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ALUM

Thy Traditions Dear

Milton Hershey School® Alumni Magazine

Spring 2020





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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A Note from the MHS President

Dear Alumni Brothers and Sisters:

These are extraordinary times, but Milts are extraordinary people. I am grateful to witness every day the many ways in which our incredible Milton Hershey School community is coming together to meet the needs of our students and support each other as alumni during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Even with such uncertainty, some things remain constant—such as the MHS commitment to providing students with a nurturing family environment within modern, comfortable houses. Our houseparents and Transitional Living staff work tirelessly to make sure each house is a stable home, even when the world around us is unpredictable. They impact students in profound ways and guide the direction of so many lives. You know better than anyone else that houseparents are the MHS “heartbeat,” and their role is vital to the success of our school.

It’s no secret that I joined the MHS community when I was five years old because my mother saw a greater opportunity for me and my brothers here. When I first arrived on campus, it wasn’t the large buildings or the picturesque scenery that drew me in; it was my houseparents, teachers, bus drivers, and the staff who taught me, cared for me, and helped me see a vision for my future. Now as president, I understand more than ever the magic that is Milton Hershey School and the importance of each staff member.

The well-being of our students remains at the forefront of everything we do. I encourage you to think of new ways that you, personally, might be able to impact the lives of your younger MHS brothers and sisters. One way is by sharing information about the unique houseparent career opportunity within your personal and professional circles. For MHS to continue growing and serving even more children in need, we need to grow our team of houseparents. Please consider those you know who would be well-suited for this special job that changes lives, and be in touch.

We’re grateful for your ongoing commitment to MHS as we all work together to overcome today’s challenges and grow our impact on the lives of our students. As resilient Spartans, I know we will.

Sincerely,

Peter G. Gurt '85
MHS President

Editor’s Note:

This edition of Thy Traditions Dear is being published in mid-May 2020, during the COVID-19 global pandemic. MHS has remained open in support of our students during this time. As you know, information concerning the crisis can change daily. All stories and updates contained in this edition were accurate at the time written. For the latest information concerning the school or alumni programming, visit mhskids.org or mhsalum.org. Thank you for supporting our school’s mission, students, staff, and alumni.



Student home Rosario took this photo in honor of Thankful Tuesday, during the #MHSSpartanStrong virtual spirit week sponsored by the MHS Student Government Association from March 30 to April 3. Several student homes sent notes and letters to older graduates to brighten their day during the stay-at-home order related to mitigating the spread of coronavirus. Thank you to SGA and all the MHS family members who participated in these activities—on campus or online.

Our goal for this issue was to highlight alumni who work at Milton Hershey School, serving every day to create a “home,” extended family, and fond memories for the children in their care—the MHS many of us cherish. When we reviewed the final draft, we realized the words most often used by alumni and students when talking about MHS are “family” and “home” ... we know; we counted them!

As you read these stories, no matter your affiliation with MHS, think about the home and family the Hersheys envisioned and their impact on your life. And then think about how you can make a difference for the children at MHS today. Perhaps as a houseparent, teacher, staff member, or engaged alumnus? Or, will you share these opportunities with others you think would embrace the MHS mission?

Milton Hershey School gave each of us opportunity and a new path forward. Why not join us in doing the same for a new generation?

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Mission Statement

In keeping with Milton and Catherine Hershey’s Deed of Trust, Milton Hershey School nurtures and educates children in social and financial need to live fulfilling and productive lives.

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Influencing the *Next Generation*

A passion to help others led
Joel Smith '02 back to MHS

By Susanna Compare '18

Joel Smith '02 enrolled at Milton Hershey School from Sicklerville, New Jersey as a sixth-grader. With his single mother raising four children and going to college, Joel found MHS a new and exciting opportunity to explore.

He remembers his first day fondly, immediately feeling part of the MHS

family. "When we first showed up at MHS, we went into what is now Copenhaver, and one of the guys from my student home came up to me and asked if I played basketball," shared Joel. "That night we played another student home and I made a three-pointer, and everyone got so excited."

Joel's best memories come from his student home where he and his housemates would enjoy life together, watching each other grow, laugh, and have fun. "We did everything together, and I think that because we stuck together, it was like a brotherhood, making everything fun," he said.



"I liked being a health case manager because I liked seeing how much the people we worked with would grow over the course of their time with us"

—Joel Smith '02

“I enjoy houseparenting because I can have a conversation with a student and help them overcome the challenges they’re facing.”

—Joel Smith '02



He continues to stay close with some of the boys from his student home and the houseparents he had over the years. While at MHS, Joel played football and participated in 4-H and the SkillsUSA competition. In high school, he also was a member of the Student Government Association, where he developed a strong relationship with the group’s advisor, the late Lewis Webster.

“Mr. Webster gave me an F, but I knew it was because he cared about me,” said Joel. “There was no favoritism when it came to Mr. Webster—he loved everybody, but held you accountable.”

Joel credits MHS with providing him stability as a student, while allowing him the ability to make meaningful relationships with people who would hold him accountable and allow him to grow, helping him find his passion for working with people.

With that in mind, upon his graduation from MHS, Joel studied psychology at Temple University—taking his first job in a drug and alcohol rehabilitation center where he assisted

patients in their journey to recovery. After about a year and a half, he realized he wanted to do more to work with people, moving into the social work field as a health case manager in Delaware County.

“I liked being a health case manager because I liked seeing how much the people we worked with would grow over the course of their time with us,” shared Joel. “I liked seeing them from the beginning until when they didn’t need our services anymore and how much they’ve been able to advocate for themselves.”

After moving on from this position, he earned his master’s degree in pastoral counseling and care at Neumann University and began working as a drug and alcohol counselor, still holding onto his passion of helping others.

Joel’s wife, Sandy, who was a teacher, felt similarly about helping others, especially young people. Because of this and how special his home and school were to him, Joel brought Sandy to MHS for a Homecoming Weekend, leading

Sandy to fall in love with everything that MHS has to offer its students—love, stability, and opportunity.

Joel and Sandy considered becoming houseparents for years before applying, and eventually, they applied and were accepted. If there is one job that a younger Joel never thought he would pursue, it was houseparenting—but now he loves it.

“I enjoy houseparenting because I can have a conversation with a student and help them overcome the challenges they’re facing,” said Joel. “I want them to know that they don’t have to carry their burdens alone.”

Joel uses what he learned from his own houseparents and his time at MHS to influence the way he interacts with his students, ensuring that he shares his experiences to help them along their journeys.

Joel encourages every MHS student and alum to “figure out what you want and try to live one part of that every single day.”



Houseparenting: A Career Worth Every Minute

Milton Hershey School employs over 200 houseparent couples to oversee student homes. For a behind-the-scenes look of a typical day for houseparents at MHS, watch “A Day in the Life of Houseparents at Milton Hershey School” on the MHS YouTube channel, youtube.com/MHSSchool. From breakfast to bedtime, houseparent couples in each division at MHS share what their schedules look like, why they find their job rewarding, and how they are living out Mr. and Mrs. Hershey’s legacy. Scan or click on the QR code for more information.





MHS Football Seniors Clemente Ojinnaka and Josh Parra Named to Class 4A All-State Team

Two Milton Hershey School standout players were named to the 2019 PA Football Writers' Class 4A team roster. Clemente Ojinnaka is a senior defensive end who finished the season with 114 stops and 28 tackles-for-loss. Senior Josh Parra was the only tight end named to the All-State team. During the season, he picked up 31 receptions for 757 yards and 12 touchdowns. Both players contributed to the team's 10-2 season and a spot in the PIAA District 3 semifinals.

'Milton Hershey Day' Recognized by Pennsylvania House of Representatives to Commemorate Milton Hershey School's 110th Year

As part of the ongoing celebrations for Milton Hershey School's 110th anniversary year, State Representative Tom Mehaffie of the 106th District delivered a special proclamation during the Jan. 22 Pennsylvania House session establishing the day as 'Milton Hershey Day.' The proclamation honored the life-changing opportunities Milton S. Hershey and his wife Catherine created when founding Milton Hershey School. The school continues to provide a positive, structured home life year-round to help low-income children gain the skills needed to overcome the challenges poverty creates in their lives.



MHS Culinary Arts Students Place First at Pennsylvania ProStart Culinary Invitational for Fifth Consecutive Year



Five Milton Hershey School students competed in the 2020 Pennsylvania ProStart Invitational showcasing their skills in culinary arts. For the fifth consecutive year, the MHS team placed first in the statewide competition and were to head to Washington, D.C. to compete in the National ProStart Invitational.

The students competed in the culinary competition which challenged them to create a three-course meal in 60 minutes, using only two butane burners, and without access to running water or electricity. The MHS menu chosen for this year's competition centered on world cuisine and featured a blend of dishes and techniques from Peru, Haiti, and ancient cuisine. At the competition, the team's meal was judged in five areas: taste, skill, teamwork, safety, and sanitation.

"All in all, there are generally 30-40 judges for this competition," said MHS culinary arts teacher Sam Katzaman. "Students need to be willing to take critiques and use them—every move a student makes is being judged."

As a result of the state competition, these MHS students are realizing their potential to have a successful culinary career. In total, the MHS team was offered \$18,000 in scholarship money for culinary schools across the country.

The national competition, however, was canceled because of the global pandemic.





Student Leadership Conference Focuses on Building Connections and Being Golden

Milton Hershey School's Senior Division Student Government Association held its sixth annual leadership conference in November. Students heard firsthand leadership experiences and insights from area business leaders as well as MHS board members, staff, and alumni.

More than 170 high school students rotated through various workshops throughout the day focused around this year's conference theme: "Be Golden—Developing Our Passion and Perseverance to Accomplish Our Goals."

"It's amazing to see how students will take a day on their weekend and share it with community leaders, peers, and MHS alumni to better themselves and learn what it takes to be golden," said Michelle Weber, MHS SGA coordinator. "We want our students to experience what leadership is through the eyes of our local business community and MHS alumni. We were fortunate to have such well-versed professionals participate this year."

Those professionals included executives and leaders from Hershey Entertainment & Resorts, Hershey Trust Company, The Hershey Company, and more.

SGA members create and execute the conference to help their peers build upon and strengthen their leadership and character skills from adult leaders.

Thank you to the following alumni for their participation: Essa Bangura '01, Manny Garcia '13, and Alphonso Nathan '05.



Fourth-Annual Girls Grace Event Inspires Unity

Two hundred female Milton Hershey School high school students attended the school's fourth-annual Girls Grace Conference last October. The lock-in style event featured workshops focused on leadership and character-building along with featured speakers and activities that began Friday evening and lasted through Saturday morning.

"These girls want to invest in themselves, learn leadership skills, and create a sisterhood with each other," said MHS Student Program Leader and Girls Grace creator Sharice Johnson.



The event boasted the most MHS alumnae participation yet with 30 female graduates returning to campus to lead 13 out of the 16 conference workshops and serve as panelists and featured speakers. Workshop topics included goal setting, finding your purpose, respect and gratitude, self-care, and more.

"We are so grateful for our alumnae's time, effort, and dedication to their MHS home. Without them this event wouldn't be as successful," said Johnson.

Milton Hershey School Elementary Teacher Receives Presidential Award for Excellence



Milton Hershey School elementary teacher Joel Crowley was one of the recipients of the 2019 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching by President Trump.

The Presidential Awards represent the highest honors bestowed by the U.S. government specifically for kindergarten through 12th-grade mathematics and science teaching. Teachers were selected by a panel of distinguished scientists, mathematicians, and educators based on their contributions in the classroom

and to their profession. After a nomination and application process, Crowley was selected as one of 215 recipients, only four of whom are from Pennsylvania.

In his role as an Innovation Lab Instructor at MHS, Crowley develops curriculum focused on coding, robotics, computer science, digital citizenship, engineering, and design thinking. He has worked with students on sending projects to the International Space Station, building a 3D-printed aquaponic greenhouse, growing and harvesting kale for kid-friendly green smoothies, and working on a design thinking project with younger elementary students on ways to improve baby goat enclosures at local farms.





MHS Celebrates Anniversary Year Founders Week with All-School Assembly, Tree Planting, and Founders Feast



To kick off a very special anniversary Founders Week celebration last November, the Milton Hershey School community first gathered at an all-school assembly to honor the generosity of Milton and Catherine Hershey and the establishment of the school. “Milton and Catherine Hershey established a home and school that has lasted 110 years and is designed to be here for 110 more,” President Pete Gurt '85 told the audience. “They used their riches in

service to others, for people they would never meet. All they wanted was for each of us to succeed and use our success in service to others.”

After his opening remarks, President Gurt surprised the audience when he joined the New Horizons Choir on stage for their signature tribute performance of “The Candy Man.” The students also were treated to a keynote speech from comedian, podcast host, and MHS alumna, Kate Casey '95, who shared anecdotes of her time as a student. She assured the audience that they are not alone; the entire MHS community is here to help them succeed.

The school year theme, Be Golden, wove throughout the assembly through personal stories and a historical photo slideshow. After the assembly, the senior class continued the tradition of planting a tree outside Founders Hall to symbolize their MHS legacy.

Later in the week, the entire student body marked the conclusion of the week-long celebration by gathering for the Founders Feast. President Gurt challenged the students to reflect on the meaning of gratitude and the many golden opportunities available to them because of Milton and Catherine Hershey’s vision.

“It is impossible to not have a grateful heart as we celebrate our home and school’s 110th birthday,” said President Gurt. “What Mr. Hershey experienced in his past gave him reason to feel gratitude toward the people who helped him. Gratitude helps you make sense of your past, brings peace to your today, and creates a vision for your tomorrow. Gratitude helps us celebrate the present, which is what we are doing tonight.”



