July-August 2019

A Newsletter for residents, families, staff, and friends of the Mary Culver Home

## MARTY'S MEMO

ur Home is excited welcome three lovely ladies since our last newsletter. Say hello to Rose Wahlig, Virginia Callas and Virginia Frederick!



Born in Jefferson City, Rose lived most of her life in Sunset Hills. She

met the man of her dreams in high school and married him a few years later. When Rose was younger she was a woodworker and gardener and now enjoys

sewing, reading and is a big Cardinals fan.

Virginia Callas also grew up in St. Louis, near the airport. She has some

sweet childhood memories, especially bringing her little dog Skipper home in a box from Indiana on a train. Virginia used to collect all kinds of things, but her favorite was rocks.



Virginia Frederick grew up in Los Angeles in a military family. She married



an Air Force B-17 pilot and lived in several places around the world, including Tokyo and Germany. After retiring, she continued

to travel, including trips to China, Africa, Europe and Central America. She used to be an avid Duplicate Bridge player. Welcome ladies!

Marty Schenk
Executive Director

# SPECIAL EDITION "WISHES GRANTED"

May and June brought great generosity to the Home, all from you. So many wishes granted—gifts to thank our hard-working staff during National Nursing Home Week—treasures for the Strawberry Festival Boutique, and volunteers for everything we needed! Thank you all! Enjoy these photos (also on page 3) showing the special times these last few months at MCH!



Resident Ambassadors, Connie and Marion deliver Gloria's home-made potato chips to the Lighthouse for the Blind.



Silliness at the photo booth.



Joleen's new friend at the petting zoo.



Staff member Daralyn is excited to be a big prize winner.



Katherine enjoys a facial massage from Community Relations Director, Gina.









Happy May and June birthdays to (L-R) Jane, Joan, Vivian and Alberta.

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

July

17, Rachel Rossi

#### August

18, Carolyn Joseph 20, Ruth Hauck 29, Connie Washington 30, Geneva Barber





Wishes granted! Thank you to Mike Evans of Evans Facility Consultants for donating a new conference table and bookcase to the Home!

# Passings

Our heartfelt condolences to the family of Joyce Bowman who passed away on *June 24.* 



# Fond Memories

Bet you don't know any 107-year-old folks, especially any with the spunk and adventurous spirit of Oceola Thurman. "OC", as she is known, is an amazement to everyone who hears her story.



Her BFF, Mike Kearney, ioined us for the interview and shared many a tale about OC. At

the age of 95, she rode on the back of a motorcycle from St. Louis to Memphis—and back. When she turned 97, a hot-air balloon ride was the only way to celebrate.

Mike is known to also whisk OC away to lively hot spots, so she spent Cape Girardeau. There, her father her 102nd birthday at Fast Eddies Bon Aire in Alton and her 107th St. Patrick's Day at the Good Tymes Inn in Dupo.

OC grew up fast. Her mother died of the Spanish Flu in 1918, leaving her to raise two younger brothers while her father and two older brothers tended to their 40-acre farm, outside of Ackerman, Mississippi. She recalls standing at her dying mother's bedside, asking how to make the cornbread for that night's meal.

At only 15, her father sold their farm and put them all on a train, ending up in Illinois. From there the whole family boarded a skiff boat (a small flat-bottomed open boat with a pointed bow and a flat stern) and floated across the Mississippi to

Commerce, Missouri, southeast of purchased another 40-acre farm for their family. (A few years ago, Mike took OC back to Commerce to see her old home.)

Not long after, she moved by herself to St. Louis, first working as an elevator operator, then a factory worker for only a few year. She then found her true calling as a child caretaker, working for one family for 30 years.

Married twice, outliving both husbands, OC never had children of her own. She laughs, saying both husbands called her "baby," and that "baby always got her way!"

(Fond Memories will feature a different MCH resident each issue. We hope you enjoy learning a little bit about our ladies.)

o many people to thank and so little space! Our sincere apologies if we missed your name!

Great visiting, eating and shopping at Strawberry Festival & Boutique!





