip and apply it to my life. My perspective of communities and life itself

changed. I learned that the smallest contribution you can give to a community or person can be very impactful. I learned this because when we went to the community center and finished our tasks, some of the ladies who worked there shed tears of joy because of what we did. I had the mindset that gardening and painting walls weren't too serious, but afterwards, our chaperones told us how good we did and how much we impacted the community center.

From this experience, I plan to willingly help people and give back to any community. I also plan to be more grateful.

I would encourage other students to give back to their communities to exemplify Milton Hershey's values. Not only will you impact someone's life, but you'll learn things that you can apply to your life forever.

The battles I won to get to senior year

By Thalia, a senior at MHS

One of the biggest eye openers of my life happened on July 11, 2016—my enrollment day at Milton Hershey School. It was so surreal because I didn't think I would get this far or even make it to an amazing school like MHS.

I've been to 14 different schools, lived in a lot of different places, and lived with multiple family members. My life has been rough, but I was able to overcome my situation when I came to MHS.

I'll always cherish my first footsteps into my student home. Mr. and Mrs. Weiss, my houseparents, welcomed me with open arms and helped me through my struggles.

Since the beginning of my sophomore year, I was able to participate in activities that I wasn't able to do at home, including traveling to Peru. That was a dream come true for me because I always wanted to travel. Being able to travel internationally as young as I am helped encourage me to pursue my goal of getting into the Peace Corps. It also helped me understand how people live in different countries and opened my eyes even more to helping others.

As my senior year approached, I started to realize that I was both frightened and excited for it. I'm frightened because I don't want to mess up my final year as a high school student or have any distractions along the way. But I'm excited to prepare for my college years and start fresh for myself.

I plan to focus more on the positive than the negative. I'm going to get rid of the unnecessary things that interrupt my success in the future. My goal is to be able to control my stress levels so I don't overwhelm myself. I want to learn how to cope with the people around me and not get caught up in unnecessary drama.

I also want to find myself by speaking up if something is wrong. I want to motivate myself and my peers by letting them know that I will always be there for them. I'm going to keep pushing them through the hard times.

If you can find the good in things and envision your success, then you will achieve it. To the younger students at MHS, always think of your future and the goals you want to accomplish. Stay motivated and determined to finish strong.

MHS has taught me how to persevere through the many battles I have faced in life. I plan on using this vital lesson to help me excel in anything I plan to do in the future.

“

Since day one, I've never allowed anyone to interfere with my future. Instead, I looked at the multiple struggles in my life as lessons I needed to overcome to reach my end result.



“

Through stories and observations I made, a lot of people don't have what I do or even have the opportunity to come to MHS. I have learned to stay more humble, appreciative and grateful.

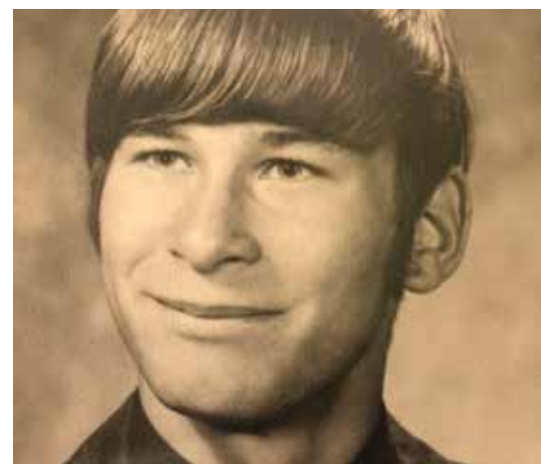


Larry Lisenby '73 *shares* his sense of work ethic and perseverance with MHS students



"I think about MHS every single day when I wake up. There's not a day that goes by where I don't think about what the school did for me and where I would be without it. It saved my life."

Larry Lisenby '73 was in fifth grade when he moved from Hamburg, New Jersey to Hershey, to attend Milton Hershey School. As an orphan, he was being raised by his aunt and grandmother who heard about the school and worked with his social worker to apply.



After being accepted, Larry remembers the beauty of growing up on the MHS campus filled with outdoor activities and friendships that would last a lifetime.

"I made friends I would spend the weekends with. I can remember the campfires we would all sit around, and we would fish in a little pond by Memorial Hall," he said. "There were a lot of activities—camping, climbing, hiking and fishing."

When he entered high school, Larry took an aptitude test and learned he was mechanically inclined. He joined the sheet metal and welding vocational trade program at MHS where he developed his skillset and ability to work with different tools and machinery. The school's long history with the vocational trades, which originated with founder Milton Hershey's passion for hands-on learning, is embedded in the school's current Career and Technical Education program.

Larry graduated from MHS in 1973 and accepted his first job at Woolf Steel Incorporated in Middletown.

"I didn't start out welding. I pretty much had to start at the bottom and do the dirty work like cleaning metal," Larry shared. "As the years went by, I got stronger at my welding trade and remembered everything I learned at MHS."

Some of the lessons he remembered and applied throughout his daily responsibilities were discipline and work ethic.

"I made a lot of mistakes in the beginning, but I learned from them. I made myself a better worker and a better person," he said. "I always kept in mind what MHS taught us to do—suit up, show up and be on time. Work ethic was very important to me."

Larry continues to share his sense of work ethic and perseverance with current MHS students by speaking at Career Days throughout the year. He tells students to absorb the knowledge and experience they gain at MHS, because they'll need to rely on those skills once they enter the workforce.

"It gives me joy to come back and pass along what I learned to the kids now," he said. "I think in today's world,

it's very vital to pay it forward to the next generation. They're going to be the ones taking care of our world and our economy. They're going to need our experience."

After 45 years in the workforce, Larry retired in 2017. He continues to work part-time and spends time with his 4-year-old grandson. He also is an active member of the MHS alumni network and visits campus for Homecoming each year.

"When I see someone who has gone to MHS, it's almost like a brotherhood," Larry said. "You know that when you see another MHS graduate, you'll make a connection right away and immediately strike up a conversation. There's a bond there."

It's those everlasting bonds and the unwavering sense of gratitude he gained at MHS that guide him throughout his life.

"I think about MHS every single day when I wake up. There's not a day that goes by where I don't think about what the school did for me and where I would be without it. It saved my life," he added.

Get details about the 2019 Career Fair for Senior Division students

Larry Lisenby was one of more than 30 alumni who participated in the 2018 Career Fair highlighting their careers, especially those related to one of Milton Hershey School's Career and Technical Education pathways.

The 2019 Career Fair is scheduled for Friday, April 12. If interested in participating in the fair or speaking to students in a classroom, visit: mhsalum.org/give-back/volunteer-opportunities/ to complete volunteer interest forms for those opportunities.



Home Again

By Carol Schilling

Most would say that you can't go home again, but for me, I have come back home to Milton Hershey School twice. Once, in 2009, when MHS President Pete Gurt '85 invited me back after 20 years of public school administration to be the Memorial Hall elementary principal. The second time, after retirement in September 2017, as a volunteer at Kinderhaus, which was literally my home for about eight years as the houseparents' daughter.