Establishing Relationships with MHS Staff Helps Student Build a Second Home



*By Elizabeth Hammond,
an MHS junior*

My name is Elizabeth Hammond, and I am currently a junior at Milton Hershey School. I came to MHS to pursue a better life where I would be able to work toward my goal to go to a four-year college to study business. My family and I are really close, and my biggest worry when coming to MHS was that I would be homesick. However, I quickly realized that MHS was going to become my home away from home.

This year, I joined the Student Government Association and have had the opportunity to build relationships with a lot of different staff on campus. Knowing I have so many outlets and options for support really helps to add a family feel to my MHS experience. Mrs. Michelle Weber is the SGA adviser, and she and I have developed a strong connection since the school year started. I know I can go to her with anything, and she’ll support me through it all.

Alumni Invited to Give Back

If speaking at a student assembly, presenting at a student leadership conference, or assisting with the Girls Grace program appeals to you, learn more about opportunities for alumni to support programs for current students and recent graduates. Visit mhsalum.org.

Building Confidence by Refusing to Give Up



By *Elijah Espailat*,
an MHS junior

My palms are sweaty. I walk into the auditorium where people are smiling like they just won the jackpot. My thoughts bang in my head as if The Rock just swung a bat in my direction. My loved ones sit next to me.

“Lenape.”

A short, middle-aged woman

with a bright smile greets me, “Hello, my name is Mrs. Jiles. I’m the houseparent at student home Lenape.”

Two years later, nine months into my junior year at Milton Hershey School, my confidence has grown beyond measure because of the connections and relationships I’ve made. Pressure and the art of not giving up turned into the motivation that became part of the young man I’m becoming every day.

Some may think this transition is fast or even easy, but it was a journey for the ages. Despite the hardships I faced to get here, I refused to give up. It is true that I am hard-headed, but I also have down moments. It’s just that giving up was not an option. My housefather, Mr. Jiles, would remind me of that when he checked on me every day.

Freshman year was one I will never forget; it was the spark of my biggest challenges physically and mentally. I was put into an atmosphere that required me to be constantly active, and it was as if I had been granted my biggest childhood wish—sort of. The **idea** of getting in better shape was something I wanted to do. I quickly learned the difference between “**I want**” and “**I do**.” Throughout my journey, Mr. Jiles helped guide my way along the path, despite the obstacles. At first, I thought, “How can he help?” But over time, and by taking a leap of faith, I learned that he had played sports throughout high school.

In addition, student home Lenape was home to outstanding MHS athletes at the time and in the past. Mr. Jiles paired me with one of those athletes, a junior named Hillary, who would wake up with me every other day to show me how to work out. As time passed, I also received help from two other juniors, Jay—The Big Guy—and Pedro.

At first, it was weird living in a house with 11 other guys who weren’t family and being parented by people I had just met, but over time, it became my new normal. It was comfortable. I went from questioning why we were eating and praying like a family to, “Can everyone, please, bow your head for this prayer.” The guys in the house went from being “The Big Guy” to “My Brother.” To this day, I keep in contact with the guys who were juniors when I was a freshman.

My name is Elijah Espailat, and this is my MHS family.

Redefining Family through Commitment and Love



By *Arlene Samayoa-Rodas*,
an MHS sophomore

As I traveled the long car ride to an unknown place, little did I know I was traveling to a place that would become another home. I did not think that I would make everlasting connections that are still present eleven years later. Never did I expect to inherit another entire family.

When I think of the word *family*, I don’t necessarily think of blood relationships anymore. Milton Hershey School helped me realize that family consists of commitment and love. Over the years, I became extremely close with several adults, teachers, and students.

When I arrived at student home Kennedy in 2009, the girls welcomed me, the new kindergartener, and we truly created a sisterhood. That is when I first began to extend my family. The Moores were my first houseparents, and I still see them as mother and father figures. Coming at such a young age, I really needed support, guidance, and nurturing. I was extremely homesick at the time, and many times I felt like leaving. The Moores helped me adjust and consistently reminded me that I was going to be okay.

Because I was raised in such a family-orientated environment, I didn’t know if it could feel the same being away from my biological home. However, the Moores did make me feel at home. The way they interacted with the other girls and me made me feel like I was a part of another family. Their characteristics resemble my mother: patient, loving, and kind.

My transition to middle school was definitely tough, since I was leaving the Moores, the people who helped my mother raise me. Little did I know, I was transitioning to yet another family. I also was fortunate and blessed to be welcomed into another group of amazing girls with loving houseparents, the Kieffers.

The Kieffers always treated us as their own kids. I’ve always been involved in sports, and Mr. Kieffer went out of his way to make it to my games, even when they were not working. I didn’t even have to look on the sideline, I knew Mr. Kieffer was there by the way he cheered for me. Field hockey, basketball, and soccer—no matter the sport—Mr. Kieffer made his way outside to help me practice, give me guidance, and set up drills. I never questioned the Kieffers’ love or commitment.

The Moores and the Kieffers are still involved in my life. We communicate and keep in touch. The Kieffers invite me to their student home, and I often see them at MHS gatherings. The Kieffers and the Moores attended my quinceañera, a celebration of my youth—to which they both contributed. To this day, I still seek them for guidance.

The overwhelming amount of love and commitment at MHS goes to show how much of a family feel there truly is. And, as with true family, I see them in my life for the duration.

Family: That is the one word that drove Milton Hershey and his mission to create an extension to his family. One hundred years later, I was able to do the same.



Impacting Students in a Unique Way

A dedicated TL staff helped
Sesay Bayoh '12 find her calling

By Susanna Compare '18

Sesay Bayoh '12 enrolled at Milton Hershey School after a lack of stability led her and her family to seek better opportunities. While at MHS, Sesay was a leader in the Student Government Association and a number of other organizations.

After graduation, she attended Delaware State University and eventually transferred to Messiah College, where she earned her degree in human services in 2016. She then spent a year in her home state of Maryland before applying for a position with the Transitional Living program at MHS.

"I think a lot of times there is a negative connotation when it comes to alumni coming back to work at MHS so young," she shared. "I decided to apply because it was a great opportunity after I graduated from college; I needed stability and a job."

On July 17, 2017, Sesay began her new position as a Transitional Living assistant in the TL program at MHS. She hoped that she could have as much of an impact on her students as her TL staff had on her while she was a student. "My TL staff had a big impact on me," she said. "I lost my mom during my senior year of high school, and my TL staff



“MHS may teach students a certain thing, but we eventually go back to our environments. I try to give my students insight into how to navigate some of the difficulties and challenges of being in those types of environments so that they can succeed.”

—*Sesay Bayoh '12*



went above and beyond to help me in any way that they could. They drove me to the hospital just so I could see her before she passed.”

She also knew that the impact she could have on her students would be unique. As an MHS graduate, she understands what it is like to live as an MHS student while dealing with the hard and sometimes traumatic experiences of the past. “MHS may teach students a certain thing, but we eventually go back to our environments. I try to give my students insight into how to navigate some of the difficulties and challenges of being in those types of environments so that they can succeed,” she said.

Sesay works alongside two other TL staff members to guide a group of 20 girls through their senior year. She helps to facilitate weekly meetings focused on teaching valuable life skills to the girls so that they are as prepared as possible to go into college, the military, or the workforce. Much of her job is focused on having in-depth and insightful conversations with her students as she helps them develop problem-solving skills that they will carry with them long after they leave her care.

Sesay tries every day to make sure her students know she cares and understands what they are going through. “As an alumna, I try to understand my students and where they are coming from. Being an MHS student is hard because you are not only trying to navigate school but also situations going on at home,” she

shared. “I try to remember my time as a student and respond to students in a way I know is going to be most effective.”

Understanding that being a TL staff member is not a job but a lifestyle is one thing Sesay reminds all people thinking about applying for a job in the program. “As a TL staff member, you often have to remember that it’s not all about you. The job cannot become a routine to you because it is the students who are losing out, not you,” she said. “Some days are going to be hard and sometimes you’re going to be tired, but you have the chance to do something really valuable and rewarding.”

Every morning when Sesay begins her day, she looks forward to joking around with her students and gaining strong and lasting relationships with them. “Whenever I come back on duty after my days off, I’m met with girls wanting to tell me about everything that has happened to them in the last three days, and I love having those conversations,” shared Sesay. “I love being a part of their journey.”

She acknowledges the impact that MHS has had on her life, and is extremely grateful for the opportunities she gained as a student and the opportunities she now has to pay it forward as part of a larger alumni network.

To our founders Milton and Catherine Hershey, Sesay says thank you and hopes that she can impact the lives of MHS students as they did more than 110 years ago.

Explore Opportunities at MHS

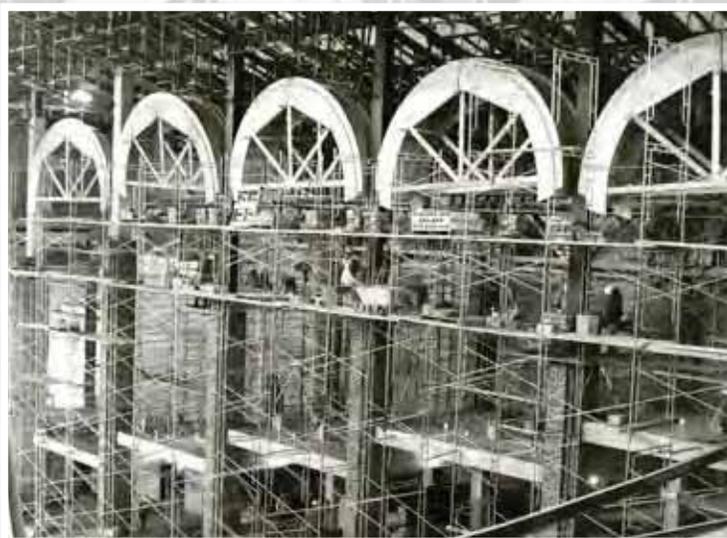
As Sesay mentioned, working at Milton Hershey School is as much a lifestyle as it is a job.

A career at Milton Hershey School is as limitless as the possibilities you can help our kids see in themselves. It truly does take a village, and there aren’t many out there who could do what we do—both for ourselves and for our students.

When we strive for our own greatest potential, as Milton Hershey did over a century ago, we open the opportunity for others to follow in our footsteps. With hard work and dedication, our students’ lives are transformed.

Visit mhskids.org/careers to view the variety of opportunities available at MHS.

Founders Hall Turning 50



On Sept. 13, Milton Hershey School will celebrate Milton S. Hershey's birthday and commemorate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of Founders Hall.

After celebrating the school's 50th anniversary in 1959, the school embarked on a number of changes in what was known as "the decade of change" under the leadership of then school president, Dr. John O. Hershey. Founders Hall was the culmination of that progressive plan.

In a 1990 interview, Dr. Hershey shared, "Founders Hall had to make a statement and be worthy of the memory of our founders." Founders Hall is a monumental statement, made not to impress you, but to impress upon you.

The architect team of husband and wife Clifford and Melissa Coleman from Landisville, Lancaster County, designed the building, and ground was broken on Aug. 28, 1967. The building, with more than 200,000 square feet of floor space, was a huge project that took five months for excavation alone. Designed of marble and limestone, Founders Hall included 16,000 tons of native limestone quarried on campus from a site one-quarter mile away. Because of the large amount of limestone in the area and vast underground water reserves, Founders Hall was built with a heat pump utilizing the underground water supply. When the area was flooded during Hurricane Agnes in 1972, the building had the only supply of useable water in the area.

The design of Founders Hall is unique and striking with a dome



that measures 74 feet from the floor to the interior ceiling and 137 feet 3 inches from the floor to the exterior roof. The building is a showpiece, and the materials used contributed to the effect: 4.6 million tons of steel columns, girders, beams, angles, and lintels; seven miles of pipe for plumbing, heating, and air conditioning; and 120 miles of wiring for lighting and sound. These undergird the works of art that add to the beauty of the structure, including the sculptural flying fish fountain at the front entrance designed by contemporary and modernist sculptor Aristides Demetrios, the Austrian crystal chandeliers, and the Florentine mosaic in the rotunda floor designed by artist Leif Neandross.

In the fall of 1970, the school family celebrated the dedication of Founders Hall and witnessed the insertion of

a time capsule in the center of the medallion. Disappointingly, when the capsule was opened in 2009 during the school's Centennial Celebration, many of the contents were found to have been damaged by condensation. Most unfortunate was the loss of a paper roll signed by every member of the school family in 1970. In an effort to replicate the concept, individual pages were distributed to employee departments and to each student home for signatures. The new signature book was placed in the MHS Heritage Center vault, along with other objects and memorabilia from the Centennial Celebration.

A 10th-grade student at the time of the dedication, Felix J. Boake '73, wrote an article for the AAA Travel Topics magazine stating, "The power and grandeur of this building cannot be put into words. It must be seen to be appreciated!"

When the building reopens later this year, Founders Hall and the new visitor experience will not only impress visitors but hopefully impress upon them the great legacy of Milton and Catherine Hershey.

The construction photos at the top of page from 1969 exemplify the 4.6 million tons of steel, girders, beams, angles, and lintels used to construct Founders Hall. In the center photo, the school family drops a time capsule into the Hall's famous medallion.

Thank You to Our Donors

Thank you to the following people who donated or shared objects and/or photos with the Milton Hershey School Heritage Center at Kinderhaus. If we have inadvertently missed your gift, please contact us, so we can include recognition in the next issue of Thy Traditions Dear.

