Graduate Alex Jeznach is congratulated by his teacher, René Berkhammer.

Graduate Brandon DeLaughter, with Principal Mary Adams, his father and grandmother, and his teacher, Mary Maher, was presented with a beautiful quilt designed by his classmates especially for him.

On May 1st, students at John Paul II Center performed in the always memorable Spring Program. Each attendee of the program was given a slip of paper thanking them for coming and asking them to "Pay It Forward" by doing a good deed for someone else.
Dear Friends,

The end of another successful school year! It seems like we just got started. We pack so much into a school year that time just flies by. Our newsletters are a testament to all the activities that take place here.

As I reflect on the past school year I can’t help but think of all the people we encounter who assisted us in providing an exceptional program for the most deserving children. We couldn’t possibly list every single person that touched our lives. Even the smallest act of giving makes an impact. The impact comes in many forms such as volunteering in the classroom, in-kind donations, assisting with fundraisers, monetary donations and prayers. Every year our list of friends grows more and more. Please know that we are grateful for your support and dedication to our program.

As we plan for next year we look forward to celebrating our 30th Anniversary! The school has been through many changes over the years, changes that continue to improve our program. One of the biggest improvements of course has been our new facility, a blessing for which we are forever grateful. Technology has also impacted us greatly. It has given our students the ability to communicate better, participate in more activities with their peers and provide another means of instruction for the teachers. Communication among families and friends has been simplified, been more cost efficient and timely. It’s always exciting to see the plan God has for us, how it unfolds and how we embrace the changes and challenges that lie ahead. Please join us in celebrating the past 30 years of success and in planning for 30 more.

Yours in Christ,
Mary Adams

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Students prepare Mary’s Garden for the Pennsylvania Herbal Society’s garden tour.

Mike and Peter Boylan presented John Paul II Center with a beautiful crucifix donated by the Boylan family in memory of their beloved Aunt Josephine Chelius.

A volunteer recognition luncheon was hosted by our students honoring all of our volunteers. Students in the Secondary Class prepared all of the wonderful food.

Thank you to the Knights of Columbus Fr. Bally Council for their $500 gift to JPII.

Jamal Rios and Jameson Parisi with Advisory Board member, Melissa Jablonski.

In loving memory

From our principal . . .
Special Olympics!

All of the students at JPII participated in the Berks County Special Olympics Track & Field Day on April 25th at Kutztown University.

Field & Fun Day!

Students at JPII joined students from Berks Catholic High School on May 22nd for Field & Fun Day.
This year’s Legacy Gala, held on March 31st at Stokesay Castle, raised $80,000—a record for John Paul II Center! We are very grateful to all of our supporters!

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Parent Ginny Close speaks about what John Paul II Center has done for her son, Patrick.

Halo Award recipient Msgr. James A. Treston is congratulated by Mary Adams, principal, and Jack Horrigan, last year’s Halo Award recipient.
Thank You to Neil Oswalt, member of Boy Scout Troop #163, for installing a basketball backboard at JPII for his Eagle Scout project.

Generous Donations

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SAVE THE DATE

3RD ANNUAL
THE LEGACY GALA
APRIL 6, 2013
STOKESAY CASTLE

We are grateful to the St. Vincent DePaul Society from Sacred Heart for purchasing a Wii system for our students to use as part of the Occupational Therapy program.
Recipients of the Pennsylvania Good Citizenship Awards this year were (from left) Brandon DeLaughter, Michael Laser, Katie Wickel and Jereck Oliver.

Grant Grauf receives his first communion at St. Margaret’s Roman Catholic Church.

The students in our Secondary Class were hard at work making hoagies for the Spring Hoagie Sale.

Students in the Secondary Class participated in the Job Skills Olympics hosted by the BCIU.

Students from LaSalle Academy as well as Jackie Hoffman from Y102 joined students at JPII to make Pysanky eggs.

The students celebrated John Paul II Day with a special performance by the Donut Man shown here with Sue Kaczmarek, liturgical music coordinator.
Spring happenings

Visiting with LaSalle

JPII students went to see the students at LaSalle Academy’s performance of Cinderella and meet the stars afterwards!

Spring Dance

JPII students and alumni dance the night away at the Spring Dance, put on by the Council for Exceptional Children Association of Alvernia University. Pictured is Liz Miley.

Scholarship Award

Jameson Parisi is the proud recipient of this year’s Bishop’s Scholarship Award.

Pinewood Derby

Members of Boy Scout troop # 222 at the Pinewood Derby

May Crowning

All of the students honored the blessed mother by crowning her with flowers in Mary’s Garden.

Mass at St. Ignatius

On May 2nd, students participated in Mass at St. Ignatius.
Spring happenings

**Primary Class Trips**

The Primary Class visited the Lehigh Valley Zoo, the Hands on House, and the Easter Bunny as well as area playgrounds.

**Intermediate Class Trips**

The Intermediate Class took trips to the Mohnton and Shil- lington playgrounds as well as the Lehigh Valley Zoo.

**Secondary Class Trip**

With the money they raised in both hoagie sales, the Secondary Class was able to fund their trip to the Baltimore Aquarium.
Spring happenings

Multi-Disabilities Class Trips

Students in the Multi-Disabilities Class visited the Easter Bunny.

The Secondary and Multi-Disabilities Classes enjoyed a day at the park together.

New Horizons Outings

Consumers in the New Horizons program spent lots of time outside in the garden and playground enjoying the fresh Spring air.
In this issue . . .
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Spring Happenings, pages 6–9

RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

Our Mission
To provide a quality individualized academic, social and religious program for children and young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities or related special education needs in a safe, nurturing, Christian environment that acknowledges the dignity of all learners while challenging them on a daily basis to develop their talents and reach their God-given potential.