

Save the Date –Open House to Kick Off Patio Pops



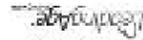
Don't miss an evening of hors d'oeuvres, apartment tours and a performance by Paul Cebar Tomorrow Sound

We will be hosting an Open House on Wednesday, May 30th to kick off our 11th annual Patio Pops concert series. Join us in The Residence starting at 5:30 pm to enjoy hors d'oeuvres and tour apartments and community areas such as St. Anne's Chapel, the Astor Room, dining room, solarium, exercise room, craft room, and more. Visit with residents who have made Milwaukee Catholic Home their home. A performance by "Paul Cebar Tomorrow Sound" will follow at 7:30 p.m. The band is a fan favorite at church festivals, weddings, and community events. Please RSVP by May 28th for the Open House to Linda at (414) 220-3216.

2012 PATIO POPS

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| May 30: Paul Cebar Tomorrow Sound | August 8: Milwaukee Mandolin Orchestra |
| June 13: Milwaukee Metropolitan Voices | August 15: The Shinigans |
| June 27: Doo-Wop Daddies | August 22: Kurt Ollman and Jack Forbes Wilson with Bryan Elsesser |
| July 11: Adekola Adedapo and Friends | |
| July 25: Jim Liban Quartet with Steve Cohen | |

All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. on The Residence outdoor patio, weather permitting, and are free and open to the public.



www.milwaukeehome.org

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A continuing care retirement community
2462 N. Prospect Avenue
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FOCUS

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Volunteer of the Year: Sue Erdmann

When Sue Erdmann retired in 2007, she had no intention of sitting around. With extra free time and her three sons starting families of their own, Sue found herself looking for a new opportunity to put her talents at the service of others.

Sue found that opportunity at Milwaukee Catholic Home. For five years, Sue has been a weekly presence at MCH, serving in all areas of the Milwaukee Catholic Home continuum.

In The Residence, Sue helps with Book Buddies, a program giving children from the local elementary school the opportunity to get some extra reading help and develop friendships with MCH seniors. She also leads a weekly crafting class, guiding residents in jewelry-making, crocheting, and quilting. In the Health and Rehab Center, Sue calls a weekly game of bingo. She has also helped at Generations Adult Day Center with activities and serving meals.

When asked why Sue was selected for the 2012 Volunteer of the Year award at Milwaukee Catholic Home, Director of Volunteer Services Mary Cherniak talked about Sue's reliability, creativity and enthusiasm to help out wherever she is needed. "She's willing to do anything," Mary said. "We're blessed to have her."



Sue and resident Mary Byrne at Sue's weekly crafts class at The Residence.

In addition to her involvement at Milwaukee Catholic Home, Sue spends plenty of time with her four grandkids. She is a member of St. Martin of Tours Parish in Franklin and sings with the Hales Corners Community Chorus, which performed at MCH in April. She also loves golfing and biking, and belongs to a bowling team.

Sue says the most meaningful part of volunteering at MCH is the relationships she is able to form with residents. "They're just fun to be around," Sue said, and added with a laugh, "I think they enjoy me, too."

Sue was awarded the 2012 MCH Volunteer of the Year Award at the Volunteer Luncheon held in April.





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or call 414-224-9700.

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Letter from the CEO – Telling the Story of Compassion



CEO David Fulcher

This year in Focus, we are telling our story by highlighting each of the five values that shape our mission here at Milwaukee Catholic Home. Last issue, we focused on the value of excellence, and shared some of the ways we are living this value through clinical innovation, enhanced service offerings, and unique and enriching programming.

In this issue, we are focusing on the value of compassion. As a Catholic organization, we take seriously our commitment to Christ's gospel message of service and respect for the dignity of each person.

In keeping with this commitment, we have recently decided to enhance our supportive services department. The result of this decision has been



the creation of a new service division, Generations Home Health. This division will provide in-home services to our current residents, allowing them to age in community with safety, dignity and independence. It will also allow MCH to provide services in the broader community, expanding our mission to Milwaukee seniors beyond our four walls.

Compassion means serving the whole person: body, mind, and spirit. In this issue, you will read about art therapy programming through the Alzheimer's Association, which enables residents with memory loss to find healing through creative expression, and other ways that our residents find enrichment through fine arts programming.

You'll also get another sneak peak at our "100 Years, 100 Lives" centennial project through the life of an early MCH chaplain, and learn about our volunteer of the year. Both of these individuals, though separated by almost a century, provide us with examples of compassion and commitment. The inspiration of role models like these, both past and present, continues to carry us forward into our next 100 years of service.

Gifts from the Heart continued

Milwaukee Catholic Home gratefully acknowledges our generous benefactors. Gifts of cash, property, securities, bequests and other gifts assist us in providing outstanding retirement and health care services for our residents. We encourage gifts in memory or honor of a loved one. We will be happy to notify the individual or family member of your generosity.

In Memory of Ms. Mayme L. Barrow
Mr. John H. Schroeder

In Memory of Mrs. Phyllis Wudi
Ms. Regina Cinesi

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Gifts from the Heart

The following gifts were received between January 1, 2012 and March 31, 2012.

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100 Years, 100 Lives: Fr. Bill O'Connor

In our 100 year look-back at MCH history, we have come across many individuals who exemplify the values that still guide us today. One of these role models is Fr. Bill O'Connor, one of the first chaplains of Milwaukee Catholic Home, who spent his life in compassionate service to MCH and the Milwaukee community.