- Charleen Bower
- Ethel Campbell, MHSAA
Honorary Member
- Pat DeBracy
- Kevin Gebhart
- John Kirk '77
- John Lelii '72
- Robert Stonesifer '45

Milton S. Hershey and MHS Today

In 1848, a French writer first published the statement, “The more things change, the more they stay the same.” That is true for Milton Hershey School. Even though things look different, the foundation of the school remains true to its founders more than 110 years later. This foundation is based on Milton S. Hershey’s own childhood experiences, many similar to those of students today. Below are visual reminders of how Mr. Hershey’s childhood directly relates to and impacts the school today—learning by doing and a stable homelife.

THEN



NOW



The MHS Heritage Center at Kinderhaus recently received a donation of a Hershey Industrial School wooden crate just like the ones in the photo of Ralph Fink '41.





In Memory of William "Pop" Price '42

By Susan Alger, Heritage School History Coordinator

In my role at MHS, I keep and share the history of the school, the town, and our founders. I also have the great honor of getting to know alumni, and many have become friends. I call some from the 1930s and 1940s "treasures." William "Pop" Price '42 was one of those treasures, and I had the opportunity to interview him on two occasions. He was always upbeat and had a joke of the day. Here is his special story.

Bill Price came to Hershey Industrial School—now MHS—with his younger brother on Jan. 20, 1937 at the age of 12, four years after his mother died. Left with four sons, Bill's father learned about the school from a coworker. In seventh grade, Bill went to farm home #1 Broad Acres, home of the famous round barn. When that was converted to housing for Hershey Junior College students, he then lived at #10 Sunnybank. When he entered the new baking and candy-making vocational training, he moved to Oakleigh, which was designated for students involved in the same vocational field, along with those studying agriculture.

When planning the new junior-senior high school on Pat's Hill—which opened in 1934—Milton Hershey's main priority was to establish the vocational program. Mr. Hershey made

two suggestions: a ceramic shop where Pennsylvania Dutch-themed pottery could be made or an experimental bakery and candy shop. The ceramic shop was not popular and was discontinued, but the baking and candy-making vocation proved popular and served Bill well in his career.

Located in the lower level of the Hershey Museum adjacent to Hersheypark, the Hershey Baking Company and Candy Shop opened on Aug. 12, 1939 and gave HIS students the opportunity to learn by doing alongside professionals.



The baker, Milton M. Hunchberger, gave hands-on instruction to the apprentice students, teaching them how to make dozens of different products including cakes, rolls, cookies, pastries, pies, buns, and doughnuts.

In interviews, Bill described his experience: "Everything on both sides was glass. And when you walked in, you [could] see the candy maker ... there were six girls, but four girls were hand coating the chocolate ... and two girls packing ... and then on the other side, you'd see the bakers working."

Bill not only learned from a professional, but from Milton Hershey himself. He treasured that memory throughout his life.

“When I talk about him, I can see him come in there ... Right where you walk in the door, that was the office; just a little part of the candy kitchen, the candy side, we could see him coming in. We'd say, "Here comes Mr. Hershey," and I can see him taking his hat off, putting it on the clothes tree, he'd pick up an apron, or if he had a coat on, he'd hang his coat up, put on an apron, tie it, and come out. And we'd watch him, on the baking side.

[He would walk] into the candy kitchen and mingle around with the kids and talk to the instructor, and then he'd come over to the bakery and he'd help us make cookies at the bench and everything ...

He used to talk to Mr. Hunchberger, my instructor, and I don't think I did it three times, maybe twice, but I walked up when he was talking to my instructor, and I stopped where they were talking and I barely touched him, and ... that's when he put his arm around me ...





After Bill graduated in 1942, the school arranged housing and a job in a bakery near Lancaster for him. While serving in the Air Force in World War II, Bill corresponded with a friend's sister-in-law. That pen pal, Betty, became his wife. After the war, he worked at various bakeries in the area. In Kutztown, he started a baker route and had 121 stops from door to door.

Bill's life changed in the early 1960s when Frederick "Fritz" Miller, MHS Director of Student Placement, asked him to work at the Hershey Bakery and teach MHS students. Bill and Betty served as relief houseparents and eventually became full time. From Nov. 7, 1966 until they retired in 1991, they were Elementary Division houseparents at student home Cooper.

The students in the Prices' care loved Bill and Betty Price deeply, and the feeling was mutual. Bill—by then, known to most as Pop Price—loved to take the kids walking. "We'd walk and sing and here we'd go out to 'Gilligan's Island' ... Do you know where [student home] Plainfield is? On 322. Down near Meno. Between there and back at the truck patch, there's an island of six, seven trees and nothing but rocks. We'd walk from Cooper out into that field every weekend They were having a grand time," Pop Price remembered.

He put his baking skills to good use in the student home, too. He baked sugar cookies with smiley faces and decorated birthday cakes for the students.

"Now if we had 15 kids, I made 14 smiley faces and one, you know (makes a sad face). I put them on the kitchen table, when their chores were all done in the morning, I'd say OK, get ready for school So when they'd get ready for school, they'd come out in the kitchen, get their cookie, and eat their cookie on the way to school. A few times ... that grumpy face stayed on the table. They wouldn't take it; isn't that something?"

In addition to houseparenting, Pop Price coached ice hockey and started the younger Squirts hockey team.

The Prices were Houseparents of the Year in 1985 and retired Jan. 1, 1991. The 1991 Acropolis included the following tribute:

"It is often stated that Milton Hershey School is only as good as the people who work within its ranks. William and Betty Price have set the example for many others who work with our students. They are the model upon which many other houseparents have based their careers."

Betty "Mom" Price passed away on May 24, 2013, and Pop Price missed her every day. After retiring, he stayed active, working at the GIANT Center and Pronio's Market in Hershey. He passed away on March 15, 2020, at the age of 96.

Pop Price and his grandson shared that Betty always said that to be a good houseparent, all you need is love, compassion, and common sense. Their love and compassion certainly impacted the lives of students fortunate enough to have them as houseparents.



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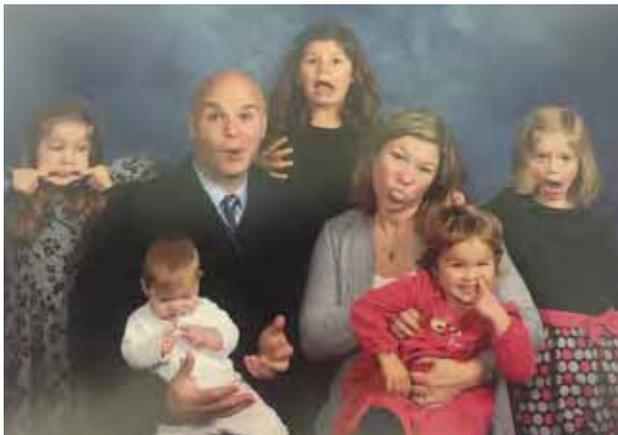


Tom and Andre Whittaker '99, both from Trispagonas Insurance, LLC, talked to Senior Division students about their careers at the 2019 Career Exploration Expo during Alumni Fellowship Weekend. Tom started Trispagonas Insurance in September 2008. It is located in Harrisburg.

“Why Not?”

MHS opportunities paved the road to success for Tom Trispagonas '99

By Susanna Compare '18



Tom and his family

Moving from house to house and school to school, a preteen Anastasios “Tom” Trispagonas '99 knew his life lacked stability and opportunity. It was when he saw the Hershey’s KISSES-shaped street lights that he realized Milton Hershey School would give him those and much more.

Tom was 12 years old when he enrolled at MHS from Upper Darby. Coming from a single-parent household where he was an only child, Tom spent most of his time in his mother’s small apartment with not many people around. Moving in with 11 other boys and two houseparents proved to be a whirlwind experience.

“I don’t have siblings. I was very accustomed to being alone when I was younger, so to be surrounded by so many people was a transition,” he shared. For the first time, Tom had found a home filled with love, stability, and most importantly, opportunity. “MHS very quickly became my home in a very special way,” he said. “I never wanted to leave.”

When building his current house, Tom kept his old student home in my mind—even placing a water fountain outside for his family to use.



While at MHS, Tom took advantage of every opportunity he was given. Driven by the mantra “Why not?” he learned to play the tuba, held leadership roles in the marching band, was actively involved in the theater program, joined the Student Government Association, and created strong bonds with his classmates. Tom’s yearning for a better life led him to take every opportunity offered to him.

“I just thrived with the idea of opportunity,” he said. “There were so many things to experience.”

It was this same mindset that led him to DeSales University in Allentown.



Tom (left) during his first year at MHS



Tom played the tuba and held a leadership role in the marching band.

Hesitant about applying to college, Tom was offered a full scholarship and again asked himself—“Why not?” While attending DeSales, Tom took the work ethic he had learned at MHS to work three jobs and attend classes full time. He graduated in 2003 with a dual degree in English and philosophy.

After exploring different career options including journalism and sales, he found his passion working for an insurance agency in Newport. Here, Tom was able to build his own business and found that the deep love, stability, and opportunity he had experienced at MHS were never-ending. Between classmates and MHS staff becoming clients and business associates, he credits much of his success to the support he received from his MHS family through this process. “In a very real way—how a family normally would—my MHS family helped and supported me in everything I did,” he said.

With five daughters of his own, more now than ever Tom carries with him the importance of family and his time at MHS. “With my family of seven, I practically have my own student home—student home Trispagonas is what we like to call it,” he said.

Tom not only embodies the spirit of the MHS community but the spirit of giving back with intention. He was inspired by his time at MHS to continue encouraging his children, his MHS family, and students around the area to take advantage of the opportunities in front of them, because—why not?



Take a Virtual Tour of a Student Home

Tom commented that he designed his own home with an MHS student home in mind. That’s because, as every graduate of Milton Hershey School knows, home life is at the core of the student experience.

At MHS today, each home houses eight to 12 students of the same gender and age range. Students range in age from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, and seniors learn to live more independently in Transitional Living (TL) apartments.

The school now offers virtual tours of all divisions—elementary, middle, senior, and TL—on its website, mhskids.org. A favorite in the Alumni Relations office is fifth-grader Alex, who offers a tour of student home Cairo and challenges MHS President Pete Gurt ’85 to a game of ping pong. Who will win?

Scan or click on the QR code to find out.



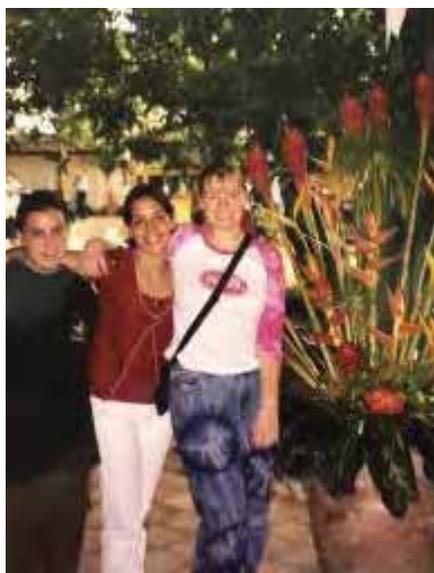


“Since becoming a teacher, I have dreamed of coming back to teach at MHS. The teachers I had while I was here were so important in my development as a student and a person. They made such an impact on me, and I wanted to be able to give back to the school that gave me so much.”

—Kimberly Torres '02

Sharing the Gift of Travel, Culture, and MHS

A life-changing trip across the world brought Kimberly Torres '02 home



Kimberly and her host sisters in Venezuela

Milton Hershey School teacher and alumna Kimberly (Ross) Torres '02 can pinpoint several life-altering moments that are forever imprinted in her mind. Each has one thing in common: travel. These moments include:

- Traveling to Venezuela for the first time
- Deciding to become a teacher—and having a conversation with a mentor at MHS who helped shape the trajectory of her career
- Discovering she had a brother who grew up in Puerto Rico
- Meeting her husband and sharing a mutual love for the Spanish language
- Finding a way to give back and share her experiences with current MHS students

Kimberly's journey began when her family made the decision to enroll her at Milton Hershey School in 1995.

“My mother had been unable to work due to health concerns since I was in second grade, and my father was a blue-collar worker,” Kimberly said. “Supporting four people on one income was hard, and my parents knew MHS would provide me with opportunities they could not.”

One of these opportunities was studying abroad. Five years after she enrolled at MHS, Kimberly was able to fulfill her dream of traveling to another part of the world. She spent the summer between her sophomore and junior years of high school abroad in Barquisimeto, Venezuela.



Kimberly with her host parents during her first trip abroad



Kimberly and her brother, Edgardo

“I stayed with a host family, made new friends, and spoke a lot of Spanish. I fell in love with the language, the people, and the culture,” she said. “When I came home, I knew at 16 years old that I would dedicate my life to studying Spanish and sharing that passion with others. If it had not been for MHS and that summer abroad, I don’t know where I would be today.”

Kimberly’s trip to Venezuela defined who she would become. After she returned to MHS, she began meeting with her mentors, who shared guidance and advice about how to pursue a career as a Spanish teacher after graduation.

“Right before I graduated, I had a talk with one of my Spanish teachers. She knew I was planning to study Spanish in college and become a teacher,” Kimberly shared. “She recommended that I also study French so I would be more marketable as an employee. Taking her advice was the best decision I could have ever made for my career. I was offered three jobs because of knowing French.”

Kimberly has traveled to Spain, Québec, Chile, Argentina, Puerto Rico, and Cuba. In the midst of all her travels, the one destination that has always felt like home was Milton Hershey School. She returned to MHS as a French teacher—another opportunity that presented itself thanks to her mentor’s advice—and now leads classes of high school students and shares her personal experiences with them.

“Since becoming a teacher, I have dreamed of coming back to teach at MHS. The teachers I had while I was here were so important in my development as a student and a

person,” she said. “They made such an impact on me, and I wanted to be able to give back to the school that gave me so much.”

