



Where young women prepare to make a difference in the world.

Mercy Notes

Mercy High School San Francisco Parent Newsletter
December 2007

Happy Holidays!

Volunteers of the Month



Tammy Zeng is October/November's Volunteer of the Month for her work with St. Anthony's Dining Room



Katie Edwards is December's Volunteer of the Month for her work with the Doelger Senior Center in Daly City.

Green Team News

Mercy was a presence at the September 15 California Coastal Clean-Up, an annual event organized by the Coastal Commission. This event involves thousands of people across the State at dozens of sites including hundreds of teens and families on and around San Francisco's Ocean Beach. As we were working hard picking up trash and protecting native plants at the restored sand dune at the corner of Fulton St. and the Great Highway, we ran into a group of dedicated Golden Gate National Recreation Area (GGNRA) employees volunteering along with the rest of us. Stooping over picking up cigarette butts was none other than Mr. Brian O'Neill, the Superintendent of the GGNRA, and a leader in much of the important environmental work in the Bay Area. After working alongside us, he graciously allowed us to take this photo: Seniors Nicole McDonald (far right) and Kaitlin Banahan (just to the right of Mr. O'Neill), freshmen Ann Marie Do (center), Alyssa Malunao and Vicki Wong next to her dad James Wong who pitched in with us all morning. Freshman Ann Marie, Alyssa and Vicki are already stalwart members of this year's Green Team and show promise of leadership in years to come.



Mercy's Women in Medicine Students participate in St. Mary's disaster drill.

Women in Medicine

The 10th grade Women in Medicine Program is off to a good start. The WIM guest speakers have included, an Internist, Licensed Social Worker, and a Clinical Laboratory Scientist. Students have examined ears, eyes, listened to heartbeats, as well as test for blood types and diabetes. The 9th grade Women in Medicine students have visited St. Mary's Hospital three times, touring various departments and taking part in an emergency disaster drill. Students also toured St. Mary's vascular lab.



Members of Mercy's Green Team cleaning our coast with Brian O'Neill, Superintendent of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area.

Inside this issue

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Business Office | Green Team News |
| Financial Aid Information | Athletic Honors |
| Calendar of Events | Volunteer of the Month |

Campus News

“Hair for Care” continued

Natalie Wolfrom and Nicole Tavarosky continued their senior culminating project with the “Hair for Care” styling party on November 15, 2007. Guest stylists Ms. Cecilia Cortez, Ms. Ilona Roytaman, Ms. Stacy Motoviloff and Ms. Zizi Kerelian donated their time and expertise, cutting 22 heads of hair. At the conclusion of the event, over \$1100 was raised for the Koret Family House, a place where families whose children are being treated for cancer and other serious illnesses can stay. In a surprise act of generosity, 13 donations of 10 inches of hair were collected for “Locks of Love” to make wigs for cancer patients. Mercy students continue to make a difference in the world!



Students support Koret House with haircuts and donations to Locks for Love

TALKING HEADS SPEECH TEAM FALL NEWS

Our fall is off to a good start! Team member **Marielle Bautista** ('08) has won the San Francisco District Level of the Veterans of Foreign Wars “Voice of Democracy” competition. Marielle becomes the **15th Mercy speaker in a row to win this award**, and will travel to Sacramento on January 17-18 to participate in the state level competition. Her speech concerns the topic of “**Celebrating Our Veterans’ Service**,” which Marielle did indeed do this past summer when she volunteered for two months up at the Veterans Home in San Francisco. For her District Award, she will win over \$500, and if she places in the top five at the state level, she could win up to \$2000. We are very proud of her, and wish her well at state competition.

On Saturday, December 8, the team participated in the Pinole Valley High School Speech Tournament. Freshman **Tara Gamboa** ('11) won 5th place in Novice Oratory and the team of junior **Fatima Avellan** ('09) and **Marielle Bautista** ('08) took 3rd place in Duo Interpretation with their interpretation of “Cindy Ella’s Goin’ to the Ball, Baby!” by Billy St. John.

Many other speakers are in the process of preparing speeches for spring competition. Coaches **Gail Chastain** and **Sandra Palmero** welcome students of any level and experience to the team. The important skills of organization, presentation and critical thinking are part of the speech experience, and all are invited to join. The team’s motto, “Life’s A Speech,” follows them wherever they go. Stay tuned for our future successes!