The project I'm working on is to make sure the personal items of Mr. and Mrs. Hershey are catalogued correctly in the archival database. I never know what I will find in a box, and I get to examine each item. I have learned so much about the Hersheys' lives from their personal items and also by asking questions.

Some items that have had an impact on me were Mr. Hershey's passports and their Bible. Sometimes seeing an item intrigues me so much that I search the internet to read more about the company that made the item. My favorite item is the silent butler (pictured). Did you know this was used for crumbs brushed from the dining table? I didn't, and I learn something new each time I volunteer.

This volunteer position has given me a deeper appreciation for all the Hersheys have done for children and each one of us who have been blessed to be employed here. There is a wealth of history at Kinderhaus, and I am blessed to be able to give back to Milton Hershey School in this way.

Thank you, donors and supporters

Thank you to those listed to the right who donated or shared objects and/or photos with the Milton Hershey School Heritage Center at Kinderhaus as of April 4. If we have inadvertently missed your gift, please let us know so we can include recognition in the next issue of Thy Traditions Dear.

Pictured to the far right is a plaster one-half size scale model of the Milton and the Boy statue. It was donated by Kim DePaul. It was given to her father, Robert Beitzel '41, by the sculptor, Walker Hancock. The donation also included the manuscript, "How Big is That Man?," by Beitzel, telling the story how the statue was created, erected and presented.

Charles Astfalk, MHSAA Honorary Member
 Kim DePaul
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 Horace Flynn '46
 Laura Gamari '08
 Kevin Gebhart
 John Hanawalt '70
 Richard Hann
 Harry Heath '60
 Lois Peterman, MHSAA Honorary Member
 Don Rhoads
 Lorna Rudisill
 Robert Schelhorn, MHSAA Honorary Member
 James Stough



The mystery of the 'Baby in the Bean'

In the Kinderhaus vault, Nancy Palovitz recently discovered an empty jewelry box that has opened an exciting new avenue of research. Long forgotten amidst the many treasures of the archives, the velvet jewelry box was labeled with an inscription stating that it had once housed the class ring of Stanley Laskey, Hershey Industrial School Class of 1925. According to the label, Laskey donated the ring to MHS Historical Records in August 1995.

There are two class rings that depict The Hershey Company's early brand logo of the "Baby in the Bean" within a triangle bordered by the words "Hershey Industrial School." These rings are the rarest and oldest of the school's collection of class rings. The oldest dates from the Class of 1923.

The donor of the ring from the Class of 1923 was alumnus Guy G. Weber, one of the first boys to enroll in HIS. Weber's initials, G.G.W., are engraved on the inside of the ring, as is the year he enrolled, 1909, marked on the ring's exterior on either side of the word "School." The ring is in pristine condition for its age and was clearly well-cared for by Weber, who served as president of the Alumni Association from 1933 to 1936, in addition to serving in other leadership roles within the organization.

While MHS has copious information on Weber's ring from 1923, the ring from 1925 has proven itself more elusive. The information found with

the jewelry box was the first clue in determining the provenance of the ring. The ring's smoothened surface, evidence of years of proud wear, made both the exterior markings and interior engraving on the ring challenging to decipher. Despite its shallow marks, two of the initials identified in the interior engraving matched two of the initials of the alumnus indicated on the empty ring box—"F" and "L." Upon consulting other resources in the archives, such as the Roll Book of early HIS students, the name from the ring box appeared to refer to the student, Stanley Frederick Laskey, who was enrolled in the school by his mother, Irene. Given the age of the ring, its engraved initials, the information from the ring box and other corroborating details, the formerly unknown donor of the 1925 ring is now identified.

With the 1925 ring donor's identity now determined, the archives' historic photographs of Laskey as an HIS student, and the letter and accompanying poem penned to Mr. Hershey on his 81st birthday by "S. Frederick Laskey 1925," gain new significance.

Particularly interesting are the historic photographs of Laskey from Hershey, Cuba in 1929, which show a young man in work attire, pictured both alone and with a friend, presumably employed by Mr. Hershey in his Cuban sugar empire. Mr. Hershey was keen to employ his HIS boys

in his various business pursuits in the Hershey, Pennsylvania community, and in his burgeoning new Central Hershey community in Cuba. One such example of an HIS alumnus in Cuba, aside from Laskey, was Guy G. Weber '23. Weber writes about his experiences in Central Hershey in a letter to Mr. Copenhaver dated April 17, 1929, the same year several photos were taken of Laskey and an unidentified friend in Central Hershey.

It is difficult to attribute these findings to mere coincidence, due to the rarity of the "Baby in the Bean" class ring, and the rarity of documented HIS alumni employed in Cuba. Furthermore, the two ring donors graduated only two years apart, implying a contemporaneous relationship between the alumni, compounded by their shared work experiences in Cuba.

While the rings clearly denote HIS, the central, prominent emblem of The Hershey Company's logo suggests an alternative to the typical class ring. School historian Susan Alger proposed the theory that these two rings may be as closely related to both Laskey's and Weber's employment in Cuba, as to their status as HIS alumni. The rings' design exemplifies the close relationship between the early Hershey Industrial School and The Hershey Company.



Primary Gingrich Home, Stanley Laskey '25 (8th boy from right), 1915



50 Years of Spartan Players



Alumni who participated in drama enjoyed a reunion during Homecoming Weekend in September. A new exhibit at Kinderhaus showcases the program throughout the years.



Stay Connected

As a “Milt,” you’re part of a special, tight-knit family. Keep up with classmates, share good news and find alumni in your area.

Keep in Touch ▶



Graduate Resources

The MHS support system helps recent graduates transition from student to adult, including how to manage CES funds. And any Spartan can take advantage of perks like career services.

Get Graduate Support ▶



Give Back

Remember the alumni volunteers who shaped your experience at MHS? Now it’s your turn. We offer many opportunities for you to share your time and talents.

Make a Difference ▶

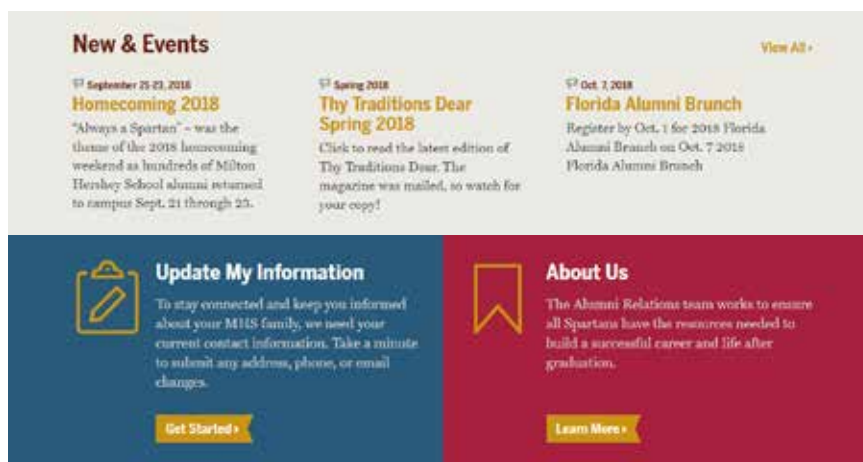
ALWAYS A SPARTAN!

