March / April 2025



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

Mary Culver Day



We celebrated Mary Culver's 185th birthday March 19 by learning about her and how she became involved with the Blind Girls Home. Holiday hostess Amy Lepper also discussed with residents and staff The Home's history and previous location, 5235 Page Ave. The party included trivia, singing of "Happy Birthday" and cake.

Birthdays!

Happy birthday to our residents and staff celebrating in March and April.

Residents:

Elgene Lickenbrock, March 26 Margie McDonald, April 10

Staff:

March: Marie Brooks, 10th; Ashley Rice, 19th; Brooke Lorenz, 20th; Edith Kaburu, 25th April: Alma McCoy, 14th; Zann Johnson, 21st

'50 states in 50 weeks'

Activity Director Brooke Lorenz does



double duty as a tour guide for her Armchair Travel series. After wrapping up a world tour in 2024, she's now taking the ladies to "50 states in 50 weeks." Each week, Brooke

Joan is always up for an adventure. does a presentation on a state's history, cli-

mate and attractions. The group often samples popular foods and drinks.

pring is in the air! As the flowers bloom and the days grow longer, we are excited to welcome the fresh energy that spring brings. There is something about sunshine and warmer weather that lifts our spirits — and we are all ready to get outside and enjoy the patio!

That's not to say we haven't thoroughly enjoyed the past couple of months. We've kept our residents and staff busy with holiday parties, special events, even a visit from Fredbird. We've packed this newsletter with photos from some of our favorite activities.



And there's plenty more to come this spring and early summer. Here is a little peek at what's coming up:

- Easter Brunch: Sunday, April 20, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
- Grounds cleanup: Saturday, April 26, 9 a.m. to noon
- GiveSTL Day: Thursday, May 8. Stay tuned for details.
- National Nursing Home Week: May 11-16
- Spring Patio Party: TBD
- Strawberry Festival: Saturday, June 14, 1 to 3 p.m.

You can learn more, including how to participate, by giving us a call at 314-966-6034 or checking us out on Facebook (search for The Mary Culver Home for the Visually Impaired).

We hope you can make it to some of these events!

Amy

Welcome, Father Frog

In March, residents and family members welcomed Father Gary "Frog" Vollmer, who will say Mass twice a month in the Chapel. Frog stands for Fully Rely On God.

Father Frog was ordained for the service of the Archdiocese of St. Louis in 1977 at the St. Louis



Cathedral. He is now retired area parishes.

but still very active in

Mardi Gras





Mardi Gras at The Mary Culver Home includes lively music, colorful decorations and a parade featuring the ladies wearing masks and beads. At left, Edith and CNA Maygon greet parade-goers. Also decked out for the party are Willene, above left, and Josie, above right.



The Valentine's Day party features chocolate-covered strawberries as a special treat.

Valentine's Day

Volunteer Jenn helps Margie play a game of "Heartbreaker," in which residents pick a cup, pull out the tissue and win a prize hidden inside.





Valentine's Bingo was a big hit with residents and staff.

St. Patrick's Day







The ladies — and facility dog Gunner - look especially festive at the St. Patrick's Day celebration, wearing scarves donated by a resident's daughter. Pictured clockwise from below are Edith, Gunner, Jenny, Lorraine and Janet.





Friends of Fredbird



When Fredbird stopped by for a visit, Willene took the opportunity to share some of her concerns about the Cardinals.







Terrence, above left, and Millie, above right, are fans of the Cardinals — and Fredbird.



Jennifer, above, and Fredbird are feeling the music, while Edith, right, says hello.





Fredbird shows MCH staff how to strike a pose.



Lorraine enjoys her fish dinner with her sons, Robbie, left, and Eugene Reisinger.

Delicious donations

The residents were treated to a fish fry not once but twice, thanks to MCH board member Kevin Miller and the Reisinger family. The meals were prepared and de-



Dorothy savors her supper.

livered by St. Peter Catholic Church.



From left, Donna, Jenny, Janet, Edith and Lorraine give rave reviews to the St. Peter fish fry.

Soup Night is served



Executive Director Amy Lepper congratulates Sue Koch.



CNA Yvette with Eleanor.

Another successful Soup Night is in the books, and Sue Koch's potato soup was declared the crowd favorite. Other offerings included stuffed pepper, wild rice and split pea soups.

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



Seated from left are CNA Marissa Vogler, nurse Carol Heimburger, Director of Nursing Jennifer Page and CNA Rachel Schwarm. Standing from left are nurses Angel Burchfield and Yolanda Banks, and CNA Yvette McBride.

Staff spotlight



Nursing is our largest department by far and has staff working 24 hours a day, so it's an impossible task to get everyone together for a photo. Pictured from left are CMTs Erika Quinn and Doris Albanese, CNA Maygon Tavares and nurse consultant Alma McCoy.



CNAs Carrie Veach, left, and Yvette McBride.