September / October 2023



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



Birthdays!

Happy birthday to our residents and staff celebrating in September and October.

Residents:

Jeanette McMillin, Sept. 16 Jeanne Hermann, Sept. 27 Rachel Ruegge, Oct. 22 Shirley Meyer, Oct. 23

Staff:

September: Tomekia Hearn (9th), Gail Curl (18th), Carrie Veach (19th), Linda Renaud (23rd), Angelica Jones (24th), Carol Heimburger (25th)

October: Aiyana Robinson (17th), Julie Kovac (26th)



From left, cook Nigene Brown and CNAs Brinica Harris, Yvette McBride and Becca Strollo were the prize-drawing winners at the annual employee Health Fair held in September. Hand-washing, infection control, workplace violence and residents' rights were a few of the topics.

Happy fall! We have had a fabulous summer here at MCH, but it sure is nice to have the cooler temperatures and all the fun activities that come with fall.

We are also very excited to resume our newsletter! Thank you to all the volunteers who made this long-awaited newsletter possible. We appreciate your help. Look for our newsletter to be delivered to your mailbox every other month moving forward. If you would like to help with our newsletter production, send me an email at



Amy's Updates

amy@maryculverhome.org and I will add you to our volunteer list.

The ladies had a very busy summer! Brooke, our activity director, had many fun activities planned, and we also resumed our monthly lunch outings. We dined at Mike Duffy's in Kirkwood and The Barn in Crestwood, and we'll be heading to Cracker Barrel at the end of the month. We also went on our first non-lunch outing — to visit the kitties at Whisker Station in Kirkwood. Be sure to check out our photos on Facebook and Instagram.

Our Summer Boost Gazebo Project and Arctic Lounge event were



both hugely successful, and we want to say THANK YOU to all who donated to our gazebo fundraiser and to all who donated or attended Arctic Lounge in August at Missouri Athletic Club West in Des Peres. We are currently working with the Lions Club to complete our gazebo project and are hoping to begin work on it in spring 2024. It seems to be a lengthier process than we thought, but it sure will be worth it once it is completed! If you missed out on Arctic

Lounge this year, definitely do NOT miss this event in August 2025. We had fabulous live and silent auction items and fantastic food and drinks. Check out page 4 to see some photos of the event.

Mark your calendars: Our annual Fall Tea will be from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, October 7, and there will be a Chili Cook Off Family Night from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, October 25. We are accepting donations of new and gently used items for the Fall Tea boutique; please drop off items at the reception desk.

Remember to like us on Facebook (our page is The Mary Culver Home for the Visually Impaired) and Instagram!

Amy

Sweet sights of summer



BINGO is a popular event held every Friday. Devoted volunteers help residents play their cards and celebrate their wins.

SWEET CORN is a

sign of summer. Vera, left, Willene and other ladies helped to shuck corn, then enjoyed eating it at lunch.

CHRISTMAS IN

JULY festivities helped Marilyn and her fellow residents think "cool thoughts" during the record heat. Christmas cookies and seasonal decorations really helped to put them all in the holiday spirit.

Wish List

- Birdseed
- Assorted miniature chocolate candy
- Bingo prizes like Skinny Pop popcorn, single-serving packs of cashews, full-size candy bars
- A donor to fund a one-year, \$100 Audible subscription, so the ladies can continue to listen to their favorite audio books during book club meetings.





ARTS & CRAFTS On the Fourth of July, Mary created a festive door wreath out of an embroidery hoop and strips of fabric.



FRIENDSHIP SOCIALS occur on a weekly basis. Residents gather to socialize, discuss current events and enjoy a snack.



A POOL PARTY on the patio was an ideal way for Millie to while away the summer.







PET THERAPY occurs monthly when cats and dogs come to visit our residents. Left: Pat welcomes our lone feline visitor. Far left: A dog with Love on a Leash makes the rounds. Above: Margie gets a room visit from Chloe.

5 employees total more than 130 years at MCH

Anyone who has stepped through our doors within the past 25 years or so likely saw one of our five longest-tenured employees: Barb Ramsey (34 years), Doris Albanese (26 years),



Dorothy Bolden (26 years), Terrence Crump (22 years) and Kevin Lavin (22 years).

Barb was hired in 1988 to work in the housekeeping department, and she made the switch to receptionist about 10 years ago. Doris, who was first hired in 1996, has worn the

Doris

most hats by working in every department: dietary, laundry/housekeeping and nursing. She has been our full-time day shift CMT for about 12 years.

Dorothy, Terrence and Kevin each has worked in the same department for their entire MCH career. Dorothy joined the nursing depart-



ment in 1996, and she has been the full-time evening shift CMT for about six years. In 2001, Terrence was hired to work in the

Clockwise from top left: Terrence, Kevin, Dorothy and Barb.

maintenance de-

partment – a tall task in a building that's 50plus years old — and Kevin started in the dietary department. He's inarguably the employee with the shortest commute – he lives practically across the street.

Thank you all for your many years of service!

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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.

Feeling the chill at Arctic Lounge



Who doesn't relish the thought of frosty temperatures in the midst of a hot, muggy St. Louis summer? That's why our biennial fundraiser is dubbed "Arctic Lounge." This year's invitation-only party was held at MAC West, and featured hors d'oeuvres, a signature cocktail, wine and non-alcoholic beverages.