Creating mhsalum.org



Our goal is to provide alumni with information about programs that affect them, alumni events, registration, news and “MHS family updates.”

Creating a website that is welcoming and familiar is as important as providing direction and easy access to the documents and portals young alumni need to access their post-graduate funding.



The goal: Create a web site that provides easy access to valuable resources to Milton Hershey School alumni, makes it simple for them stay connected with their home and school and entices them to give back.

The challenge: The MHS alumni population is made up of graduates from the 1940s to 2018, who are seeking different types of information depending on their stage in life.

The common theme: The experiences you had at MHS don't fade away after graduation. You are the person you are today because you are a Milton Hershey Spartan. You're part of a special, tight-knit family. **You are always a Spartan!**

If you attended Homecoming 2018 or a recent event, or if you've visited mhsalum.org, you are familiar with the Spartan image on the landing page. The image randomly changes between a photograph of the male and female statues that cast a watchful eye over the gateway of the MHS campus on Route 322.

We chose to feature the Spartan because of the values it represents.

"The Spartan is not just our mascot—it's our mindset," said MHS President Pete Gurt '85 speaking at an all-school assembly in 2016, about the time the statues were unveiled. "When you commit to having the mindset of a Spartan, you have a healthy pride that cannot be hidden."

The facial expression of each Spartan portrays the story that although life will have its challenges, one must weather the storm to become stronger, which was important to the MHS students involved in creating the statues. It also was important to the students to have the female and male representations because MHS is about empowering both young men and women.

Arming today's Spartans for success

The MHS support system—lead by the Graduate Programs for Success Division—helps recent graduates transition from student to adult. The new site provides pages designed just for young graduates, including:

- Details about managing continuing education scholarship funds
- Contact information and timelines for working with the higher education support specialists
- Opportunities available through MHS career services, such as resume review and mock interviews

Creating a website that is welcoming and familiar is as important as providing direction and easy access to the documents and portals young alumni need to access their post-graduate funding.

Spartans are a compassionate family who give back

Alumni Relations and GPS formally recognize the MHS family, keep alumni connected and engaged with

their home and specifically attempt to engage alumni in service to our home and young graduates.

Now is the perfect time for all alumni to recommit and step up to support the next generation of Milts. As a graduate, you have been there, you know what a big impact an older grad giving guidance can make. The "Give Back" section of mhsalum.org highlights opportunities to support or assist your alumni brothers and sisters, give back to MHS students or help share the story of your home and school.

Connect with your Spartan family

You can keep up with classmates, share good news and find alumni in your area under the "Stay Connected" section. If you move, please, submit an "Update My Information" form so we can keep you informed about news and events of interest to alumni.

The "News and Events" section provides even more information about opportunities to connect with alumni and the school by attending events in your area or at MHS.

Get more information about GPS and Alumni Relations

The "About Us" section provides information about the Alumni Relations and GPS staff, facilities at the Dearden Alumni Campus and a link to the MHS Alumni Association which partners with MHS to support services and programs for students and graduates.

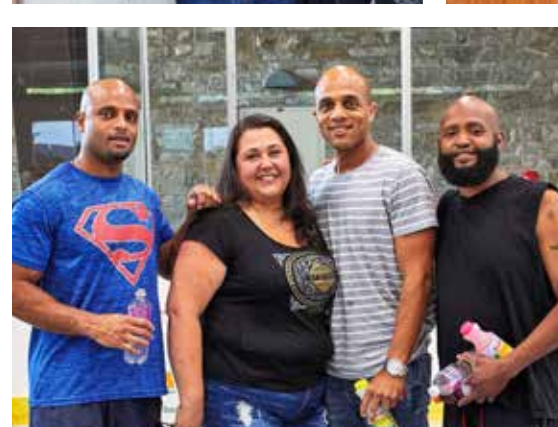
If you have any questions or comments about the site, please, submit a "Contact Us" form.

HOMECOMING

Additional photos online at mhsalum.org



weekend



MHS inducts alumni and former staff members into 2018 Spartan Hall of Fame

Milton Hershey School honored its newest group of distinguished alumni and former staff members on Sept. 21, when it inducted them into the Spartan Hall of Fame.

The ceremony celebrated the achievements of five alumni, two athletic teams, two retired coaches and a retired teacher in the areas of athletics and visual and performing arts.

To be considered for induction into the Spartan Hall of Fame, an individual must be nominated and then approved by a selection committee. Nominees must have demonstrated good citizenship as students and since graduation.

Athletic inductees included:

- **Ruth Holp, Retired Coach** – Ruth is a retired coach and teacher. During her tenure, Ruth coached cheerleading, track and field, winter track and earned the Coaches Care Award sponsored by Gatorade. Even in retirement, Ruth continues to work as a swimming instructor, score keeper and water aerobics instructor.
- **Aisha Stroop '94** – Aisha was the District 3 champion for multiple track and field events for several consecutive years. She earned multiple gold medals in the 400-meter, 4x400 relay, and 4x800 relay. As a member of the 4x800 relay team, she also earned a gold medal at the PIAA state championships. In addition, she earned bronze and silver medals for individual events.
- **Don Witman, Retired Coach** – Don was the head wrestling coach from 1963 to 1966 and was assistant coach for



many years. As head coach, his win-loss record stands at 26-14.

- **1949 HIS Varsity Baseball Team** – The 1949 Hershey Industrial School varsity baseball team were the first baseball champions at HIS with an 8-2 record. Three players from the team ended up signing professional baseball contracts after their time at HIS.
- **1967 Varsity Cross Country Team** – The undefeated 1967 varsity cross country team was a team of champions. The team started a 24-year winning streak on what was known as the toughest cross country course in central Pennsylvania. Last year, one of the runners, Steve Krause, was selected by the Central Pennsylvania Old Timers Athletic Association as the Outstanding Senior Male Cross Country Runner.

Visual and Performing Arts inductees included:

- **Michael Hartman '93** – Michael was an extraordinary music talent while studying at MHS. He won awards and recognition for his alto saxophone playing ability. While at MHS, he participated in Jazz Band, Varsity Band, District Band and Regional Band. He also participated in New Horizons and Varsity Choir. He received the John Philip Sousa Award and the Louis Armstrong Jazz Award.
- **Luke Meade '06** – Luke's creative passion was shown through the

artwork he created. While studying at MHS, he received the "Gold Key Award" – the highest-ranked senior portfolio award given through the central Pennsylvania-based Scholastic Art Awards competition.