For Kimberly, giving back comes in many forms, whether she is teaching French, mentoring students outside of class, or encouraging them to expand their mindsets and experience other cultures.

“I love traveling because it allows me to have a much more open mindset about myself and others,” Kimberly shared. “Traveling also pushes me out of my comfort zone. I have to speak other languages, try new foods, and learn new traditions and customs. As much as I’ve learned about others, traveling has also taught me about myself—what my strengths, weaknesses, and boundaries are.”

Pushing herself out of her comfort zone has helped Kimberly meet people from around the world. In 2010, she learned her mother had given her brother up for adoption and he grew up in Puerto Rico. When he turned 40, Kimberly was able to meet him and develop a deeper relationship as she learned about his culture and upbringing.

Travel also led her to her future husband, who is Colombian. Together, they embrace the Spanish language and speak it at home.

“It’s important to understand how other people think and interact so we can be mindful of how we develop relationships with people across the globe,” Kimberly concluded. “We’re becoming a global society, and it’s vital that we educate ourselves with a global mindset so we can be considerate and competitive.”

Education Begins with Understanding and Caring

It’s no secret that education is best received when students feel understood and cared for.

That’s why Milton Hershey School educators go beyond the lesson plans and the walls of the classroom for their students. They mentor students, engage in activities to establish deeper connections, and meet students where they are, both academically and personally.

Even when they could not be in the classrooms with their students because of the stay-at-home guidance related to mitigating the spread of coronavirus, MHS educators went above and beyond to show their students they care.

In addition to providing online learning, the staff of Memorial Hall organized a car parade for students in Elementary Division.

Both students and staff waved their hands and held up signs of encouragement. The fun event lifted many spirits while keeping in mind social distancing.





Alumnae, Colleagues, Friends, Family— *A Conversation*

Thy Traditions Dear talked with Fonati Abrokwa '01 and Ododo Walsh '98 about the challenges and rewards of working where they once played, and how MHS impacted not just their childhoods, but their lives.

By Maria Boyer, MHS Alumni Relations Office



? Thy Traditions Dear (TTD): *Fonati, you are a 2001 graduate of MHS and hold a degree from Lock Haven University. Can you tell us how you ended up coming back to work at MHS?*

Fonati: While I was still in college, I did an internship at Milton Hershey School and found out about Transitional Living (TL), but they weren't hiring at the time—they were still conceptualizing what the program was going to be—so after my internship I went to Philadelphia and worked as a case manager for Head Start. About a year later, I got a phone call from Jim Case, who was the director of TL at the time, asking if I was still interested, and I said absolutely.

? *TTD: When did you start working here, and what inspired you to “come home” to work at MHS?*

Fonati: It was late 2008 when I came back. I’d always loved everything about Milton Hershey School, and I had connections here, with my previous houseparents and my field hockey coach. But once I heard about TL, I was really impressed and wanted to be a part of that. The TL program is what inspired me to come back and help future Milts.

? *TTD: Ododo, you are a 1998 graduate and also went to Lock Haven. How did you and Fonati meet? Were you friends at MHS?*

Ododo: I remember Fonati ... we enrolled at Milton Hershey School on the same day—Aug. 11 or 12, 1991. She and my brother were close until high school when we started playing sports together. She was always my little brother’s friend, until high school when we started playing sports together. She is three years younger than I am, so when I was a senior, she was a freshman, and we played field hockey and basketball together, did track and field. Then when I was a senior at Lock Haven, she came as a freshman and that’s where our friendship started developing.

? *TTD: Fonati, is it true that you helped to recruit Ododo to work at MHS?*

Fonati: That’s an interesting story. Ododo and I stayed connected after graduating from MHS, and occasionally she’d ask about opportunities at the school. We had talked about my position, but at the time I wasn’t really certain she was interested. So I just gave her some information about what it is that I do.

We were in the process of reopening the position for a Home Life administrator in our division. I had mentioned to Human Resources that I was in contact with a graduate who would be a really good candidate and to take a look at her. When it was revealed that Ododo Walsh had applied, I almost fell out of my chair! I knew she would be an ideal candidate.

? *TTD: Ododo, what were you doing at that point, when all of this was going on?*

Ododo: I was the director of a community-based behavioral mental health facility in Coatesville. I oversaw a program providing therapeutic support staff workers to children in their schools, their homes, and the community, and had been at that organization for about five years. Prior to that, I worked in Philadelphia with kids returning from their juvenile placements, trying to get them employment.

I’d always wanted to come back to work at Milton Hershey School. After I graduated, I worked every summer of college in what’s now called YRE—it was Summer of Opportunities back then—and after I graduated college, I lived in Hershey for a year, coaching field hockey.

Then I decided to get my master’s degree at Temple, but it had always been in my heart to work at Milton Hershey School. I loved this place from the day I stepped foot on campus when I was 11 years old. It took about 14 years after graduating to come back as a Home Life administrator ... almost six years now.

? *TTD: Please describe your current roles at MHS.*

Fonati: The way we describe it to the kids is, we’re pretty much the principals of Home Life. We help navigate issues that either the houseparents or the students are

Ododo (top of page 18) and Fonati (below) work together as Home Life administrators in the Elementary Division of MHS.





Ododo and friends volunteered as guest readers at the Go R.E.D. event for elementary students in February. From left to right: Fredricka (Carter) Lawrence '89, Toni Allen-King '88, and Ododo.

experiencing—we're the hub for resources for houseparents to do their jobs to the best of their abilities and for resources for the students in our homes.

I think of it as "one call does it all." We wear a lot of different hats, and we do a lot, from responding to calls, to supporting families or parents/sponsors.

Ododo: We help parents/sponsors understand our policies and procedures so houseparents are able to do their jobs, and parents are able to spend more time with their kids. We definitely wear a lot of hats.

? **TTD:** *Is there a hat either of you likes wearing the most?*

Fonati: I particularly like the fact that we're able to interact with students daily, that not only are we a support system for the adults, but the kids know that we support them too, that they have an advocate—a voice—in us. I'm proud of that. That helps me in this position.

Ododo: For me it's pretty much the same. My connection and my energy come from the kids, and I really want to make them feel connected. For little kids, it can be hard being in this environment, and they are needy. I feel I'm like the super-hugger, constantly hugging and giving smiles and trying to connect to the kids on that level ... knowing their names and really trying to let them know that there's somebody else who cares about them here.

? **TTD:** *Talk a little bit about the resources MHS provides to help you support the kids and stay focused on the important work you do.*

Fonati: I hate to bring up COVID-19 because it's just a very stressful situation for everybody right now, but I think it highlights the resources we have here. This incident puts a spotlight on the fact that our houseparents do not have to leave to take care of the kids who are in their care. Food is delivered to them daily, already cooked, so that's one fewer area of stress. Pretty much everything that they need at this point to sustain their house is provided by our campus. So even though the world around us might be significantly impacted by this virus, we have a buffer because we don't need to venture off campus ... that's just one example of how blessed we are with the resources we have here.

Ododo: I would add that the school has invested in providing those resources because we know all kids are full of potential, and the difference for them in reaching that potential is getting past the barriers in the communities that our students are coming from. As a school, dedicating the resources to really meet those basic needs—the food, the clothing, the feeling of safety, the consistency of routine—allows our kids to focus on learning and taps into their full potential, so they hopefully stay and eventually can break that cycle of poverty.

? **TTD:** *Let's switch gears a little bit. Ododo, how does it feel to work for your alma mater?*

Ododo: Like I said, the moment I stepped foot on campus at Milton Hershey School, I fell in love with the school. It was always a place that I wanted to come back to, and I remember when I received the offer to come back as a Home Life administrator, I cried. It was my dream come true. I felt a great sense of pride that the school chose me to come back to work here and saw that I had things to offer the adult and student community.

Fonati: I echo Ododo's sentiment. I think for me, I was always one of those kids while here who took advantage of all the opportunities MHS had to offer and didn't want to leave. So when I had the opportunity to come back, I couldn't pass it up, and I'm still blessed every day to be a member of the staff here and impact lives.

Again, we're in a situation where we can do our jobs safely and we don't have to worry about some of the struggles that other organizations have to worry about, the lack of resources other organizations have to worry about. I'm still reaping the blessings of MHS as an alumna employee. It's a very humbling feeling—you feel a sense of obligation and duty as a graduate because you want to do for these kids what was done for you, you want to have the impact that was had on you ... it's part of why I came back.

? **TTD:** *We have several alumni working on campus, some your age, some older, some younger. How is it working with family?*

Ododo: There's a sense of calm, a sense of comfort coming on campus and seeing people who shared the same experience as you. It can be really fun when alumni get together because, in spite of our varied generations or time spent at the school, we can count on stories that connect us and highlight the bond that we have.

Fonati: It's also comforting to know that you have someone who knows your intentions, who knows you beyond work, so when you need someone to hold you accountable, or you need someone to be honest with you about whatever it may be, that helps you not only be a better employee, but a better person. I appreciate that, especially with Ododo, being that we work so closely together and that we have a bond. I know that she will always be honest with me, and I'll be honest with her—that helps us be better employees here.

? **TTD:** *That's wonderful. Of course, there are challenges in any job. What challenges do you face in your work?*

Ododo: The challenge is just that there's always a lot to do and feeling that you're not always getting to everything that there is to get to.

Fonati: Also, there's a challenge in the balance of advocating for our kids and supporting the houseparents. I think

sometimes there's this perception that we will side with the child over the adult because we're alums—that's something you think about, but ultimately, we still do our jobs to support our kids but also support our employees.

? *TTD: What would you say to alumni who might be considering applying to work at MHS?*

Fonati: Definitely stay connected and reach out. It's great to be here, but you don't want to be here just to be here. Make sure you find out what it is you want to do and what impact you want to make, and connect with someone here who can point you in the right direction. Sometimes alumni come back and they're looking at this from their childhood experience, and it's totally different once you come back as an employee. Understanding the culture and the school as an adult is valuable before you commit to coming.

Ododo: I think, too, we do have a lot of alumni who have broken that cycle of poverty and have found success in their lives, whether it's with their careers or managing healthy relationships. I do want them to consider Milton Hershey School as a place they can come and give back to. That should be an expectation of alumni, especially those of Milton Hershey School which did so much for us, not only financially but socially and emotionally, and I think if you've been able to do something positive with your life, you should look at the school as a place that you could give back to—with the students or with our community at large.

? *TTD: We talk a lot in Alumni Relations about the Power of One—that one staff member from your student days at MHS who stands out. Do you have a Power of One?*

Ododo: Rebecca Brownell, the reading specialist in the elementary school—she's the staff member who I stayed with during the summers when I came back to work, and after I graduated, we stayed in contact. We've maintained this beautiful relationship where she has really become family to me.

Fonati: For me, it's very hard to say Power of One, because I have the Power of Many. All the adults I had as a student here were the same adults who supported me and encouraged me once I became an employee. They've all influenced my life in different ways and continue to do so.

Ododo says her Power of One, Rebecca Brownell, "has really become family to me."



Fonati gives nods to the Power of Many, including houseparent Dan Campbell.

? *TTD: Have I missed anything that you'd like to share with your alumni brothers and sisters?*

Fonati: I would just like to add that it's such a joy to have Ododo as a part of our team and to work with her every day. She challenges me to be better. It's a very surreal experience to go through challenges with someone who really has your best interests at heart. It makes the world of difference.

Ododo: That's really true. In our role, we're on call 24/7. Before Fonati had her daughter, she was my go-to person if I needed help with my kids because I had to respond to a student home in the early morning when my husband had already left for work. Now she has her daughter, and I'm getting to be that support for her as well. We're definitely family.

Supporting Education Leads Children to Success

At Milton Hershey School, we strongly believe every child deserves the best. That means the absolute best faculty and staff, facilities, and academics—regardless of a family's income. Every day we see exactly what our students can achieve when given the best opportunities in education.

Help us continue to recruit high-quality talent to work at Milton Hershey School! Consider applying for a position and/or sharing employment opportunities with your professional colleagues, friends, and family.

MHS job opportunities can be found at mhskids.org/careers.

MHS Recognizes Outstanding Alumni and Student Achievements

Milton Hershey School proudly recognizes outstanding graduates and members of the Class of 2020 with Alumni Achievement Awards. The annual awards, developed in 1997, honor graduates for their academic, career, and community service accomplishments. Corresponding awards also are presented to current MHS seniors.

The awards traditionally are presented at the annual Alumni-Senior Fellowship Dinner during Alumni Fellowship Weekend. The 2020 dinner, however, was canceled as a precaution related to mitigating the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19). MHS instead introduced the award recipients online to the entire MHS community—in Spartan Minute for alumni and in MHS News Roundup for staff and seniors.

Alumni Achievement Recipients



**Aisha Stroop, M.D. '94 –
Career Accomplishment**

Aisha has been an emergency medicine physician at Greenwich Hospital in Greenwich, Connecticut since 2017. Prior to that, she was an emergency medicine physician attending at Nyack Hospital and JFK Medical Center.

After graduating from MHS, Aisha earned a bachelor's degree in human biology from Brown University, where she participated in track and field and was a member of the Heptagonal Championship Team, the Ivy League women's track champions. She went on to complete a medical degree at the Penn State College of Medicine, where she won the Lehigh Valley Hospital Community Service Award, awarded to a medical student who displayed exemplary service in the community; and the Dean's Award, an academic scholarship awarded to a college student who displayed academic excellence. Aisha specialized in emergency medicine by completing a residency at Newark Beth Israel Medical Center.

She stays in touch with staff at MHS and has returned to campus to give back as an MHS Career Day speaker.



**Anna Marhefka '14 –
Academic Excellence**

In 2018, Anna was named the Edinboro (Pennsylvania) University Social Work Student of the Year. She graduated magna cum laude with a bachelor's degree in social work from Edinboro, and immediately went on to pursue a master's degree in social work, completing the degree with a flawless academic record in 2019.

