



SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE

CONNECTICUT

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3 Alumnae Win Saint Joseph College Award

WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – Three alumnae who have worked to improve their community and Saint Joseph College have won the Distinguished Alumna Award. They are Margaret Steeves-Laffin of West Hartford, vice president for marketing at Masonicare in Wallingford; Molly Rees Gavin of Farmington, president of Connecticut Community Care Inc. in Bristol; and Roselee Barbagallo Fanelli of Norfolk, agency services manager at Raynard & Peirce Insurance and Real Estate.

They will be honored at an awards ceremony Saturday, September 17, as part of Reunion 2011.

Margaret Steeves-Laffin

Margaret Steeves-Laffin, Class of '76, is responsible for marketing, public relations and communications at Masonicare. It is Connecticut's largest non-profit provider of senior healthcare services and retirement communities. She has held increasingly responsible positions in the College's Alumnae/i Association and has been an unofficial advisor for several recent presidents. Most recently she helped the College define a new marketing image for its admissions materials.

A West Hartford resident, Margaret has been senior vice president of Marketing Services at Webster Bank, marketing director at InfiNet Payment Services and senior account executive at Mintz & Hoke Advertising. A fixture at College events, Margaret made sure her mother, Bea Cashin Steeves, Class of '40, was able to attend her last Reunion. She escorted her mother the entire day.

Molly Rees Gavin

Molly Rees Gavin, Class of '71, has three decades of experience leading Connecticut Community Care of Bristol, the largest non-profit provider of care management in Connecticut. Molly became CCCI's president in 1995, but joined the organization in 1976 when it was a national demonstration project designed to keep people at home rather than in nursing facilities. She has been called one of the key influences in shaping Connecticut's long-term care programs.

Molly was drawn to social work because both her parents were social workers during the Depression. She was named Social Worker of the Year by the National Association of Social Workers, Connecticut Chapter. In May, Hartford Business Journal named her one of the Remarkable Women in Business. She helped found and is president of the National Academy of Certified Care Managers, is on the executive committee of the Connecticut Elder Action Network, and a member of state's Long Term Care Advisory Committee and the state Commission on Aging. She has a master's degree from Rutgers University. She has been co-chair of the College's Social Work Advisory Committee, and actively involved in Reunion and the Annual Fund Phonathon.

Roselee Barbagallo Fanelli

Roselee Barbagallo Fanelli, Class of '61, has been agency services manager of Raynard & Peirce Insurance and Real Estate for than 20 years. She joined the Northwest Connecticut agency 35 ago. She has been named Realtor of the Year by the Litchfield County Board of Realtors and was awarded the Saint Joseph Medal of Appreciation by Archbishop Daniel Cronin.

She received a master's degree from the College in 1966 and has been actively involved in its affairs. She was the first chairwoman of the College's Prime Time and Graduate Committee, a member of the Alumnae/i Council from 2003-2010, a College trustee from 2008-2010 and a member of the Presidential Search Committee in 2007. A Norfolk resident, she has also been active in the Norfolk Business & Merchants Association, and Child & Family Services. She has been very involved in lobbying state and national officials on behalf of businesses.

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Saint Joseph College, founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy to provide higher education opportunities for women, is a comprehensive institution serving women from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. More than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs are available plus accelerated bachelor's to master's degrees. Responsive to the evolving educational needs of the community, the School of Graduate and Professional Studies offers both women and men graduate degree programs including: management, counseling, education, and nursing along with online programs in biology, biochemistry and nutrition. In addition, the undergraduate Weekend Program for Adult Learners, professional certificate programs relevant to today's workforce and other continuing co-educational learning opportunities are available. In the fall of 2011, the Saint Joseph College School of Pharmacy, the first doctoral program in the College's 79-year history, welcomes its first class to Hartford 21 on Trumbull Street in downtown Hartford. View our Web site at www.sjc.edu.

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