- **Harold "Hal" Reichard, Retired Music Teacher** – Hal taught music at Catherine Hall for 23 years. He founded the MHS Hand Bell Ringers—a group that still exists today. He also initiated the recorder ensemble.
- **Debbie (Fetzer) Sampson '96** – During her time at MHS, Debbie surrounded herself with music. She loved singing and playing in the band. She was an active member of Jazz Band, New Horizons, Varsity Band, Varsity Chorus and Honors Choir. She also was selected for county chorus all four years of high school.
- **Jamie Werner '05** – Jamie was heavily involved in the MHS Visual and Performing Arts department. She sang with Spartan Choir, Varsity Chorus and New Horizons. She also was selected to participate in county chorus, was active with the Spartan Players and was chosen to be in the International Thespian Society.

Nominations for 2019 are due by Dec. 31. Visit mhsalum.org for details about how to nominate someone for Spartan Hall of Fame or call 717-520-2030.

Alumni connect through regional alumni events

The Milton Hershey School Alumni Relations Department and the Graduate Programs for Success Division host regional alumni events in various regions of the country each year. The locations and frequency are selected based on the concentration of alumni who live in those areas.

Since July, alumni and their guests attended events in Hershey and Jacksonville, Florida. Additional events are being planned for Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Long Beach, California.

Invitations for regional alumni events are mailed to alumni who live in the areas where events are held. Information also is published in the Alumni Calendar of Events online at mhsalum.org.

For details and reservation information about regional events, please call the MHS Alumni Relations Department at 717-520-2030 or email MHSAlum@mhs-pa.org.



Milton Hershey School renames Senior Hall building in honor of late president and alumnus William R. Fisher '50

Milton Hershey School commemorated late president and alumnus William R. Fisher '50 for his contributions and service to his alma mater by naming a building in his honor. The high school building known as Senior Hall North is now 'William R. Fisher Senior Hall North.' The building was officially dedicated during a ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 22, during Homecoming Weekend.

"President Fisher's contributions to MHS far exceeded what was asked of him in any job description. He was a dedicated mentor and his encouragement and support for both past and present students served as a catalyst for them to believe in themselves and pursue great things at every level imaginable," said MHS President Pete Gurt '85. "I was one of those students. In my earliest days as a leader, I had the honor of learning from Bill how to lead by example and be courageous in my convictions to help other students. His legacy to further the Hersheys' mission will be remembered each day as our oldest students walk through the hallways of William R. Fisher Senior Hall North."

In January of 1985, Fisher was named president of the school. Prior to that position, he served as an English and German teacher, assistant director of secondary education and director of secondary education. He was named vice president of education in 1983, and, in 1984, was elected to the Board of the Hershey Trust Company and Milton Hershey School's Board of Managers.

"Bill enjoyed each of his roles at the school because through each one of them he was able to make a difference in students' lives. He was selfless that way," Gurt said. "Some of his fondest memories were created during his years as high school principal which is why this high school building will live on in his honor."

The building now known as William R. Fisher Senior Hall North is a staple in the MHS high school experience. The building houses state-of-the-art classrooms where freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors are challenged academically, forge friendships and develop a strong foundation for postsecondary success.

Fisher died on Feb. 6. He was 85 years old. The MHS community honored him in a public celebration of his life on March 10.



MHS Lifer photo tradition continues during Homecoming Weekend



Alumni who came to Milton Hershey School in first grade or earlier—MHS Lifers—are invited each year to participate in a group photograph. The 2018 photograph was taken prior to the Homecoming Banquet on Sept. 22.

The names of MHS Lifers also are highlighted in granite at the Purcell Friendship Garden.

MHS Lifers who participated in the 2018 annual photo included, front row, left to right, William Rampolla '79,

Brett Warkoski '14, Braden Maines '80, Frank Kershner '68, Leonard Walden '58, Dave Bowser '57, John Bowser '59, M. Luther O'Shell '58, Laura Seifert '93, Amahl Pitts '90 and Tom Clancy '87. In the back row, left to right, William Way '64, Ken Way '62, Gary Kuhns '65, Wally Confer '65, John Campbell '65, David Plaine '66, Kurt Haines '79, Jeff Sypolt '77, Francis Miller '62 and Joseph Minella '62.

Annual Graveside Memorial Service dates to 1945



The Graveside Memorial Service that takes place each year during Milton Hershey School Homecoming Weekend is a longstanding tradition. It was first held in 1945—the year Milton S. Hershey died.

Hershey died on Oct. 13, 1945, and a memorial service was held at his graveside during Homecoming in November. That year, the largest crowd yet recorded attended the Homecoming Banquet on Nov. 17 at the Community Building Dining Room.

Each year, all alumni are invited to attend this brief, but meaningful service the Sunday morning of Homecoming Weekend at the Hershey family graveside at Hershey Cemetery. The program includes remarks by the current alumnus or alumna of the year in tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Hershey.

The first year for which the MHS Department of School History has a list of Homecoming events is 1952, and a Graveside Memorial Service was held at 10:30 a.m.

In 2018, for the first time, all members of the senior class attended the Graveside Memorial Service before also attending the Homecoming Chapel Service.



Interesting facts about MHSAA and the Graveside Memorial Service

- **1930** – The first official meeting of the Alumni Association was called to order by George Copenhaver, superintendent of the Hershey Industrial School.
- **1931** – The first activity planned by the group was a banquet held on June 5, 1931 at the Hershey Inn Cafeteria. Forty people attended, of which 24 were alumni.
- **1945** – Milton S. Hershey died Oct. 13. A memorial service was held at his graveside during Homecoming. The largest crowd as of that date attended the Homecoming Banquet on Nov. 17 at the Community Building Dining Room.
- **1946** – There is no record of Homecoming events for this year except for a church service. It was titled the Victory Homecoming Celebration. A list of the Gold Star Boys was printed on the back of the program.
- **1952** – The first official year to list all Homecoming events. A Graveside Memorial Service was on the schedule for 10:30 a.m.
- **1970** – The time of the Graveside Memorial Service was changed to 8:30 a.m.
- **2018** – For the first time, all members of the senior class attended the Graveside Memorial Service on Sunday of Homecoming Weekend.





MHSAA President's Message

Dear Alumni:

As 2018 nears its end, the MHS Alumni Association has continued to be busy connecting alumni with each other. Connecting and staying connected is always our goal.

I am excited to say that the Milton Hershey School Alumni Association board has approved "Spartan Social

Clubs," providing an alternate way for alumni to gather for fellowship in areas that have had no formal chapters. The SSCs will not replace or compete with chapters; they will, however, enhance the alumni experience by allowing Spartans to organize without the administrative burden of meeting and accounting for money. An SSC will be required to report activities once a year, including pictures to share with the Spartan family. The process for creating an SSC is simple, and interested alumni may contact MHSAA at alumnimhsaa@comcast.net for details.

Since Homecoming, I attended a regional alumni brunch in Jacksonville, Florida, and I look forward to meeting alumni in the Washington, D.C. area for a luncheon in December during my last visit as MHSAA president. Our year is anchored by two milestones—Alumni Fellowship Weekend and Homecoming, but there are many other opportunities to get back to Hershey and volunteer at both MHS and MHSAA events. There is a new Alumni Relations and Graduate Programs for Success website – mhsalum.org – where you can find information about these opportunities. MHSAA also is in the final stages of launching its new website that will provide more information to alumni.