She is now a functional family therapist at Family Services of Northwest Pennsylvania. Functional family therapy is an evidence-based, intensive home-based therapy program that works with the entire family unit.

While an undergraduate, Anna completed a 450-hour senior year internship with McKinley Elementary Community School as a behavior support school social worker. In addition, she was president of Phi Alpha Honor Society, president of the Social Work Club, and member of Alpha Phi Omega, a national service fraternity. She is a proud alumna of the Tam-O-Shanter's Dance Team and the Spirit of the Scots Marching Band.

During graduate school, she was inducted into Alpha Epsilon Lambda, the national graduate student honor society, completed a 550-hour internship with Family Services of North Western Pennsylvania in the Student Attendance Improvement Program, and worked as a graduate assistant.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Anna volunteered with MHS Admission Counselor Deb Turnpaugh at MHS Prospective Family Events in Erie.



**Louis Berman '87 –
Community Service**

Lou is president and founder of Louie's Voice, a charitable organization that has been serving and speaking up for those with autism since 2011. Lou founded the organization in honor of his son, Louis Berman Jr., who is nonverbal and severely autistic. Since its founding, Louie's Voice has donated more than \$250,000 in goods and services to needy families in the Philadelphia area, New Jersey, and New York.

Lou's son attends Bancroft School, a residential, special-needs school located in Mount Laurel, New Jersey. Today, 5,000 families with a special needs loved one at home are on a housing waiting list in New Jersey alone. And many families, like those served by Louie's Voice, cannot afford the resources to care for their severely challenged, autistic young adults.

The neediest of the needy, these individuals inspired the organization's annual Christmas toy drive, where Lou dons his Santa Claus costume to deliver gifts to about 100 students at Bancroft every year. Many of the children are cared for by the state and have little to no interaction with blood relatives and no personal support systems. Louie's Voice seeks to make these children's lives better by offering them the simplest and most loving of gestures during the holiday season.

Sadly, more than 70 percent of special needs families are single-parent households. Lou mentors these families

and provides workshops, especially for men, who are most often suffering in silence as they struggle to understand and cope with their children who have special needs. Lou's daughter, Bianca Berman, also assists with mentoring siblings of those with autism.

Lou's long-term mission is to provide a loving home and resources for these children and young adults, a mission he describes as reflecting the vision of Milton and Catherine Hershey. Louie's Voice is in discussions with the Philadelphia Eagles to partner

with them on various fundraising, philanthropic, and goodwill projects in the Philadelphia community. In fact, Louie's Voice will be participating in the now-famous Eagles Walk for Autism.

Student Achievement Recipients



**Nathaniel Boyd –
Career Accomplishment**

Nathaniel's career aspiration is linked to a personal mission to carve a unique path to serve and advocate for others. Since the beginning of the academic year, Nathaniel has participated in an internship at the Penn State Health Milton S. Hershey Medical Center where he has worked as a research lab assistant in the area of breast cancer research. While he is still evaluating plans for next year, his options include attending UCLA, Arizona State, or the University of Houston to study biomedical engineering, with a goal of someday owning and running his own research lab.

Since enrolling as a ninth-grader in 2016, Nathaniel has excelled in the areas of academic and career preparation. He has been named to the Distinguished Honor Roll and the Effort and Conduct Honor Roll throughout high school. As a member of the National Honor Society, he is recognized as a leader in the four pillars that characterize a well-rounded student. He also has been a participant on the varsity boys' basketball and track and field teams, volunteered as a Middle Division mentor, and participated in the MHS international trip to Costa Rica in the spring of 2019.



**Daniel Himes –
Academic Excellence**

Daniel has been taking Honors-level courses since enrolling in 10th grade and currently ranks among the top academic students in the Class of 2020, having finished the fall semester with a numeric grade point average of nearly 100 percent for his entire high school career. His achievements include earning distinguished honor roll status every marking period for the past three and one-half years, in addition to maintaining a perfect 4.0 effort and conduct GPA. He also has been enrolled in college-level courses while excelling in his regular high school classes.

Daniel has been recognized as Rotary Student of the Month and is a member of the National Honor Society. His activities include soccer, tutoring at the school's Writing Center, digital newspaper staff, and Academic World Quest competition team. Most notably, he is one of 11 MHS Engineering and Design students who have participated in the Hersheypark expansion through the school's Career and Technical Education program. Daniel also interned at the construction management firm, Whiting & Turner, and in the spring of 2019 participated in an MHS international trip to Costa Rica. He hopes to continue his educational career at Rice University, majoring in applied mathematics.



**Diana Creech –
Community Service**

Diana's desire to live a life of service is reflected through her actions, involvement in countless service projects, and her goal to attend Johns Hopkins University to major in biomedical engineering to prepare for a career in prosthetics. During her senior year, Diana has been working in computer science class on an innovative prosthetic arm that she hopes will be shipped to a child in need.

Since enrolling, Diana has flourished in her academic achievements, leadership qualities, and efforts to serve the school community. She has been active in a variety of programs including serving as editor in chief of the school digital newspaper and as president of the Young Women's Alliance. She concurrently served as president of the National Honor Society and as vice president of the Technical National Honor Society, and is the lead tutor at the MHS Writing Center.

In the summer of 2018, Diana participated in an MHS international program when she traveled with a cohort of students and staff to Germany and Switzerland. She also interned at The Hershey Company West Plant, shadowing line engineers. She has been honored in the past as MHS Rotary Student of the Month and has consistently earned honor roll status in the areas of achievement and effort and conduct while taking a challenging course load that included numerous Honors, AP, and College in the Classroom courses.

MHS Invites Nominations for Alumnus of the Year and Alumni Achievement Awards

Milton Hershey School accepts nominations year-round for Alumnus of the Year and the Alumni Achievement Awards. Submissions for the following year must be received **no later than Oct. 1** of the preceding year. Detailed nominations are not required; however, the more information provided about an alumnus, the stronger their nomination becomes, pending our research and fact checking.

Alumnus of the Year

The MHS Alumnus of the Year is the highest honor the school can bestow on a graduate. Each year, the school strives to identify those graduates who have distinguished themselves to be worthy of this recognition. To enhance our ability to identify a robust group of exceptional candidates from which to

choose, we need your assistance. More detailed Alumnus of the Year Award criteria can be found at mhsalum.org; however, primary considerations for this prestigious honor include:

- Distinguished accomplishments in their professional careers
- Demonstrated humanitarianism and exemplary service to others
- Personal and professional high standards of conduct
- Service to MHS and children

Alumni Achievement Awards

The Alumni Achievement Award honors three MHS graduates who excel in one of the following categories:

- **Career Accomplishments:** The recipient performed unique or significant accomplishments in his or

her business or professional career.

- **Community Service:** The recipient is honored for distinguished involvement in community service or volunteer programs.
- **Academic Excellence:** While pursuing a degree, the honoree held leadership positions within his or her campus community, maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher, and achieved a level of excellence or GPA to earn summa cum laude, magna cum laude, or cum laude status.

Nomination information is available online at mhsalum.org/stay-connected/alumni-recognition. You also may request information by contacting the MHS Alumni Relations Office by phone, 888.MHS.ALUM, or by email to mhsalum@mhs-pa.org.

Alumni Reconnect in Arizona, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Maryland

In the first two months of 2020, the Milton Hershey School Alumni Relations Office hosted five regional events to reconnect alumni and encourage cross-generational networking.

Specific events included a dinner in Phoenix, Arizona; a luncheon in Cherry Hill, New Jersey; and a young alumni reception in Philadelphia—all held on Jan. 18. The oldest graduate to attend one of the three events graduated in 1945 and the youngest in 2019.

MHS staff, alumni, and their guests also gathered on Feb. 9 at a luncheon in National Harbor, Maryland and for an

informal dinner in Baltimore, Maryland on Feb. 23.

In addition to spending time with old friends and meeting new ones, alumni who attended regional events learned about MHS today, plans for the school as it grows to serve 2,300 students, and opportunities for alumni to support students and young graduates.

Dates, locations, and registration details are published in the Spartan Minute e-newsletter for alumni. Additional photos and information are also available online at mhsalum.org.



Alumni gathered for a luncheon in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.



Young alumni reconnected at a reception at The Brickwall Tavern in Philadelphia.



Phoenix-area alumni committed to forming an MHSAA Spartan Social Club at a dinner there.

Classes Planning for Reunions to Coincide with Homecoming

The Milton Hershey School Alumni Relations Office has received some inquiries about Homecoming 2020. At this time, the COVID-19 pandemic makes it impossible to offer any definitive information about this event. However, we are continuing to plan events and programs for the weekend of Sept. 18-20.

At MHS, the health and well-being of students, staff, and alumni is a top priority. In support of this commitment, we are closely monitoring the latest developments in the outbreak of coronavirus (COVID-19) in the United States and are following the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health to maintain a healthy environment on campus. No doubt, we will be

following their lead as the weeks and months go by in relation to Homecoming.

We value the time and effort invested by class agents and volunteers to plan reunions, and we will make a decision as early as possible. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

As you and your classmates plan your reunion celebrations, please keep in mind that the MHS Alumni Relations Office can provide class agents with current class lists and contact information. To request a class list, contact Alumni Relations at 717.520.2034 or email mhsalum@mhs-pa.org.

Alumni Step Up to Assist Recent Graduates



As Milton Hershey School and the MHS Alumni Association received requests to assist recent graduates displaced due to coronavirus (COVID-19), alumni volunteered to provide transportation and housing. Thank you to those who helped your MHS brothers and sisters during this unprecedented time of need.

Mel Horn '69 helped a recent graduate retrieve her essential belongings from her dorm after her university shut down, and transported her and her belongings to her home. Valerie Hester '98 opened her home to a student from Georgetown. Brad Hicks '96 transported a young

graduate and is providing temporary storage of the graduate's belongings. Each of these stories is not unique to the many more that went unrecognized. We know our Spartans are always ready and willing to assist as needed.

Alumni Give Back to MHS by Reading to Students

Thank you to the more than 35 alumni who stepped up as guest readers for the annual Go R.E.D.—Read Every Day—Family Reading Night on Feb. 6. The event is part of a program designed to encourage Elementary Division students to develop a consistent reading routine and a genuine love for books.

Go R.E.D. Family Reading Night is just one of many ways alumni can support current students, young graduates, and their alma mater. Other opportunities include mock interviews, resume critiques, bike rodeos, Career Day participation, and more.

If you would like to be contacted about participating in any of these programs, visit mhsalum.org/give-back.



Jamison Langguth '06 and several of his friends participated as guest readers for the annual Go R.E.D. Family Reading Night in February. From left are Brienna (Dill) Mundy '04, Arielle Simoncelli '07, Langguth, and Mai-Linh Tran '04.



MHS Partners with Bloomsburg University to Support Low-Income, First-Generation College Students

On Friday, Feb. 21, Milton Hershey School and Bloomsburg University signed an agreement outlining the ways the two schools will collaborate to support low-income, first-generation college students, including many MHS graduates who decide to continue their education at Bloomsburg University.

Bloomsburg joins a network of 23 postsecondary institutions and is the fifth Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education school to partner with MHS.

With the agreement, Bloomsburg University will waive the admissions application fee for any MHS student applying to the university. Once enrolled, MHS alumni can participate in a two-week college readiness program that allows students to get acclimated to the Bloomsburg University community.

Students will then transition to a comprehensive support program for first-generation college students that helps them develop academic confidence and life skills that will further increase their likelihood of completing a college degree. Additionally, students receive peer mentoring and academic advising and participate in various workshops focused on academic success.



Due to ongoing concerns related to coronavirus (COVID-19), the Dearden Foundation and Milton Hershey School Alumni Association rescheduled their Dick Purcell Spartan Classic golf tournament for later in the summer.

Originally planned for early May, the outing is now scheduled for Monday, Aug. 10, 2020. Other details of the event remain the same, with registration beginning at 7:45 a.m. and a shotgun start at 9 a.m. at the Hershey Country Club.

The tournament brings together separate events previously held by the Foundation and MHSAA. Funds raised will assist young graduates in ways Milton Hershey School or parents and sponsors cannot.

For information or to learn more about sponsorship opportunities, please call 717.520.2038.

MHSAA President's Message

When I think back to the MHSAA reorganizational meeting in November 2019, and the time leading up to assuming the role of MHSAA president, several words come to mind:

CONFIDENT—that I have the ability to do this job and that I have the team to help me accomplish that.

EXCITED—to lead our association to new heights.

FULFILLED—that I have been given this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

GRATIFIED—to be in a position to be able to have some influence and make some decisions for our association.

HONORED and **HUMBLED**—to have been chosen for this leadership role by my peers.

NERVOUS—as with any role, about the unknown, not the position.



I look forward to meeting with as many of you as I can. We are off to a great year!

Already the MHSAA Board of Directors has approved a new strategic plan, and part of that is to enhance our relationship with Milton Hershey School

by aligning with its strategic plan. We look forward to working with Tanya Baynham, vice president of MHS Graduate Programs for Success, and her staff to continue supporting their efforts. Briefly, other parts of our strategic plan focus on developing professionalism and continuity within our board structure; continuing to build on the association's financial stability and independence, with an emphasis on fundraising; and reaffirming the mission by supporting our MHS alumni community. Of note is the reintroduction of the Helping Hands Fund, which gives us another avenue, along with the Cancer Care Fund, to help our brothers and sisters. This is in the beginning stages, with a lot to work out, but you will hear more on this item as we move forward.