Fall Athletic Congratulations WBAL All- League Selections

The following students were awarded as All-League selections by the coaches of the West Area Bay Athletic League

Cross Country

First Team - Caitlin Nordberg, Soph
Second Team - Danielle Juarez - Sr
Honorable Mention - Gina Mazzetti, Soph

Tennis

First Team - Pauline Moyes - Sr
Second Team - Natalie Aquino, Sr, Vicky Pramana, Sr
Honorable Mention - Sheri Loo, Sr, Gabby Talao, Sr
Chloe Tinio, Jr

Volleyball

Second Team - Breanna McNeil, Jr
Honorable Mention - Cristina Araujo, Sr,
Rosetta Dowling, JR, Lauren Lagomarsino, Sr,
Michelle Lee, Jr

Calendar of Events

Dec. 17-19	Final Exams
Dec. 24- Jan. 4	Christmas Holidays
January 7	Classes Resume
January 16	Parent Guild/Booster Club/ PAPA Meeting -- 6:30pm
January 21	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
January 25	Tour Tour Winter Dance Concert Opening Night - 7:30pm
January 26	Tour Tour Winter Dance Concert - 7:30pm
February 1	Tour Tour Winter Dance Concert - 7:30pm
February 2	Crab Cioppino Dinner - 5:30pm
February 3	Tour Tour Winter Dance Concert - 2:00pm
February 12	Mandatory Parent Meeting for Overnight Intersession Trips - 7:00pm
February 13	Parent Guild/Booster Club/ PAPA Meeting -- 6:30pm
Feb.25-29	Intersession Week
March 12	Parent Guild/Booster Club/ PAPA Meeting -- 6:30pm
March 15	Eggstravaganza - 11:00am
March 21-28	Easter Holidays
March 31	Classes Resume

Announcements



Support Mercy High School painlessly!

Register your grocery club cards and credit cards, designating Mercy as your eScrip beneficiary, automatically supporting Mercy High School with each purchase at participating stores. These organizations donate a percentage of your purchases directly to Mercy High School.

To register: Log on to escrip.com and sign up to support Mercy High School, San Francisco with the easy six step process. Mercy's ID # is 6536468. For more information please contact Teresa Lucchese at 415-334-0525 x242 or tlucchese@mercyhs.org.



Thanks to our Open House Parent Volunteers

Is your daughter struggling with homework?

Does she need help with her time management and organizational skills? Does your daughter need to improve her academic confidence? Are you considering getting her a tutor?

MERCY'S ONLINE TUTORING PROGRAM IS THE ANSWER

Courses offered by Mercy:

- Algebra
- English
- Integrated Physical Science
- Spanish I

Each course is \$350 per semester or \$40 per week (with a minimum four week commitment). Please visit www.mercyhs.org and click on "Academic Resources" for more information.

FIRST SEMESTER FINAL EXAMS:

December 17, 18, 19, 2007

NO student will be excused from these exam dates. Do NOT schedule holiday plans before Thursday, December 20, 2007. Thank you.



Thank you to the parents who volunteered for the Sophomore Service Retreat at St. Anthony Foundation. Thank you: Martha Gomez, Maria Bran, Beatrice Walker and Maria Manzano!

From the Business Office:

A reminder that exam week is December 17th. In accordance with our financial policy, **if tuition accounts are more than 30 days late, your daughter will not be permitted to attend classes, take exams or receive report cards until:**

- a. the account is brought current, or
- b. an arrangement has been approved by the Business Manager.

Please contact Mrs. Zermani at lzermani@mercyhs.org or 415-337-7141 if you have any questions or concerns regarding this policy.

It is **time to file for financial aid for the upcoming 2008-2009 school term.** You can obtain financial aid forms two ways:

At Mercy's website: www.mercyhs.org under "Tuition Information" scroll down to the financial aid section and print the "pdf" forms.

OR

Ask your daughter to come to the Business Office and ask for the financial aid forms. You must complete and mail the PSAS form, all required documentation and a check for \$20.00 directly to PSAS no later than January 14, 2008. If you require further information contact the Business Office at: 415-337-7141 or lzermani@mercyhs.org.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE

Save the Dates



Crab Cioppino Dinner

February 2, 2008

5:30pm

Barrett Hall

RSVP DEADLINE: Friday January 25, 2008

Questions? Raffle Donations?

Contact Cynthia Koral, cynthiakoral@aol.com



Mercy High School
3250 Nineteenth Ave.
San Francisco, CA

*"Where young women prepare to
make a difference in the world."*