At Homecoming 2018, we got an early start to the weekend with the Welcome Home Kickoff Party at the Dearden Alumni Campus. Alumni who attended that event had the first opportunity of the weekend to purchase memorial bricks that were removed from Founders Hall Auditorium during renovation. We also sold limited pieces of china from the Camelot room. We were fortunate to find these treasures and make them available to alumni while supporting the MHSAA general fund. Alumni also played a lively game of Pictionary for bragging rights. The Thursday event grows each year, and it is a great fundraiser for MHSAA.

The rest of the weekend was packed with many events including the Spartan Hall of Fame Induction, alumni music events and the Spartan Players' 50-year anniversary. We welcomed three new honorary alumni: Dr. Warren Hitz Jr. and Elmer and Mary Norris, who exemplify the love and dedication our honorary alumni have shown in service to the school and their students. After the Homecoming Banquet, the Class of 1988 carried on the recent tradition of hosting a celebration to benefit the MHSAA general fund as part of the 30-year reunion festivities. The general fund supports administrative costs for conducting association business and awards presented to select seniors at the end of each school year. Thank you to the Class of 1988 for its outstanding efforts in raising more than \$1,000 for MHSAA.

In conclusion, I would like to repeat a version of the words I spoke at this year's banquet, for those who may have missed it. First, Homecoming is the one weekend of the year that we return "home" and reflect on the gift that we were given through the generosity of Milton and Catherine Hershey. I, personally, reflected on the diversity that we lived as students and how beautiful our family is. Our family is a reflection of the student body at MHS, with Spartans of all shapes and colors. Our friendships and bonds are as strong, if not stronger than, the biological bonds we were born with. Those of us who come back and join in fellowship need to reach out and encourage other Spartans to return for Homecoming in the near future to experience what they have been missing. The school is in the best hands possible with the leadership and care that Pete and Jane Gurt show on a daily basis.

We have a rare opportunity at gatherings like Homecoming to say "thank you" to the people in our lives who helped us become who we are today. Many of these adult mentors, teachers, coaches and houseparents are themselves alumni who returned home to give back. Alumni or not, all of them chose to make MHS's mission their own.

Since we are the benefactors of a life and education at Milton Hershey School, we are uniquely qualified to talk to others about the mission of the school and the opportunities it can provide to families in need of help caring for their children. In addition, if you know someone you think would make a good houseparent or staff member, tell them about the school and encourage them to apply. If a family or someone you refer to the school were to build a life or a career at MHS, you will have given back beyond measure.

Fraternally yours,

Virgil Whitsett '81, MHSAA President

Alumni memorialized during Memorial Grove Ceremony

Nearly 90 alumni brothers and sisters who died during the past year were remembered and honored at the annual Memorial Grove Ceremony on Sunday, Sept. 23 during Homecoming Weekend. All alumni are invited to this brief and poignant ceremony that follows the annual Homecoming Chapel Service.

The 2018 service featured music provided by the MHS News Horizons and members of the Alumni Glee Club directed by MHS music teacher Andrea Kurnat. It also featured a duet by two MHS students and a violin solo by Pastor Todd Wentworth.

Thank you to Pastor David Maitland '69 and MHS director of religious programs, Pastor Mike Wagner, for planning and coordinating the Sunday services during Homecoming Weekend.

Every family attending the memorial service is hosted by an MHS graduate. If you would like to serve as a host or volunteer to assist with check-in or ushering, contact MHSAA at 717-520-2045 or email alumnimhsaa@comcast.net.

Editor's Note:

To view a complete list of deceased alumni, visit mhsalum.org.

MHS Alumni Association inducts new honorary members

The Milton Hershey School Alumni Association inducted three retirees as honorary members at the 88th annual Homecoming Banquet on Sept. 22. The new honorary members are former teacher, coach and administrator Warren Hitz, Jr., and former houseparents Elmer and Marry Norris.

Dr. Warren Hitz, Jr.

Hitz served MHS from 1972 to 2004 in a variety of roles:

- Agribusiness instructor
- Substitute houseparent (Bonnimead)
- Assistant varsity football coach
- Assistant varsity baseball coach
- Class advisor for the Class of 1979
- Assistant director of secondary education/vocational director
- Associate director of agricultural and environmental education
- Director of alumni services
- Senior director for applied and integrated learning

Letters from alumni supporting his nomination for honorary membership describe him as a compassionate, caring man who lives the values of MHS. Recognizing the background of students at MHS, he always made them feel important, treated them with dignity and respect, and inspired them to be the best they could be.

From scraping and painting pasture fences at Rosemont to canoe trips on the Swatara Creek, coaching, teaching and mentoring, his hands-on approach, motivated and taught a work ethic that alumni carry with them throughout their lives. He could be a father figure or a stern disciplinarian—whichever was needed to get them to perform



their best. Hitz taught them to win with class and lose with dignity. He taught them never to be satisfied with losing, but to understand that it is from losing that we improve and learn the lessons that help us grow.

Like the Hersheys, Hitz made a difference in the lives of others as he highlighted their opportunities and helped them along their paths.

Elmer and Mary Norris

The Norrises worked for 44 years at MHS, 22 of them as houseparents. Elmer started as a dairymen, so he and Mary were substitute houseparents, as all dairyman were required to do at that time. They were 19 years old in the early 1960s when they became full-time houseparents at student home Woodside, an agribusiness home.

The Norrises raised every boy who came through their student home with fairness, a firm grasp of right and wrong, and a bigger dose of common sense. With the exception of the most serious infractions—of which there were very few, because of the respect



the boys had for the Norrises—problems were handled in the home. “This meant Woodside boys mowed more acreage with an 18-inch reel mower, among other extra chores, than anyone else in the history of mowing,” wrote one alumnus in support of their nomination.

“Every day, in their actions and the way they supported us, pushed us and looked out for us, we knew how they felt,” the alumnus wrote. “Woodside was a home, not just a student home.”

When the Norrises were ready to retire from houseparenting, they transitioned to jobs at the school, where they worked for another 22 years. Elmer went to “The Main” and was in charge of repairing and handing out student home appliances and equipment before getting involved with construction. Mary worked in the clothing room.

The alumni who graduated from Woodside would say the Norrises were the best of the best, and all alumni would be honored to have people so special in the lives of so many graduates as honorary alumni.

Thank you, MHSAA board members



Thank you to the MHSAA board members who served during 2018, many of whom gathered for a photo during Homecoming Weekend. Pictured in the front row, left to right: Albert Leonzi '71, Amanda DuCharme '13 and Virgil Whitsett '81; second row, left to right: Deanna Olson '86 and Lorraine Romberger '83; third row, left to right: Jeff Sybolt '77, Sean Johnson '86 and Mike Mulderig '71; fourth row, left to right: John Whitehead '71 and honorary member John Grab; back row, left to right: Jack Swofford '73 and John Long '83.