Here are some updates on activities in which your MHSAA has been involved. I had the opportunity to travel to Phoenix, Arizona in January for an MHSAA regional event. I was greeted by alumni who shared their stories, hopes, and wishes. We had about 40 people in attendance, with the oldest from the Class of 1945 and the youngest from the Class of 2019.

I talked with the group about establishing a Spartan Social Club, and at the end of the night, we did just that.

On the same day, MHSAA Vice President John Foley '83 represented us at two events in the Philadelphia area, and in mid-February, he traveled to a regional event in the Baltimore/Washington, D.C. area. At a couple of those events, along with MHS President Pete Gurt '85, John and I had the opportunity to talk with MHS Board of Managers members in attendance. It is my hope that the door has been opened to continue to build a dialogue between us.

I also had planned to travel to regional events in Pittsburgh and New York City, but MHS and MHSAA cancelled those events out of respect for the health of alumni and staff. It is my hope, however, to get the Pittsburgh-area alumni to start our seventh Spartan Social Club. The main purpose of these clubs is to promote comradery for our alumni across the U.S. We need to let everyone know that wherever they live, a brother or sister is nearby.

It is with great disappointment that we were unable to host the Class of 2020 for an Alumni-Senior Fellowship Dinner, again a precautionary measure related to the coronavirus. In fact, we canceled all events scheduled for Alumni Fellowship Weekend, and we are looking for opportunities to reschedule at least the Presidents' Reception, which raises funds to support MHSAA awards to MHS seniors and the MHSAA Cancer Care Fund.

It is one of my goals this year to reach out and seek the involvement of our younger brothers and sisters. They are the future of our association, so we need to engage them and have them give back. Ways of doing that can be as simple as helping out at our events, participating in the Go R.E.D. program with our elementary students, attending sporting events, serving on committees, and even running for the MHSAA Board of Directors. We have many ways for people to get involved. I challenge each of you to step up and help your Milton Hershey School Alumni Association.

I look forward to working for you this year and continuing to strengthen our alumni association with your support and the support of the MHSAA Board of Directors.

Mike Mulderig '71
MHSAA President

Alumni Write Letters to MHS Seniors

Our Spartans are the best! The MHS Alumni Association invited alumni to participate in a letter-writing campaign to encourage members of the Class of 2020. While disappointed by the cancellation of the Alumni-Senior Fellowship Dinner, alumni are still demonstrating their commitment to supporting their MHS brothers and sisters.

MHSAA started the letter-writing campaign in early April. They paired MHS graduates with graduating seniors based on career interests. It's the perfect way to welcome the Class of 2020 into the alumni family.




MHSAA.org
717-520-2045
[alumni@mhsaa@comcast.net](mailto:alumni@mhsaa.com)

Connect with MHSAA on Social Media
  @MHSAlumniAssoc
 @alumni_mhsaa
 @alumni_mhsaa


Support MHSAA through Amazon Smile

1. Go to smile.amazon.com and log in
2. Search for Milton Hershey School Alumni Assn
3. Select MHSAA as your charity
4. Always shop through Amazon Smile. 0.5% of the price of your eligible purchases go to MHSAA with no extra cost to you!

Chapter News

Harrisburg Chapter

The chapter will auction off a timely piece of Milton Hershey School student history—an old classroom wall clock—in a silent auction at Homecoming 2020, scheduled for Sept. 18-20.

The clock, saved during the renovation of old Senior Hall to the new Catherine Hall, was preserved to function as a mantle clock. It measures 14 inches high, 14 inches wide, and 2.5 inches deep, and rests on a removable base that is 16 inches wide and 3.5 inches deep. It will be on display with the bid sheet at Homecoming registration.

The chapter will donate auction proceeds to the MHS Alumni Association. For more information about the item and auction, contact Dirk Dixon '70 at prospector16@verizon.net or 717.982.1191.



Homestead Chapter

The chapter remains actively engaged with Milton Hershey School alumni and students under the leadership of President Jim Gould '63:

- During the winter, chapter members attended numerous MHS wrestling, basketball, and hockey events to support MHS athletes.
- On March 9, the chapter raised \$370 through a fundraising event at Iron Hill Brewery in Hershey. For every dollar spent on food that day, Iron Hill donated 20 percent to the MHS Food Bank. This was the second fundraiser at the brewery in the past year; the first, held in November 2019, raised \$750.
- On the horizon, the chapter plans to host a chapter fun night at Camp Milton and participate again in the Labor Day "Fun in the Sun" event with MHS Transitional Living, where alumni have the opportunity to interact with new senior students. For the 2019 event, the chapter donated Rita's Italian Ice for dessert.
- Keep an eye out for information about a new Steak Fry and Auction event, tentatively scheduled on Aug. 9 at the Purcell Friendship Hall on the Dearden Alumni Campus. The picnic-style gathering will feature an auction with



MHS items and, according to President Gould, "fun things for a good laugh and time."

The chapter meets on the second Monday of most months at 6 p.m. and encourages local alumni to join in the festivities. Meeting locations vary.

Washington, D.C./Maryland/Virginia Chapter

For the seventh consecutive year, the chapter delivered Christmas presents to several MHS students in the D.C./Maryland/Virginia region as part of its Santa Program. Instituted in 2013, the program provides food, gifts, and transportation for students whose parents/sponsors have limited resources.

MHS presently provides low-cost transportation to a wide area of the mid-Atlantic states, and MHS teachers and students hold food drives to provide nonperishable goods for students to take home with them on their breaks. Yet, some students are still not able to go home for the holidays for various reasons, mostly financial.

In 2019, chapter members supported six MHS families through the program. Each family received a \$100 grocery store gift card to cover the cost of a Christmas meal and food throughout the holiday vacation period, plus MHS students and siblings at home received gifts, such as toys and sports-branded clothing.

The chapter supports the Santa Program through various fundraising activities each year, and Perry's Restaurant in Odenton, Maryland serves as a program sponsor. Santa Program donations also can be made via the chapter website at mhsaadc.org.

In an effort to serve more MHS families in 2020 and beyond, the chapter initiated a Respect the Ring raffle to give MHS graduates an opportunity to replace their lost or stolen class ring at a fraction of the cost of a new ring. All entries were examined and verified by MHSAA and the school. The winner will be drawn at the chapter's annual picnic this summer and broadcast on Facebook Live.

Honorary Member Chapter

The chapter welcomed Pastor Michael Wagner, director of religious programs at Milton Hershey School, as the guest speaker at its quarterly meeting on Feb. 18 at the Dearden House. During his presentation, Pastor Mike talked about the Deed of Trust statement regarding the religious aspects of students at Milton Hershey School and how the school accomplishes that today.

Chapter members described his presentation as interesting and informative and engaged in a Q&A session following the formal discussion. A business meeting, conducted by Chapter President Ruth Holp, was then held, and a time of food and fellowship concluded the afternoon.



On the Calendar:

The Homestead Chapter plans to host a fundraising breakfast on Saturday, Sept. 5 from 8-9:30 a.m. at the Dearden House, 109 McCorkel Road in Hershey. Everyone is welcome. Proceeds from breakfasts support the chapter's activities with current MHS students.

1940s

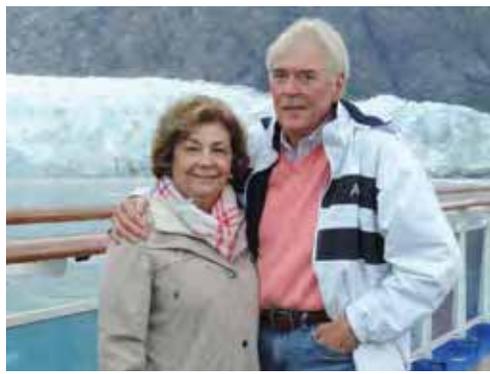
Charles Schock '44, of Media, is retired and reports that he is “still in good health with my wife, Jane.”

Richard Scheiwe '45, formerly of Bowers, recently moved to Maiden Creek Place, an assisted living facility in Reading.

Robert Keller '47, of Lancaster, retired as an engineer from RCA Corporation 42 years ago. He and his wife, Helen, have been married 25 years. He entered the Hershey Industrial School at age 7. He says it was the “best thing that happened to my life, being a Hershey Bob.”

1950s

Raymond Ballard '51, of Bethlehem, works part time in the produce department of Wegmans Food Markets. He enjoyed a trip to Ireland in May 2019 and his time on the links there.



Carl Evans '51, of Duncansville, is retired. He and his wife have been married for 62 years.

Donald Godwin '52, of Hummelstown, is 85 years old and has two sons, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. He still enjoys watching MHS basketball.

Jules Bosch '58, of Warren, N.J., pictured with his wife, Denise, retired in 2017 and now enjoys golf. He volunteers at the Lyons VA Medical Center, where he interviews and then writes biographies for veterans at the Promise House, a hospice unit. His story “Jesse’s Final Ride,” about a Marine veteran, was one of 10 stories recently featured at a National Teleconference of the Department of Veterans Affairs for Hospice and Palliative Care in Portland, Ore.

Frank Mahoney '52, of Camino, Calif., is now retired 30 years from the world of telecommunications.

David Kelly '53, formerly of Dunedin, Fla., recently moved to Safety Harbor, Fla. He retired as a senior analyst/programmer from Data Systems Analysts.

John Moore '53, of Lancaster, is retired. He and his wife, Rosalie, married in November 2019.

Emmett Duane Watson '53, of Portland, Ore., celebrated his 85th birthday in 2019. He and his wife, Sandra, will be married 51 years in 2020.

John Cleaver '54, of Brooklawn, N.J., is a retired federal government employee. His wife passed away in October 2019.

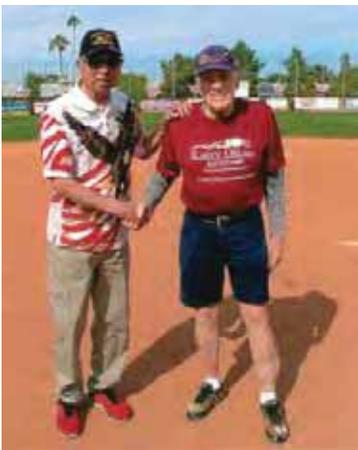
Andrew Litavec '54, of Lansdale, is enjoying retirement after 36 years of teaching. He and his wife, Patricia, have been married 57 years.

Richard Conti '55, of Sarasota, Fla., is a widower, having lost his wife of 56 years, Patricia, on July 30, 2019.

Laurence Reynolds '56, of West Chester, is a retired high school guidance counselor and college admissions counselor. He keeps active by walking, swimming, and cycling. He enjoys following Penn State football and wrestling, as well as the Philadelphia pro teams—Eagles, 76ers, Phillies, and Flyers.

Michael Beltz '57, of Highland, Md., retired on Sept. 2, 2019, from the U.S. Department of Defense. His assignments throughout his 56-year career included working at the Pentagon and in England, as well as deployments to Vietnam and Iraq. His wife, Ruth, also is retired from the DOD after 35 years of service.

David Bowser '57, of Lititz, retired as owner of Bowser Construction but still works as a consultant. He has three children, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. He celebrated his 80th birthday in January and thanks MHS “[for giving] me golden opportunities and a golden future.”

Alum Athletes in the News

Tait Douglas '45 (pictured on right) retired in November 2019 after 29 years as a player in the Sun Cities Senior Softball League in Arizona. Tait, a slow-pitch infielder and outfielder and longtime member of the traveling Sidewinders team, was inducted into the league’s Hall of Fame in 2004 for his contributions on and off the field to Sun Cities Softball. He and his wife, Louise, moved from Pennsylvania to the “Grand Canyon state” in 1986, after his retirement from Amp, Inc. His story was featured in the Sun City Independent and Sun City West Independent newspapers.

Vinnie Caroselli '16, a senior at Juniata College, was named Landmark Track Athlete of the Week for his performance at the Susquehanna

Invitational, held on Feb. 15 in Selinsgrove. Vinnie broke the Juniata 3000-meter record with a time of 8:51.82. The previous record was 8:52.50 set in 2015.

Nicholas Grissinger '17, a junior at Gettysburg College, broke the college’s record in the heptathlon at the Centennial Conference Championship in March in Lancaster. He scored 4,275 points in the events, shattering the college’s previously held record of 3,810 points set in 2018. Nick posted his highest point totals in the 1,000-meter run and the 60-meter dash. His silver-medal win brings his medal tally to four, between indoor and outdoor seasons.

Don’ya Baylor-Carroll '18, a sophomore at Penn State Harrisburg, was named the North Eastern Athletic Conference Player of the Year after leading the campus’s men’s basketball team to its first conference championship in February. Don’ya was named NEAC Tournament MVP after scoring 23 points, four assists, three steals, and three rebounds in the team’s overtime win for the conference title. He also received two All-Region honors, as well as Eastern College Athletic Conference honors. The Harrisburg Nittany Lions were preparing for NCAA Division III tournament play when the COVID-19 pandemic halted their season.

Jordan Winslow '18, a sophomore at Shippensburg University, finished on the podium for the high jump to help the university men’s track and field team win its tenth consecutive Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Indoor Conference Championship in February. Jordan cleared 6 feet 4 inches to take eighth place, making it the second year in a row he scored in the event.



After hearing about the passing of classmate **Richard E. Eyler '58**, class agent **Luther O'Shell '58** shared the photo above, featuring (left to right) **Harold "Mike" Heath '58**, Eyler, and **Arthur Quillman '58**. Eyler and Heath both died in 2019.

Quillman sadly passed away more than a half century prior, being the first member of his class to die, according to O'Shell. A specialist 4 in the U.S. Army originally from Lenhartsville, he was killed on Oct. 18, 1962, in a truck accident while serving in South Korea. His sacrifice placed him on the MHS Gold Star Roll Call, instituted in 1954 to honor alumni who gave their lives in service during times of war or conflict.

