

Birthdays!

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

Residents:

Jeanne Hermann, September 27

Shirley Meyer, October 23

Edith Wenzel, October 27

Staff:

September: Tomekia Hearn, 9th; Gail Curl, 18th; Carrie Veach, 19th; Linda Renaud, 23rd; Carol Heimburger, 25th

October: Janicia Tidad, 14th; Marissa Vogler, 22nd; Julie Kovac, 26th



The Bethesda Evangelical Church Women's Fellowship group donated \$100 and 530 individually wrapped chips and snacks for the ladies. Each fellowship group member gets a chance to choose their charity, and Jill Walter chose MCH. From right, Jill and her husband, Bob, our long-time bingo caller, present the donation to Executive Director Amy Lepper.

We're still accepting items for Fall Tea sale

We are gathering new and gently used items to sell at the Fall Tea Boutique. The boutique features home décor, kitchen, fashion and gift items on sale for bargain prices. Furniture and appliances also are in demand with shoppers. Drop off items with the receptionist any day of the week between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Please call 314-966-6034 to arrange a pickup place/time for larger items.

Fall is finally here, and that means the next few months will be filled with many fun activities for our residents, families and friends!

We closed out the summer with a **patio party** on the most gorgeous night we could've asked for. We celebrated with yummy appetizers, a wine bar and entertainment by Chad Evans. It was a truly wonderful event, and we are already planning to host another outdoor party in the spring! See photos from this year's party on page 2.

On page 3, read about the results of our 2024 Summer Boost.



Amy's Updates

SAVE THE DATES

- ◆ We will host our **Family Night Chili Cook Off** on Wednesday, October 16, from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Bring in your crockpot of chili, and join in a friendly competition to see who made the BEST chili!
- ◆ Also, it wouldn't be October without our annual **Fall Tea**, which will be held on Saturday, October 26, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.
- ◆ Hard to believe that Christmas is right around the corner, but it will be here before we know it. Santa will be coming to town to hand out gifts at the **Resident Christmas Party** on Tuesday, December 17, at 2 p.m.
- ◆ We are already in planning mode for our biennial **Arctic Lounge** gala event, set for Saturday, August 9. For those of you unfamiliar with the event, Arctic Lounge is our big fundraiser that enables MCH to continue its charitable mission. The evening includes delicious food and drinks, silent and live auctions, and good company. We are looking for auction items and event sponsors; please send me an email at amy@maryculverhome.org or stop by to chat if you can help! This is an event that is not to be missed!



Every year we unpack our silver tea service for the Fall Tea, which includes finger foods, cookies and cake, coffee, punch and – of course – tea.



Amy



The patio party for residents and their families luckily fell on a September evening when neither heat nor rain could put a damper on the fun. Left, Lorraine and her

family take a break from dancing and singing along to the music. Right, Eleanor beams with happiness at being surrounded by family.

Party on the patio



Janet is thrilled to have her son at her side.



Above, Willene feels the love from her family. Left, dietary director Terry Beals, right, and Kathy serve delicious appetizers. Below, musician Chad Evans sings his way into everyone's hearts.



Edith and her sister enjoy the evening.



Above, MCH management team members Jennifer Page, from left, Brooke Lorenz, Amy Lepper and Julie Kovac watch over the party from behind the wine bar. Right, Pat and her family enjoy the party.





Mary Ellen Hetenyi, left, and Norma Van Gent.

Summer Boost raises \$3,800

Our summer fundraiser to purchase new seating for our patio far exceeded our goal of raising \$2,500.

Generous family members, longtime friends of The Home (including employees) and Kirkwood-area residents who read about our Summer Boost in the local newspaper donated more than \$3,800 so we could upgrade our seating **and** buy new umbrellas. The options were limited when we went chair-shopping, so we opted to have our 24 chairs restored by an area business specializing in patio furniture.

We'll host a patio party in the spring to say thank-you and show off the patio.

Master Gardeners give our grounds master makeover

A quick glance at the front patio might impress visitors with its abundance of green, but there's more to The Home's landscaping than healthy, lush plants.

It starts with the vision of Master Gardeners Mary Ellen Hetenyi and Norma Van Gent.

Mary Ellen was introduced to The Home many years ago by former board member Martha Durbin, who requested some pro bono landscaping work from Mary Ellen's business, Garden Savvy. Flash forward to 2020, when Mary Ellen and Norma proposed making the grounds their pet project for the Mas-

ter Gardener program. With no groundskeeper on staff, we were delighted to take them up on their offer to make sense of a chaotic space. The space has changed a lot since they started their overall redesign. For example, we've lost trees that eliminated shade, making our beautiful hostas no longer suitable for some areas. In making changes, Mary Ellen and Norma's goal has stayed the same: to beautify the greenspace while simplifying grounds maintenance work and, for The Mary Culver Home residents, add fragrant plants where possible.

SiteOne gifts MCH with free landscaping project

The Mary Culver Home is the lucky recipient of a free landscaping project from SiteOne Landscape Supply (formerly Kirkwood Materials and Gardens) on Barrett Station Road. SiteOne horticulturist Jon Lanaghan, who started collaborating with Mary Ellen and Norma several years ago on making improvements to our grounds, nominated us for the program. It entails improving a section of the beds/borders at no cost to The Home following certain guidelines, such as not using power tools to tear out existing plants.

Jon, Mary Ellen and Norma put their heads together to decide which area most needed a makeover, and landed on the beds along the sidewalk to the gazebo and facing the parking lot. The next steps were presenting the design to Jon's director at SiteOne and obtaining approval. The design includes 17 new plants – 11 shrubs and six perennials – with SiteOne covering the cost of the plants, soil and mulch, as well as the labor to tear out existing plants, relocate others, adjust bed shapes, plant the new shrubs



Jon Lanaghan nominated The Mary Culver Home for a free landscaping project offered by his employer, SiteOne Landscape Supply.

and perennials, lay sod and remove debris.

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www.maryculverhome.org

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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.

Staff spotlight



Meet our nursing management team: RN consultant Alma McCoy, left, and Director of Nursing Jennifer Page. Jennifer has been a nurse since 1998 and has spent her entire career in long-term care. Since she joined our team in August, she has been hard at work getting to know the residents, families and staff. Alma has been a familiar face at The Mary Culver Home since early 2019 and her first stint as interim director of nursing. Jennifer and Alma invite residents' family members to stop by the DON office to say hello.

To learn more about Jennifer, visit the staff section at maryculverhome.org.

Wish-List Items

- White Zinfandel and Riesling wine for resident happy hour and activities
- Sparkling grape juice
- Gift cards to craft stores (Michaels, Hobby Lobby)
- AA batteries
- Hershey's chocolate miniatures for the snack cart

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