Swofford was elected to serve another term as an MHSAA board member. The Board also welcomes Joe Aurelio '84, John Conner '88 and Mike Mulderig '71 who also were elected at Homecoming.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on an MHSAA committee, please contact the MHS Alumni Association at 717-520-2045 or alumnimhsaa@comcast.net.



Honorary Chapter members enjoy annual picnic

The Honorary Chapter of the Milton Hershey School Alumni Association held its annual picnic on Aug. 21 at Camp Milton.

Though threatening, dark clouds loomed overhead, the chapter held a business meeting and then enjoyed socializing and reminiscing.

The next chapter meeting is scheduled for Nov. 20.



Special thanks to the Class of 1988

For the fifth consecutive year, the 30-year reunion class hosted an alumni celebration fundraiser to benefit the MHS Alumni Association during Homecoming Weekend. This year, the Class of 1988 kept the tradition going and raised more \$1,000. The funds will help support programs such as the Alumni-Senior Fellowship Dinner, scholarships and the general fund.

You did a great job, Class of 1988! Thank you, also, to everyone who purchased tickets and participated in the event on Saturday, Sept. 23 at Hershey Lodge.



Annual kickoff party becoming a Homecoming tradition

Alumni got an early start to Homecoming Weekend during the second annual Student Home Homecoming Kickoff Party on Thursday, Sept. 20. This informal celebration, hosted by the Milton Hershey School Alumni Association, featured great food, drinks and games for alumni and friends. This year's Pictionary game had competing teams guessing and laughing. For the second consecutive year, one lucky attendee who bought a Homecoming raffle ticket at the party was among the prize winners. Be sure to watch for new activities at next year's kickoff party on Sept. 26, 2019.





Members of the **Class of 1948** and their spouses, plus the brother and son of a deceased member, celebrated the class's 70-year reunion during Homecoming 2018. The class kicked off Homecoming weekend every year for more than 25 years with a Friday night get-together at the Hometown Family Restaurant in Palmyra.

1940s

Russell Arnold '44, of Boca Raton, Fla., has been retired for 30 years. He and his wife, Minerva, are enjoying the Florida weather.

Harry Kelly '45, of Timonium, Md., resides at Mercy Ridge Retirement Facility.

Eugene King '49, of Ephrata, spends his summers at the Delaware shore.



The **Class of 1958** celebrated its 60-year reunion during Homecoming 2018.

1950s

Don Allender '51, of Hummelstown, enjoys golfing, fishing, gardening and spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren.

J. Fredrick Evans '51, of Lithia, Fla., is retired from the U.S. Air Force and owns a small farm.

George Marks '51, of Cumming, Ga., celebrated his 86th birthday earlier this year and enjoys snow skiing, swimming and traveling. He is chief executive officer of Marks Machinery.

Arthur Bossler '57, of Lake Harmony, and his wife, Dorothy, celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary in August.



The **Class of 1963** celebrated its 55-year reunion during Homecoming 2018.



Members of the **Class of 1968** were the guests of honor at the 50-year reunion dinner at Purcell Friendship Hall, courtesy of MHS President Pete Gurt '85.

William Woods '58, of Steelton, has been married for 36 years and is awaiting the birth of his fourth great-grandchild.

John McCabe '59, of Bechtelsville, retired from teaching in 1993, and loves to garden, golf and work around his home.

1960s

Ralph Eckert '60, of Martinsville, Ind., keeps busy with the glass business he has owned for 22 years.

John McDowell '60, of Carlisle, retired from the Episcopal Diocese of Central Pennsylvania.

J. Warren Smail '61, of Kittanning, enjoys spending time at camp in Clarion County and also going to his grandson's ball games.

James Saulsgiver '62, of Hollister, Fla., has been driving tractor trailer for 50 years and still loves it. He enjoys his RV when he can.

David Andrascik '63, of Sandston, Va., is enjoying retirement with his wife by traveling and visiting their five grandchildren.

William Simmons '64, of Amissville, Va., has his own custom wood-working shop.

Glen Weaver '64, of Lancaster, and his wife, Karen, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1.

Donald Hart '65, of Kennewick, Wash., enjoys retirement by traveling, wine touring, swimming and fishing with his wife.

Ronald Scott '65, of Blackwood, N.J., enjoys golf, fishing on his boat in Cape May, spoiling his grandchildren, world travel with wife, Joan, and hanging out with friends.

Gary Gibbons '66, of Easton, expects to publish two or three short stories in fall 2018.

Daniel Goldsmith '66, of Lock Haven, is an operator for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation.

Andrew Humenay '66, of Narragansett, R.I., enjoys gardening, mushrooming, brewing and traveling.

John Laskey '66, of Apex, N.C., looks forward to retirement from Infinite Computer Solutions in January 2019.

Edward Powell '67, of Jefferson Boro, enjoys retirement and playing golf, although he still teaches Pennsylvania state inspection and emission inspection classes. He and his wife, Diane, soon will celebrate their 47th anniversary.

William Russell '66, of Kingman, Ariz., is president and chief executive officer of Eberle Design Inc. He looks forward to retiring by the end of 2018.

George Schroth '66, of Butler, is owner of Butler Custom Catering. He plans to sell his business and work as a chef for a nonprofit organization in Butler.

Ted Stoler '67, of Broomall, enjoys his granddaughter and retirement with wife, Susan.

Michael McCarthy '68, of Longmont, Colo., is awaiting the birth of his third grandson in November.

John Moore '68, of Pasadena, Md., is retired from U.S. Navy.

Kenneth Sandoe '68, of The Villages, Fla., retired and relocated to Florida from Harrisburg.

Denton Loy '69, of Wasilla, Alaska, is owner of Sourdough Pawn & Gun. He has lived in Alaska for 42 years and raised four children.

1970s

Thomas Rotherth '71, of Silver Spring, Md., in recovery from a stroke, recently completed a 5K in Washington, D.C. to support and celebrate those who have had strokes. He also is proud to announce his oldest son, Tommy, got married in December 2017.



The **Class of 1973** celebrated its 45-year reunion during Homecoming 2018.

Gerard Smigel '71, of Philadelphia, is retired and works part time transporting those recovering from addiction to appointments and helping in their road to recovery.

Royal Spellmeyer '71, of Oklahoma City, Okla., retired in May 2018 after 20 years with the U.S. Postal Service.

Charles Winkler '71, of Lansford, and his wife, Ann, have been married for 28 years. He is an executive board member of AFSCME Council 87.

Kenneth Moss '72, of Bartonsville, is a retired teacher. He spends much of his time with his wife, who also is retired. They enjoy visiting their children and grandchildren and traveling to see friends and places they have always wanted to see.

Julien Alexandre '73, of Harrisburg, and his wife, Kimbra, celebrated 40 years of marriage in May. He is a project manager for Nationwide Insurance.

H. David Houghton '73, of Lititz, is a semi-retired groundskeeper for Luthercare at Luther Acres. He enjoys spending time with his family and traveling.