Quillman is buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. The photo, according to O'Shell, was taken on the grounds of Unit #52, Glendale, which is now part of the Dearden Alumni Campus.

J. David Cartwright '57, formerly of Raleigh, N.C., recently relocated to Henderson, Nev.

James Crowther '57, of Mount Royal, N.J., and his sons own Spartan Planning Agency, Inc., a full-service insurance and investments agency in Paulsboro, N.J. He celebrated his 81st birthday in 2019 at a gathering with his children and grandchildren.

William Lehman '57, of Ephrata, worked 50 years as an electrician before retiring. He and his wife, Mary Ann, married 57 years, both celebrated 80th birthdays in January. They have two grown grandchildren.

Joseph Matisak '57, of Montgomery, Ala., retired twice—first from the U.S. Air Force, where he rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel; and second from the Alabama Court System, where he served as assistant director of personnel. Now

age 81, he spends his days playing golf, hunting, and fishing.

Kenneth Bach '59, of Bellingham, Mass., reports that he is happily retired. He enjoys time with his grandchildren and great-grandson, as well as traveling to the Virgin Islands and Hawaii.

1960s

Joseph Baker '60, of Hagerstown, Md., is in his 54th year as a truck driver for Mack-Volvo. He writes that he is "still working, still single, and still very grateful for Milton Hershey School."

Edward Beck '60, of Ocala, Fla., is a Bethlehem Steel retiree. He and his wife, Lynne, married 56 years, have three children, five grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

James Dayhoff '60, of Claremont, Calif., is retired from GTE/Verizon, where he worked as a special equipment installer. He reports being in good health and spending quality time with his daughter and her family ever since his wife passed away.

Phillip Minella '60, of Nantucket, Mass., is the owner of Sunshine Design, Inc., a design-build company specializing in subdivisions. Phillip reports working on his last subdivision, which includes houses for each of his children. He credits MHS with providing him with "an excellent education that provides for me to this day."

Samuel Montgomery '60, of Milton, writes that he is "finally, completely retired except for [being a] personal pain for everyone."

James O'Donnell '60, of Marco Island, Fla., is enjoying a retirement career as a real estate agent at Keller Williams Marco Island. He and his wife, Karen, have been married for "43 happy years," and have six children and 19 grandchildren.

Gary Cramer '61, formerly of Harrisburg, retired in April 2019 and moved to Huntington to be near his family.

Robert Stewart III '61, of Hereford, is retired. He and his wife are celebrating 11 years of marriage in 2020.

Anthony Denike '62, of Hawthorne, N.J., is a senior construction manager with AECOM. He is currently managing two large projects for the New York City Housing Authority, replacing heating boilers and hot water systems for 5,000 residents.

Edward Strayer '62, of Gardners, fully retired in 2017 and serves on the Cooke Township (Cumberland County) Board of Supervisors.

Richard Subers '62, of The Villages, Fla., and his wife will celebrate their 75th birthdays in 2020. He reports, while at home he "still plays golf with three decades of 'Homeguys' in The Villages."

Daniel Bauer '63, of Palmerton, is enjoying retirement. He and his wife, Carol—whom he considers his "rock"—have been married 51 years, and have two children and four grandchildren. "Still an MHS Spartan!"

Harold Damp '63, of Pittsburgh, is retired and recovering from hip operations and several falls. He reports he is doing much better and hopes to be back to playing golf by summer.

Thomas Leonard '63, of Monroeville, is retired and reports that life was going well until 2018, when he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. He writes: "So far I'm winning the battle to make our 2023 60-year reunion."

Thomas Blizzard '64, of Conway, S.C., is retired and enjoys time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ernest Corson '64, of Harrisburg, and his wife celebrated 47 years of marriage in 2019.

Gary Goldsmith '64, of Mays Landing, N.J., retired at the rank of sergeant after 24 years as an officer with the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections.



Carl "Dutch" Bechtel '61 and his wife, Teresa, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Nov. 8, 2019. They live in Bowers with their daughter, Stacy. A career carpenter, Carl continues to enjoy woodworking as a hobby in retirement. He returns faithfully to MHS Homecoming every year.



Frank Pizzulli '64, of Manchester, N.J., is retired but works part time as a direct support professional for Easter Seals. He reports he is “still in fairly good health.”

Kenneth Provost '64, of Harrisburg, is a produce associate at Giant Foods.

Robert Swegart '64, of Rome, Maine, is a retired clinical social worker. He and his wife, Kathryn, have been married 38 years and recently welcomed their 10th grandchild.

Thomas Bryson '65, of Orlando, Fla., is engaged to be married after having lost his wife almost five years ago. He is active as past master of the Orlando Masonic Lodge. His retirement travels recently took him to Paradise Island in the Bahamas.

Bruce Campbell '65, of Myrtle Beach, S.C., is a retired special education teacher. He and his wife, Phyllis, recently traveled the Panama Canal via cruise ship.

James Hanawalt '65, of Harrisburg, remains busy in retired life and involved at MHS. He and his wife, Linda, have been married for 51 years.

David Hiza '65, of Palmyra, celebrated 20 years as an MHS athletics event worker in 2019.

Sidney Mann '65, of Poinciana, Fla., reports “enjoying retirement in Central Florida at a great 55+ community.”

Ronald Scott '65, of Blackwood, N.J., is a retired electrician. He enjoys fishing on his boat in Cape May, N.J., playing golf, and traveling—especially on ocean cruises—with his wife, Joan.

Richard Beam '66, of Oro Valley, Ariz., retired as chief environmental officer at Providence St. Joseph Health System, effective Aug. 1, 2019.

Terry Bittinger '66, of Westminster, Md., works three days a week as an auto machinist. In his downtime, he still plays ice hockey, works on his home, and travels. He also enjoys watching his grandchildren and great-grandchildren grow.

John Hughes '66, of Coldwater, Mich., and his wife, Eileen, celebrated 47 years of marriage in December 2019. Retired, he reports he is “still healthy and kicking.”

Thomas Keck '66, of Harrisburg, is retired, has been married 51 years, and enjoys time with his preschool-age grandchildren.

Thomas Clingan '67, of York, is the CEO/owner of Thomas H. Clingan Electrical Services, LLC. He has seven grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Daniel Doble '67, of Rice Lake, Wis., is a business owner and president

of Northwest Honda, which sells powersports products in northern Wisconsin. The company recently expanded into lawn and garden equipment at a new location called Happy Trails Equipment.

Jesse Verrecchia '68, of Cherry Hill, N.J., is a certified financial planner at Verr Enterprise, Inc.

James Weidman '68, of Palmyra, is retired and enjoying life. He and his wife, Susan, have been married 46 years and share two children and four grandchildren.

Thomas Gaffney '69, of Schnecksville, is an electrical technician at Mack Truck.

Gary Hilton '69, of North Brookfield, N.Y., retired eight years ago from his career as a safety and health inspector with the New York State Department of Labor. He and his wife are enjoying their growing family, which includes a third grandson born in August 2019.

1970s

William Patts '70, of Taylor, Mich., is a print technician at the Taylor School District. He and his wife, Caroline, have been married 45 years and have two daughters and four grandchildren. Summer 2020 will mark his fourth year working at Comerica Park as an usher for Detroit Tigers baseball games.

J. Bruce Whitehead '70, formerly of Newark, Del., retired early in 2019 from his job as a respiratory therapist at Christiana Care. He and his wife, Joy, relocated to Ocean Pines, Md. They have three sons and two grandchildren.

Rick Zalek '70, of Indian Land, S.C., is self-employed, teaching real estate courses in Pennsylvania for six months of the year. During his downtime he takes motorcycle trips, attends NASCAR races, and travels with his sweetheart, Bonnie. “Life is good!”

Bruce Hummel '71, of Palmyra, retired after 38 1/2 years as a business agent at Chocolate Workers Local 464 in Hershey. He is in his fifth year volunteering at the Butterfly Atrium at Hershey Gardens, and enjoys being Santa at Hope Springs Farm, an agricultural day program for adults with developmental disabilities and autism, also in Hershey. He and his wife, Penny, travel often.

Dale Klinger '71, formerly of Duncannon, is retired and recently moved to Pulaski, N.Y.

Michael Mulderig '71, of Palmyra, retired on Feb. 19 after 30 years of working at MHS. He continues to volunteer as an alumnus, this year serving as president of the MHS Alumni Association.

Tom Rothert '71, of Silver Spring, Md., was featured in the winter issue of the Seabury at Springvale Terrace newsletter in an article titled, “From Darkness into the Light—One Step at a Time.” The front-page story chronicled his move to Seabury following a stroke and highlighted his leadership of the community’s walking club. Also noted was his recent return to MHS, where he completed an alumni 5K using his walker.

Sean Ryan '71, of Perkasie, retired in 2019 after 42 years in probation, parole, and corrections. He still works one day a week for the Bucks County Court and volunteers at his local food bank. He and his wife, Twyla, have been married 42 years and have two adult children.

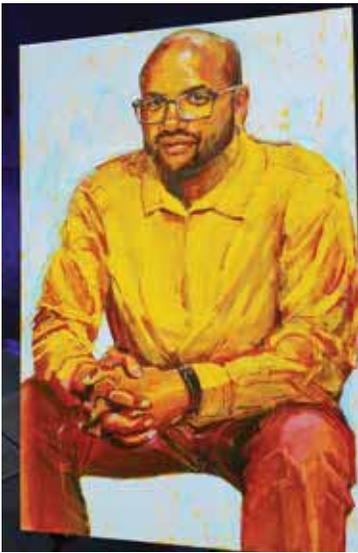
Dennis Snedden '71, of Carnegie, is retired and remains active with Freemasonry and its youth organizations, Demolay International and the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. He and his wife, Helen, are grandparents to four—two boys and two girls.

Thomas Soghomonian '73, of Palmyra, retired on July 1, 2019, from The Hershey Company after 42 years of service.

Robert Hissick '75, of Reading, retired in May 2018. He and his wife, Sue, welcomed their third and fourth grandchildren earlier this year.



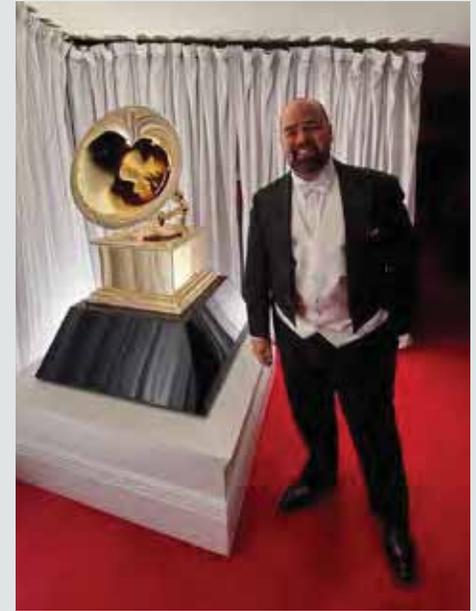
Carl Cox '73, of Knoxville, is past president of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs. He paid tribute to Milton S. Hershey in his portrait placed on the Past Presidents’ wall at the association’s Harrisburg office. In a post to his classmates on Facebook, Carl thanked MHS for saving his life.



The late **Sterling T. Ashby '87** was honored in November 2019 by his college alma mater, Lehigh University, at the 30th anniversary celebration of the Umoja House, of which Sterling and **Donn Worgs '87** were among the founding members. Umoja—the Swahili word for unity—opened its doors in 1989 as the first house on the Lehigh campus for African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American students.

As part of the celebration, the event's organizers unveiled a commissioned painting of Sterling by artist Amelia Galgon, a 2017 Lehigh graduate. They also announced the establishment of the Sterling T. Ashby '92 Endowed Memorial Prize Fund, which will be used to benefit students by covering the housing expenses of its recipients.

Sterling, brother to **Phillipa Ashby '89**, earned a bachelor's degree in industrial and systems engineering from Lehigh in 1992 and a master's degree in science and technology studies from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1996. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from Columbia University School of Law in 1999. He died on Nov. 27, 2017 at the age of 48 after a year-long struggle with brain cancer.



Edwin Vega '98, of Sunnyside, N.Y., won a Grammy Award on Jan. 26 in Los Angeles. He and his colleagues in the Boston Modern Orchestra Project, working with the Boston Children's Chorus, received the Best Opera Recording award for their work on "Picker: Fantastic Mr. Fox."

Timothy Rockey '75, of Mechanicsburg, an accounting assistant at the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, plans to retire in 2021.

Ronald Rutkowski '76, of Kutztown, is deputy controller of Berks County. He recently became a grandpa for the first time when he welcomed his granddaughter into the world.

John Kirk '77, of Hummelstown, retired in 2019 from MHS, where he and his wife were houseparents for seven years. He is now a Realtor® with Brownstone Real Estate in Hershey.

James Gribble '79, of Glenelg, Md., is inspector general of the U.S. Government's Defense Information Systems Agency. This year marks his 38th year of federal government service. He retired from the National Guard in 2008.

1980s

Braden Maines '80, of Lebanon, works in Building Services at MHS. He has been employed at the school for 33 years.

Donald Tillman '80, of New York, N.Y., is the owner of ChikaLicious Dessert Bar. His first location at East 10th Street in New York City opened in 2003 with 20 seats; he more recently expanded into Asia, with locations in Beijing, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul, Tokyo, and Bangkok.

Gilbert Durand '85, of Palmyra, is director of Policy and Legislative Affairs at the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. He and his wife, Andrea, will celebrate 26 years of marriage this year.

Joanne (Troischt) Gagnon '85, of Jupiter, Fla., is field vice president of non-qualified deferred compensation solutions at Pacific Life Insurance Company.