# **Staff Stars**

heryl Eskridge really loves dogs—big dogs. And not just any big dog—Old English Sheepdogs. She drove all the way to lowa to rescue her current pal, Riley. Her first OES came from Sheepiepalooza, an event held every other year by the St. Louis Old English Sheep Dog Club.



Cheryl has worked at MCH over five years and loves caring for the ladies. A St. Louis girl, she inherited the home she's known all her life. It was her grandparents', then her mom's, and now she lives there with Jace, her 9-year-old son.

She has a couple of dreams—to help abused dogs and to also own her own resale shop, matching special treasures to the perfect owners. Maybe she'd like to organize the Strawberry Festival Boutique next year!

(Cheryl was recognized for exhibiting Core Six Values, which is awarded every two months. These values include: focus, kindness, creating fun, giving your best, respect and doing the right thing. She also won a \$50 gift card. We will feature each employee who receives this well-earned recognition.)

#### Nat'l Nursing Home Week

#### **Donations**

Abbott Ambulance Medicine Shoppe Kindred Hospice Paule, Camazine & Blumenthal Manor Real Estate Martha's Hands Transitions for Living The Estate Planner, LLC

#### Strawberry Festival

**Donations** Judy Leach Cathy DeJong (lots!) Joan Korfmacher Mary Ems Brad & Joyce Shelton Susan Haddock Michele Ambach Joan Magraw Tom Thee Nancy Trammell Nancy Dietz Mary Landry (lots) Karen Miller Jean Evans Deirdre Cechin Donna Mueller Vicki Beck Cathy Walb Barb Onder Concordia Lutheran Church Marty Schenk Gina & Doug March Lisa Parish Flo McGonagle Joyce McDonald Kim Doyle Millie Williams Lyn Lawshe David Voracek

#### Beverly Bretsnyder Kirkwood Theatre Guild **Concession Stand**

#### Volunteers

Karen Smith David Voracek Deb Lavender Joan Muccigrosso Marie Davis Patty Flynn **Barb Watkins** Jean Ann Funk

#### **Grounds Spruce-Up Day**

#### Volunteers

Carol Heimburger Karen Robards Lisa & David Parish Marty & Rick Schenk Gina March Julie Kovac Lisa Kovac Samantha Allen Donna Millman **Strawberry Festival** 

### Volunteers

Judy Leach Peggy Brockmann Karen Miller (lots!) Mary Landry ATC Healthcare Services Lisa Oxenhandler Ruth Gerchen Nancy Trammell Mary Ems Michele Ambach Carol Heimburger Marie Davis Lisa Kovac

David Parish

Jean Themes

Karen Goddard

Doug March

#### New Wishes.

- Large cork bulletin boards (three)
- Wrapping paper (general theme)
- Fun-size candy bars

Carol Heimburger

Jane Stelzner

- Individual bags of potato chips
- Walmart gift cards
- **Envelopes** (greeting card size)
- VCR (recorder/player)



Thanks for always helping!

The Mary Culver Home 221 W. Washington Ave. Kirkwood, MO 63122 314-966-6034 www.maryculverhome.org



Non-Profit
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit 1316
St. Louis, MO

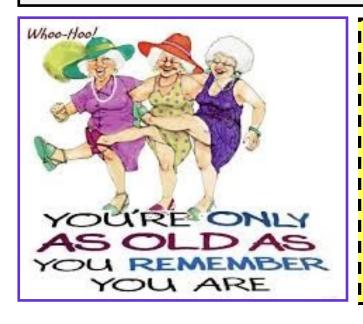
**Address Service Requested** 

# GREAT STUFF INSIDE!

The mission of The Mary Culver Home is to provide visually impaired women with dignified, compassionate, holistic nursing care in a warm family atmosphere, as well as to promote security, confidence, and an excellent quality of life.

Please consider The Mary Culver Home in your will or trust. You can insure that this special home for visually impaired women is preserved far into the future.

Talk to your attorney or financial advisor to get started.



# Help Clean up our Mailing List...



Want off our mailing list?
OR

Want this as an email?

contact gina@maryculverhome.org or call (314)966-6034 and ask for Gina.

We sure appreciate it!