Ralph Tomassi '73, of Ashland, Ohio, is chief development officer and senior administrator for Hospice of North Central Ohio.



MHS alumna **Deesha Dyer '95** served as the keynote speaker at the first-ever "Game Changers" Empowerment Breakfast on July 28 in Harrisburg. Deesha shared her inspirational journey to becoming White House social secretary for the Obama administration in April 2015. She also discussed her current work as executive director of beGirl World — a Philadelphia-based organization that empowers teenage girls through global education and travel.

The event was organized by MHS alumna **Kijuanna Wilson-Ewell '95** and her husband who founded Beat the Streets Ministries in Harrisburg.

Dave Whiteman '73, of Tionesta, is a corrections counselor for the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.

David Barskey '74, of Warrington, retired in May, after 32 years as a research scientist with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. His wife, Mary Ann, and he celebrated 31 years of marriage in September.

Frederick Dilelio '74, of Free Union, Va., is semi-retired. He drives a school bus for Albemarle County, Virginia Schools.

Jeffrey Godwin '75, of Stockton, N.J., is a general manager at a logistics company. He recently welcomed his first grandson, Arlo.

Stephen Spencer '75, of Port Charlotte, Fla., is a dermatologist at Coastal Dermatology and Skin Care Center.

Peter Mallaghan '76, of Drexel Hill, suffered a work accident in 2016. He hopes to get back to work after completing a head injury program in Paoli.

Brian Russell '76, of Duncannon, is an operator at Capital Region Water. He specializes in building construction and as a master plumber.

1980s

Robert Barskey '80, of Temple, is a home equity processor for Wells Fargo.

John Busha '82, of York, is a laborer for Oldcastle. He recently helped prepare his grandson for kindergarten and is proud to announce that he and his wife, Cynthia, have been married for 35 years.

Clifford Zawacki '82, of Kodiak, Alaska, retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 2007 after 24 years of service. He graduated magna cum laude from the University of Alaska Southeast with a bachelor's degree in liberal arts with concentrations in history and political science in May.



The **Class of 1993** celebrated its 25-year reunion during Homecoming 2018.



Doug Oliver '93 was featured as one of the Philadelphia Tribune's Movers and Shakers for 2018. He is vice president of communications for PECO.

Marc Hurteau '83, of Douglas, Mass., is sole proprietor of Marc's Electric. He will be married for 30 years in February 2019.

Thomas Verdon '83, of Scranton, is a truck driver for Gress Refrigeration.

Carlton Ewell '85, of Somerset, is a mentor and creative writing tutor for the young men of the Somerset Correctional Institute who are reentering society. He also is author of "Ain't No Place Safe" on Amazon and writes a weekly blog at carltonewell.blogspot.com.

Cynthia Seidel '87, of South Weber, Utah, is a clinical services trainer for Tanner Clinic where she trains the new medical assistants. She and **Chuck Seidel '87** celebrated 30 years of marriage in April.

Craig Coder '88, of Loganton, is a correctional officer at Clinton County Correctional Facility. His wife, Christina, and he have a blended family of six children.

Nadine Hokayem '89, of Bridgeport, Conn., is the owner and a physician at Medicine by Nature.

Kyle Stromberg '89, of Middletown, Del., joined Hewlett Packard Inc. in November 2017 as a federal/U.S. Army account manager.

1990s

Kyle Brown '93, of Union, N.J., is a vice principal at Newark Public Schools.

Francine Serafin '93, of Beckley, W.Va., was appointed as a federal administrative law judge for the Social Security Administration.

Radford Garrison '94, of Dover, Del., is a public safety manager and chief constable. He is working toward completing a master's degree in criminal justice with dual certificates in collections management and restorative justice administration in December.

Danyl Collings '95, of Stoughton, Mass., is founder and managing partner of Four Core Properties. The company buys, rehabilitates and rents units.



On Oct. 1, the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences presented the Emmy for Outstanding News Discussion & Analysis to MSNBC's All In with Chris Hayes' "All in America: Chicago." Among the team honored was **Trymaine Lee '96**, who is a correspondent for MSNBC.

Zainabu Dao '95, of Bronx, N.Y., is an advance practice nurse. She was appointed cultural consultant for the Republic of Sierra Leone for the New York City Multicultural Festival and as coordinator for Ambassador Wai and his Excellency, The Republic of Sierra Leone. In addition, she is a recipient of a U.S. Congressional Award from Congressman Joe Serrano and a proclamation from New York State Senate and Senator Gustavo Rivera.

Jarvis Carpio '97, New York, N.Y., works as a fire director at Bronx Care Hospital during the day and as a night auditor for Refinery Hotel.

William Kelman '98, of Rancho Cucamongo, Calif., is a YouTuber. He is the host of Dad Hustle, where he shares encouraging insights through his personal development journey on how to remain a family man while also pursuing your dreams.

Stephanie Perry '98, of Blue Bell, is a district administrator for Pennsylvania Department of Labor, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

2000s

Milton Baskett '00, of Winchester, Calif., was promoted to manager of network engineering at Northrop Grumman.



The **Class of 1998** celebrated its 20-year reunion during Homecoming 2018. Pictured are a few class members who attended the Homecoming Banquet.

Tymari Lockett '01, of Palmyra, has worked as a logistics management specialist with the U.S. Department of Defense (Navy) for five years.

Brandi Delp '02, of Dillsburg, is an inventory control coordinator for DCH USA.

Robert Frazier '02, of Chesapeake, Va., is an activity director at Commonwealth Senior Living. He returned home after working 12 years as a cruise director for Norwegian Cruise Lines.

Trachanda (Brown) Garcia '02, of Downingtown, is director of global education for Chestnut Hill College.

Kimberly Ross '02, of Palmyra, teaches French at Milton Hersey School.

Amani Aalaam '03, of Bronx, N.Y., is an executive manager for human resources. She graduated with an MBA in information technology management from the University of North Carolina in 2015.

Roberta Proulx '03, of Elba, N.Y., is teaching and homeschooling five of her six children.

Aaron Cousentino '05, of Mount Carmel, is an inventory control specialist at Tyson Foods.



Spreading light throughout the world is **Alaysha Rector's '05** way of honoring the values her mother and the Milton Hershey School community instilled in her. As a mental health psychotherapist, she strives to walk beside those who are facing challenges. Rector works independently as a mental health psychotherapist for a private practice. She also works as an adjunct professor at Harrisburg Area Community College where she teaches human services courses.

Jamie Burkholder '06, of York, graduated from Harrisburg Area Community College as a certified surgical technologist and is employed by Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. She is the mother of two very energetic boys.

Rachel Light '06, of Gaithersburg, Md., is a clinical coordinator at Shady Grove Fertility.

Lea Achim '07, of Los Angeles, Calif., graduated from UCLA Law School on May 20 and is studying for the bar exam.



SCHOOL GIRLS!, written by **Jocelyn Bioh '01**, is the 2018 Lucille Lortel Award winner for Best Play. If you missed it during its initial run, it is back for an encore run from Oct. 16 to Dec. 9 at MCC Theater in New York City.