Timothy Quade '86, of Lancaster, is in his third year as owner of Heaven on Earth Lawn Care, LLC. He and his wife, Irene, have been married for six years and purchased their first home in November 2019.

Lu Bennett '87, of Shillington, returned to Pennsylvania in 2017 and is mom to two grown sons. In addition to working as coordinator of 24/7 Roadside Assistance for Penske Truck Leasing, she creates and sells custom art through her Facebook page, "My Inspiration."

Scott Atkins '88, of Folcroft, joined Atlantic Gasket as a machine operator three years ago, after the company he worked at for 26 years closed its doors. He has a son, Mikell Anthony, age 14, and recently purchased a house.

Laura (Hannity) Harris '88, of Fort Collins, Colo., has been happily married for 19 years and homeschools her two teenage sons.

Verdell Robinson '89, of Triangle, Va., is a management and program analyst for U.S. Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, and a Realtor® with Coldwell Banker in Washington, D.C., Virginia, and Maryland. Additionally, she and her husband own TJ's Home Inspection, LLC, licensed to complete home inspections in Virginia and Maryland.

Trymaine Lee '96, of Brooklyn, N.Y., a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, correspondent for MSNBC, and former senior reporter at the Huffington Post, authored an essay for The 1619 Project, an initiative by The New York Times showing how "different aspects of contemporary American life ... have their roots in slavery and its aftermath."

The Aug. 18, 2019 New York Times Magazine inaugurated the project with "original compositions by contemporary black writers." Trymaine's essay, "The Wealth Gap," sets up a historical political timeline demonstrating how "a vast wealth gap, driven by segregation, redlining, evictions and exclusion, separates white and black America."

Trymaine covers the role of race, violence, politics, and law enforcement in America for MSNBC's primetime and weekend programs, primarily with "All In with Chris Hayes."

Milton Hershey School awarded Trymaine with an Alumni Achievement Award for career accomplishment in 2007.



After nearly 18 years on Capitol Hill, **Algene Sajery '95**, of Reisterstown, Md., launched her own foreign policy and national security strategic advisory and public affairs firm, Catalyst Global Strategies in Washington, D.C.

Upon her departure in March 2020, U.S. Senator Ben Cardin, D-Md., paid tribute to Algene “for her incredible service to the State of Maryland, our country, and ... to the international community.” Having served as a senior foreign policy and national security advisor to the Senator since 2012, Cardin noted that Algene helped author several landmark laws to enhance U.S. national security, global

human rights, and economic empowerment in the developing world.

“Algene is one of only a handful of women of color working on foreign policy and national security issues and the first African American woman to serve in a leadership position on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Over the years, she has served as a mentor to women of color at various stages in their careers, offering advice, support, and guidance,” Cardin said. “Algene is a highly effective legislative negotiator, strategist, coalition builder, and a true trailblazer. Her knowledge and expertise are unparalleled, but her passion, creativity, and tenacity truly are what have made her an asset to my team.”

Prior to joining Cardin’s office, Algene served for nearly 10 years in the House of Representatives, where she, among other accomplishments, cofounded the Congressional African Staff Association; was the first African Diasporan appointed to serve as staff director of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights; and at the age of 31, served as one of the youngest female congressional chiefs of staff.

Recently, Algene served as one of just two Congressional staff participants in a roundtable discussion with Sean Cairncross, CEO of the Millennium Challenge Corporation and former senior advisor to President Donald Trump. The U.S. Global Leadership Coalition, which advocates for increased funding to enhance national security and improve humanitarian assistance globally, hosted the event to discuss ways “to leverage the skills ... of [U.S.] development agencies.” Of the experience Algene stated, “I stressed the need to focus on technical assistance and capacity building for small and medium-sized enterprises and women-owned businesses in the developing world.”

Later this year, Algene will participate in Johns Hopkins University’s 2020 National Security Scholars & Practitioners Program in Vermont. The workshop gathers a diverse group of mid-career professionals to explore the character of contemporary war and its future. Upon learning that she’d be attending, Algene said, “I’m incredibly honored [and] look forward to examining big-picture questions on the future of war ... with some of the country’s preeminent national security scholars and thought leaders.”

Algene’s new firm, Catalyst Global Strategies, is working to advance the policy goals of U.S. and international small businesses, humanitarian organizations, and national security think tanks seeking to improve U.S. national security, as well as the livelihoods and rights of impoverished communities in the developing world.

1990s

Bert Gibbons '90, of Townsend, Del., joined the U.S. Department of State in Washington, D.C., in March 2019 as a senior IT technologist.

Brian Skeen '90, of Myersville, Md., is an equipment operator and foreman at Conduit Connections. He reports a successful recovery from triple bypass surgery in Summer 2019 thanks to the help of a number of Milts. He is now helping his wife through some serious health issues and is “hopeful she comes out of it as well as I did.”

Rev. Scott Gray '98, of Boynton, recently accepted a new position as an associate pastor at Lighthouse Assembly of God in New Holland.

2000s

Trachanda Garcia '02, of Downingtown, works in alumni and parent relations at Haverford College.

Brian Washington '03, of Hyattsville, Md., is deputy director of the Capitol Hill Arts Workshop, a nonprofit education center in Washington, D.C., offering art classes, activities, and events. He and his wife celebrated their son’s first birthday

in summer 2019 and three years of marriage in the fall.

Jessica Munoz '04, of Pottstown, is in her sixth year teaching Spanish at Radnor Middle School. She holds a Level II certification to teach Spanish and math.

Jeremiah Ross Hinderliter '07, of Leeper, owns two businesses, one offering landscaping services and the other heavy equipment hauling. He and his spouse will celebrate seven years of marriage this year and purchased their first home in 2018.

2010s

Karlina Regina Ann Jones '13, of Philadelphia, is administrative assistant to the vice president of internet essentials at Comcast. In 2020, she will graduate from Drexel University with a master’s degree in television management, “like Mr. [Ronald] Rickens dreamt I would do,” she said. She also is expecting a baby girl in June.

Jose Luis Padilla '14, of Lancaster, attends online college full time at Full Sail University, studying audio engineering. He expects to complete his bachelor’s degree in 2021. He also works full time as a cast member at Walt Disney World.

Daniel Lindsey '15, of Red Bank, N.J., is a materials engineer at Naval Air Systems Command, part of the U.S. Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division. He is a 2019 graduate of Lehigh University.



William Tish '19 credited his mother with the idea to have a blanket made from t-shirts collected during his years at MHS. “I went to MHS since sixth grade and I got a lot of shirts from events and such,” Will told Thy Traditions Dear. “Even though I grew out of them, I couldn’t seem to let myself get rid of them.” A student at Pennsylvania College of Technology majoring in cyber security and computer tech support, Will said, “MHS gave me hope and opportunity when I had none.”

Hunter Keenan '16, of Reinholds, is finishing his last year at Lehigh University, where he is studying bioengineering and business/entrepreneurship. After graduation, he plans to continue his studies and pursue a master's degree.

Justice Baumgardner '17, of Hummelstown, is serving in the U.S. Air Force, stationed at Minot Air Force Base in North Dakota. She recently became engaged to fellow airman Sean Cloney.

Marriage

Shawnda Louise Kohr '08, of Noordwijk, The Netherlands, and Joel Alva, were married in October 2019. Shawnda is a full-time master's degree student studying international relations at Webster University in Leiden.

Births

Stephanie Culp '08, of Dauphin, and her husband welcomed their third child on May 10, 2019, and will celebrate 12 years of marriage this summer. Stephanie is an independent contractor for Instacart.

Denise Hopkins '08, of Norristown, and her husband welcomed a second daughter, Amelia Rose, on Dec. 17, 2018. Big sister Bella Claire is now three years old.

Emerald Elizabeth Conter '09, of Austin, Tex., recently welcomed a daughter. She works as a risk and fraud analyst for BCForward, a global IT consulting and staffing firm.

Chelsea Bolden '14, of Hummelstown, welcomed a daughter, Briella Marie, on Sept. 28, 2018.

Deaths

John F. Beard '37, of Waynesboro, July 24, 2019

William "Pop" Price '42, of Hershey, March 15, 2020

William Pugh '43, Sept. 29, 2019

Elwood E. Scheib '46, of Stillwater, Feb. 10, 2020

John Andrew Sheaffer '46, of Shippensburg, Nov. 18, 2019

Richard Stahl '46, of Myerstown, March 25, 2020

Leslie "Les" W. Boyce '49, of Scottsdale, Ariz., July 30, 2019

Robert Allen Buck '49, of Hershey, Aug. 23, 2019

Sterling E. Hetrick '50, of Cornwall, Oct. 16, 2019



Clair "Biff" Adam '54, of Auburn, Calif., died March 7, 2020. He was the drummer for country star Merle Haggard's Strangers for 40 years. In 2008, Milton Hershey School awarded Biff the Purnell Payne Lifetime Achievement Award, named for longtime MHS music teacher W. Purnell Payne, who co-wrote the MHS alma mater and whose name was, and for many still is, synonymous with music at MHS. A Rolling Stone article published on March 9 paid tribute to Biff and his contributions to the world of country music.

Edward Young '50, of Landisville, Dec. 24, 2019

Carl Shubert '51, of Denixon, Tex., Aug. 3, 2018

Anthony Clapps, Jr. '52, of Exeter, Dec. 17, 2018

Fredrick Coleman '52, of Willow Grove

Donald C.B. Smith '52, of Martinsburg, W.V., Feb. 23, 2019

Michael Yenshaw '53, of Conover, N.C., Aug. 13, 2019

Daniel F. Benevento '54, of Deptford, N.J., Oct. 4, 2017

William Craig '54, of Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 13, 2019

Joseph L. Engel '55, of Claremont, N.H., March 5, 2020

William Marriott '55, of New Hartford, N.Y., Nov. 7, 2019

James R. Via '56, of Pequea, Aug. 6, 2019

Donald Kile '57, of Greensboro, N.C., Sept. 18, 2019

George T. Morgan '57, of Lancaster, March 5, 2020

Vernon Ramberger '57, of West Grove, Nov. 7, 2019

James A. Weaver '57, of Northampton, June 8, 2018

Anthony Campise '58, of Ellicott City, Md., Feb. 6, 2020

Richard E. Eyler '58, of Springfield, Ohio, July 8, 2019

Hillery "Len" Bell '59, of Hawley, March 6, 2020

Robert Steffen '59, of Steelton, July 27, 2019

Dale E. Clever '60, of Waynesboro, Dec. 25, 2019

William Higginson '60, of Lebanon, March 2, 2020

Ronald Menser '60, of Palmyra, March 22, 2020

Philip H. Monaghan '67, of Hockessin, Del., Jan. 21, 2020

Ricky A. Ulrich '69, of Reading, May 15, 2016

James J. Slabonik, Jr. '72, of Mertztown, Feb. 24, 2020

Robert M. Sutton '72, of Washington, N.J., Nov. 25, 2019

Charlie Carbaugh '73, of Hagerstown, Md., January 18, 2020

Allen Cyle '74, of Garnet Valley, March 13, 2020

Gary Williams '79, of Philadelphia, Oct. 16, 2019

Rosaleen "Rose" Ellen Snyder '85, of Chippewa, Nov. 2, 2019

Correction

Harry W. Eberly '53, of Mount Joy, died July 21, 2019. The Fall 2019 issue of *Traditions Dear* incorrectly listed Harry M. Eberly from the MHS Class of 1947 as deceased.

Staff & Retiree Deaths

Cleata Akins died Dec. 29, 2019. She was a houseparent from 1962 to 1986.

Erwin Chandler, MHS chapel organist, died Jan. 2, 2020. He was part of the MHS family for 29 years.



Helen (Hull) Delbridge died on March 12, 2020. She was a dedicated employee of MHS for 40 years, serving with late husband Richard as a houseparent for more than two decades, as well as a home coordinator after his death.

Delores Gaiser died Dec. 16, 2019. She was a houseparent from 1966 to 1990.

Marguerite Hunchberger died Dec. 11, 2019. She was a secretary in Communications full time from 1974 to 1988, and part time from 1989 to 2009.

Winford Smith died Feb. 1, 2020. He was a houseparent from 2004 to 2012.

Lewis Webster died Jan. 15, 2020. He began employment with MHS on Aug. 24, 1977, and was senior Director of Student Character and Leadership when he retired on Jan. 1, 2014. He was inducted as an Honorary Member of the MHS Alumni Association in 2015.



Alumni Calendar



August '20

17 Opening of School Assembly

September '20

5 Homestead Chapter Breakfast,
Dearden House; open to the public

18-20 Homecoming 2020

18 Spartan Hall of Fame Induction

19 MHS Alumni Association Annual
Business Meeting

19 Homecoming and Cocoa Bean Football
Game

19 90th Annual Homecoming Banquet

20 Graveside Memorial Service

20 MHSAA Memorial Grove Service

20 Alumni Brunch

October '20

1 Nomination deadline for the 2021
Alumni Achievement and Alumnus of
the Year Awards

3 Homestead Chapter Breakfast,
Dearden House; open to the public

16-17 Girls Grace Program; for details about
volunteering to assist with the program,
visit mhsalum.org

November '20

7 Homestead Chapter Breakfast,
Dearden House; open to the public

8-13 Founders Week

15 MHS Alumni Association
Reorganizational Meeting

December '20

2 Elementary Division Christmas Party
with Alumni

5 Homestead Chapter Breakfast,
Dearden House; open to the public

31 Deadline for the 2021 Spartan Hall of
Fame Nominations; mhsalum.org

March '21

26-28 Alumni Fellowship Weekend

26 Alumni-Senior Fellowship Dinner

26 Career Exploration Expo

September '21

24-26 Homecoming

All dates are tentative. Please refer to mhsalum.org and Spartan Minute for updates.