Fr. Bill was born in Milwaukee's now-historic Third Ward in 1887, which at the time was primarily a community of recent Irish immigrants. He was educated at St. John's Cathedral parochial school and entered St. Francis Seminary, where he was ordained to the priesthood in 1912.

Fr. Bill's first assignment was at St. Rose's on Michigan Street. During his time as assistant pastor there, Fr. Bill organized an amateur athletic program for young men, providing Milwaukee's youth with an opportunity to develop both physically and socially in an environment of faith and camaraderie.

In 1917, at the height of World War I, Fr. O'Connor enlisted in the military, and in 1918 was made senior chaplain of the Thirty-Second Division. He was present at several major offensives in both France and Germany.

His most notable action during the war was the rescue of a captain of the Foreign Legion, who had been wounded by machine gun fire at Juvigny.

Fr. O'Connor was decorated with the Croix De Guerre by the general of the French army for his heroism. He was also deeply devoted to the spiritual care of those under his command, administering the Sacraments and providing spiritual guidance and encouragement.

Returning home, Fr. Bill completed his doctorate in philosophy at Catholic University in Washington, D.C., and then returned to Milwaukee to take a



Picture from a 1930s newspaper article on Fr. Bill's life and work.

teaching position at St. Francis Seminary. He became the chaplain at Milwaukee Catholic Home in 1923, and served in this position for many years in addition to his work at the seminary. In the midst of this busy schedule, he still found time to play the occasional round of golf at Ozaukee Country Club, serve as chaplain of Milwaukee Post No. 1 of the American Legion, and continue his studies of philosophy and theology.

MCH to Celebrate Veterans at Field of Honor Event

On Saturday, August 11, a group from MCH will be participating in the Field of Honor Day at Miller Park. This once-in-a-lifetime event in honor of veterans, organized by the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight, will include a model of the National WWII Memorial in Washington D.C., an Air Force flyover, and the world premiere of a new documentary on the experiences of Milwaukee veterans with the Honor Flight program. Friends of MCH are invited to join residents and staff at this celebration. Contact Resident Life Director Amy O'Connor at (414) 220-3214 for more information.



Fine Arts at MCH

Fine Arts programming at Milwaukee Catholic Home helps residents remember, learn, create and grow

When it comes to new programs and opportunities that will enrich the lives of residents, MCH staff are on the front lines.

In 2010, MCH art therapist Becky Prusko was in the first group of professionals trained to participate in Memories in the Making, a new art therapy initiative sponsored by the Alzheimer's Association. The goal of the initiative is to partner with care communities to give older adults with memory loss the opportunity to express themselves creatively and tell their stories through art.



Resident Frances Hutchinson shares the childhood memories that inspired her painting with art therapist Becky Prusko.

Memories in the Making provides archival quality art materials and trains a facilitator at each participating community. Then facilitators, like Becky, lead groups of residents in creating visual art in a variety of mediums, and encourage residents to talk about the memories and experiences which inspire their art.

On a recent afternoon in the Garden Room at MCH's Memory Care apartments, residents enjoyed the early spring sunshine and painted with water colors. As they painted, Becky chatted with them about their work. One resident shared stories of boating with her father on Lake Michigan; another talked about her childhood in rural Mississippi, working in apple and peach orchards.

Nancy Armitage of the Alzheimer's Association says the stories residents share are what makes the initiative so unique. "The stories are really what makes this such an incredible project," she said. "There is no one who looks at the paintings and hears the stories who isn't moved."

The next stage is to share the artwork created through these programs with the broader community. Sixteen local artists have partnered with Memories in the Making. Each will select a piece created by a program participant and create a work of art to pair with it. The participant artwork and the paired pieces will then be exhibited together at several events, culminating in a fundraiser at Cuvée Champagne Bar on June 5th.

MCH will be hosting a special tea and art show to honor the program participants, held on May 23rd at 2:00 pm in the Astor Room. Please contact the Marketing Department at (414) 220-3217 for more information about this special event.

For more information on Memories in the Making, visit the Alzheimer's Association of Southeastern Wisconsin: www.alz.org/sewi.

MCH residents have many other opportunities to learn and grow through the Fine Arts:

Health and Rehab Center

Local artists come in regularly to make presentations on their work, and also share some of their art through temporary exhibitions. The next featured artist will be Jay Batista, an artist from Grafton, WI who works primarily in acrylic, watercolor & collage. Friends and family members are welcome to attend his presentation on Monday, June 18th, from 1:30-2:30 pm. Please contact Becky Prusko at (414) 220-3321 for more information.



Resident Helen Burkard displays the result of her afternoon at Community Art, the weekly art class in The Residence.

The Residence

- Residents enjoy Community Art, a weekly art class led by Dorothy Bisek. Dorothy, a member of the Donna Lexa Community Art Center, has been teaching at MCH for over 15 years.
- Author Nick Weber offers a weekly class on Shakespeare. Residents read and discuss Shakespeare's plays, and go on a yearly outing to a Shakespeare production at a regional theatre company such as Chicago Shakespeare or the American Players Theatre. A special book-signing for Nick's new memoir, *The Circus that Ran Away with a Jesuit Priest* was held in May. Nick's book was well received by all.

Residents gather to paint and share their stories through the Memories in the Making art therapy initiative.