Adzua Agyapon '07, is a legislative fellow for the United States Senate. Prior to that, she was a policy fellow for the Urban Leaders Fellowship in the greater Atlanta area.

Jessica Campanaro '07, of Duncannon, graduated from certified nurse assistant classes and is processing for the U.S. Army.

Tiffany McKibben '08, of Glendale, Ariz., was expecting her first baby girl in August.

Antonette Acosta '09, of Washington, D.C., is a cadet in the U.S. Army. She is working toward a master's degree at George Washington University to commission as a second lieutenant in May 2019.

2010s

Samantha Rupprecht '10, of Rock Springs, Wyo., is a tattoo artist. She lives with boyfriend, **Nick Taylor '09**, and their daughter.



Alumnus and San Francisco 49er **Garry Gilliam '09** retweeted a Milton Hershey School houseparent tweet to his followers.



Joshua Arledge '15 studies sign language at Gallaudet University. During a recent internship in Bogotá, Colombia, he worked on multiple projects, including legislation related to sign language education.

Preston Pasko '12, of Allentown, plans to live in Madrid, Spain, for the coming school year and work as a teacher's assistant.

Steven Rivera-Martes '12, of Holiday, Fla., graduated from barber school and works full time at Headlines Barbershop.

Alexander Torres '12, of East Petersburg, graduated from Kutztown University with a bachelor's degree in sport management. He works in sports services at Spooky Nook Sports Complex.

Victoria Warne '12, of Holiday, Fla., has been working for Maxim Healthcare for three years.

David Eagleson '15, of Londonderry, N.H., is a student at Lebanon Valley College.

Laila Barrada '17, of Ruffs Dale, is a student at Penn State University where she is majoring in engineering and minoring in business and Spanish.

Eric De Blander '17, of Philadelphia, is a sophomore at Millersville University.

Births

Miguel Ramirez '95, of El Paso, Texas, welcomed a baby girl named Olivia, with his wife, Evelyn, on Nov. 21, 2017. She joins brothers Kevin and Anthony, ages 18 and 19.



Kayvon Asemani '14, a 2018 graduate of the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania, was featured in June in an article by national media outlet CNBC. In the article, he reflects on his life and shares advice. Since then, he moved to the West Coast to begin his career as a product manager for Facebook.



The **Class of 2013** celebrated its five-year reunion during Homecoming 2018.

Deaths

Norman Shaver '45, July 3, Palmyra

Albert Happel '47, June 2, Reading

William Shurig '51, Feb. 23, 2017, Beaumont, CA

Daniel Evans '52, Nov. 6, 2017, Escanaba, MI

Thomas Jones '53, Sept. 1, Dillsburg

Chester Gaines '55, July 3, Tyrone

John Navilliat '55, May 22, Providence, RI

Richard Lewis '57, March 30, Brownsburg, IN

Charles Minhinnett '57, May 7, 2014, Tacoma, WA

William Parks '59, April 25, Palmyra

Kenneth Wilson '59, June 20, Huntingdon

Edward Dolan '61, Aug. 17, Mill Hall

Harry Pearce '61, Feb. 5, Willow Grove

Walter Campbell '62, July 25, Arcadia, FL

Bernard Filipiak '63, June 30, Reistertown, MD

William Gettemy '63, May 2, Greensburg

Milan Campbell '66, Sept. 23, Nanty Glo

Alan Witzer '67, July 29, Cave Creek, AZ

Robert Tanzola '70, April 25, Irwin

Wayne Rudy '72, June 5, 2016, Gettysburg

David Orner '74, April 27, 2017, Philadelphia

Keith Hunking '75, July 4, Wilcox, AZ

Patrick VanCise '78, May 6, Corry

Edwin Wasson '78, Aug. 21, 2010

Mark Bogden '79, June 9, Washington

Charles Calderone '81, July 12, New Orleans, LA



Tyair Diggs '16, a junior at Lebanon Valley College, captured attention during the football team's season opener versus Franklin and Marshall College. Thanks to his outstanding performance, Diggs was named the Middle Atlantic Conference (MAC) Special Teams Player of the Week.



Don'ya Baylor-Carroll '18 was named The Patriot-News boys' basketball player of the year after becoming the top scorer in the Mid-Penn Conference and capping his career with 1,632 points during his senior year at MHS.

Retiree Deaths

Barbara Baylor died Aug. 24. She was an English teacher from 1982 to 2009.

John Cook, MHSAA honorary member, died Sept. 7. He was a teacher, director of religious education and varsity basketball coach.

Ethel Edgin died April 28. She was a houseparent from 1953 to 1989.

Felicia Gearhart died Aug. 26. She was a houseparent from 1963 to 1992.

Thomas Jones '53 died Sept. 1. He worked as a herdsman, plumber and maintenance technician.

Harriet Knopp died April 27. She was a secretary from 1967 to 1997.

William Parks '59 died April 25. He was employed at MHS from 1973 to 2003, as a maintenance supervisor and then as a houseparent with his wife, Bonita.

Lincoln Stiles died July 3. He worked at MHS from 1981 to 1992.



As the **Oladipo triplets - Abiola, Olajide, Olayiwola** - prepared to graduate in June, they reflected on the 14 years they spent at MHS with their hometown newspaper, The Times Herald of Montgomery County.



Alumni Calendar



December '18

- 1** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public
- 1** Philadelphia Chapter Christmas Party
- 2** Washington, D.C. Area Alumni Luncheon
- 5** Elementary Division Christmas Party with Alumni
- 8** D.C./Maryland/Virginia Chapter Christmas Party
- 31** Deadline for Spartan Hall of Fame Nominations

January '19

- 5** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public
- 13** MHS Alumni Association Board Meeting

February '19

- 2** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public
- 9** MHS varsity boys' basketball game vs. Girard College
- 24** California Alumni Luncheon, Long Beach, Calif.

March '19

- 2** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public
- 24** MHS Alumni Association Board Meeting

April '19

- 6** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public
- 12-14** Fellowship Weekend
- 12** Career Day
- 12** Alumni-Senior Fellowship Dinner
- 13** MHS Alumni Association Board Meeting
- 13** Presidents' Reception

May '19

- 4** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public

June '19

- 1** Deadline for applications to run for MHS Alumni Association Board
- 1** Homestead Chapter Breakfast, Dearden House; open to the public

June '19 (cont.)

- 9** Senior Chapel Service, Ring Ceremony and Senior Awards Ceremony
- 10** Commencement
- 13** MHSAA Alumni Service Award Nomination Deadline

August '19

- 25** MHS Alumni Association Board Meeting

September '19

- 27-29** Homecoming 2019
- 27** Spartan Hall of Fame Induction
- 28** MHS Alumni Association Annual Business Meeting
- 29** Hershey Graveside Service
- 29** MHSAA Memorial Grove Service

November '19

- 10** MHS Alumni Association Board Meeting and Organizational Meeting for 2020