

Excellence



Brothers of Mercy News, Events, Awards and Campus Updates



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Spring 2021

COVID-19 VACCINE Update



Pfizer Vaccine Administered to Hundreds on Brothers of Mercy Campus

The week of January 6, 2021 marked a turning point for Western New York's largest senior living community, as Brothers of Mercy began administering long-awaited doses of Covid-19 vaccines to hundreds of residents and staff.

Under the federal vaccine administration program, CVS pharmacist partners will administer shots of the Pfizer vaccine to Brothers of Mercy staff, nearly 100% of Assisted Living and Memory Care residents, and over 90% of Nursing and Rehab Center patients throughout a series of multiple vaccine clinics scheduled through February. *"We're thrilled with the (participation) numbers it's tremendous,"* states BOM Administrator Teresa Dillsworth. *"We've been fighting this virus like everyone else since March, and it's been a long, hard road. Our residents have been right there fighting with us, and we're thankful and hoping that this vaccine signifies the end of the virus."*

Like all senior care facilities throughout the state, Covid-19 safety precautions have restricted visitor access at Brothers of Mercy Campus, making it challenging for residents to stay connected to families and loves ones. According to Brothers of Mercy CEO Peter Eimer, who believes the vaccine is the most essential tool for getting past the pandemic.

"This represents the beginning of the end of Covid, and helps us look forward to the time when friends and families can visit and hug their loved ones again."

(Continued on Page 2)

Operation Lifting Spirits Spreading Joy Once Again!

For the second time in two months, the Western New York community stepped up to make a difference in the lives of over 120 residents and patients at the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. The 2020 holiday season marked the launch of Brothers of Mercy's "Operation Lifting Spirits" Campaign, which provides supporters of the organization the opportunity to anonymously send BOM residents holiday-themed care packages.

Last month, Brothers of Mercy's "Spread the Love" online fundraiser enabled donors to order cookies, cupcakes and Valentine chocolate care packages, along with greeting cards that could be filled out with personalized messages.

(Continued on Page 2)

INSIDE

CEO's Perspective	2
Skilled Nursing & Rehab	3
Sacred Heart Home	4
Senior Living	5
Spiritual Care	6
Foundation	7
Employee News	8
Human Resources	10
Success Stories	11
In the News	12
Referral Program	15

Operation Lifting Spirits Spreading Joy Once Again

(Continued from Page 1)

More than 120 of these on line orders were dedicated to Operation Lifting Spirits. Gifts were delivered on February 12th and spread much excitement amongst residents at Brothers of Mercy's Nursing & Rehab Center and Assisted Living & Memory Care Community.

To date, the campaign has generated over \$2,700 in donations and provided 245 BOM residents with care packages. All proceeds go directly back into patient care at Brothers of Mercy. Like all senior care facilities throughout the state, Covid-19 safety precautions have restricted visitor access, making it challenging for residents to stay connected to families and loved ones.

These donations were a simple way to make a big difference and spread some cheer among residents that have been through so much in the past year. States BOM Foundation Executive Director Nancy Gugino, *"This really shows just how much heart our supporters in the community have. So many people stepped up once again to make a difference. Some donors contributed 10, 15, sometimes even 20 gifts for our residents. That's pretty amazing!"*

Campus Updates - Spring 2021

By Peter Eimer | Brothers of Mercy CEO



I receive a lot of questions about the campus so I put some information together to address some of the more common ones:

- We still encourage everyone to get vaccinated if you haven't already. Please protect your co-workers (as well as the residents) by getting vaccinated.

- The old Sacred Heart Home is now the BOM Center. We are currently working with the first two organizations that would like to have operations there. Both of them are very much in line with our mission.

- The new Sacred Heart Home is up and running. The assisted living side is full. The memory care side had a temporary setback with a plumbing problem but the reservation list is very strong.

- We are now at 550 employees across the campus.

- It's great to see COVID cases decreasing in the community but this infection is still very much a threat.

- Visitation rules in NYS hopefully will change very soon.

- My 4-year old granddaughter, Brooklyn, said to me this weekend, "Covid 19 - get vaccinated and wear a mask. We're tired too."

- Great quote I saw recently, "Let's pray like everything depended on God but work as though everything depended on us." As always, thanks for all the work you do!

Peter Eimer named "Who's Who in Healthcare"

Brothers of Mercy CEO, Peter Eimer, was named in 2020 "Who's Who in Health Care" by Buffalo Business First. Every year Buffalo Business First recognizes leaders in the health care industry based on performance, years of service and how well the facility is operating. Brothers of Mercy has been ranked a 5-Star facility for many years.

Covid-19 Vaccine Update

(Continued from Page 1)

The Brothers of Mercy is also partnering with KSL Diagnostics to offer vaccine recipients the unique opportunity to participate in an Antibody Response Research Study. This program is designed to track a person's response to the vaccine and mark the progression of antibody development.

Participants receive NYSDOH-approved tests for measurement of antibodies to spike proteins before, throughout and after the vaccination process in order to track their signature immune response to the vaccine. BOM is excited to be participating in these efforts, which will play a critical role in the evaluation of vaccine response and efficacy throughout the country.

Cheers for Making it Through this Past Year!

By Teresa Dillsworth | Executive Director | Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center



Spring is in the air as we enter the month of March. Winter certainly did speed by and warmer days and nights are just on the horizon. I had hoped things would look more optimistic for returning to some type of normalcy by now. Our staff and residents remain the true heroes through this pandemic. The staff tirelessly give all they've got day in and day out. For this I cannot fully express my gratitude. Our residents miss their families and friends. For this my heart breaks more with each passing week.

I will never take for granted the little things in life – like the smile on a face that we can no longer see because we are masked while on the job and in public. It's been a year since our residents saw the smiles of their caregivers. That's too long but it is necessary to keep them as safe as we can.

I am anxious for our construction project on the 4th floor to resume. I am anxious to implement electronic prescribing in our Electronic Medical Record. Two of many items that were put on hold when the pandemic struck. I am eager for our residents to have their family and friends back in the building without restrictions. However, restrictions are something we will continue to have to tolerate as we navigate past this virus.

As the daylight continues to grow so does the hope for enjoying summer concerts on the back patio once again. Cheers to making it through the past year! Better days are coming...

Outpatient Therapy Clinic launches quarterly "Wellness Clinic"

Last quarter the therapists at Brothers of Mercy's Outpatient Clinic offered a free "Wellness Clinic" for residents at BOM's Montabaur Heights. Therapists Jennifer Hartwig and Rachel Larson, along with OTC Director Lauren Grawe, gave a brief presentation on how common symptoms like dizziness, balance issues or back and chronic pain can be addressed.

They also took time to answer questions and perform a one-on-one balance test and walking analysis on each attendee. This forum was beneficial for our residents to check their balance and walking abilities before the harsh winter months came upon us! We look forward to offering more of these throughout the coming months.



Siedah Bodie, MPH named Infection Preventionist



Siedah Bodie, MPH was named Infection Preventionist for the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. She earned a Masters Degree in Public Health from The Chicago School, and Epidemiologic training from John Hopkins. Siedah has worked in many countries with various populations, and decreasing Tuberculosis contraction rates in Amazonian residents in Peru and the Caribbean. This was one of her greatest accomplishments. *"I have worked in various patient care settings, and I look forward to contributing all of my efforts to positively impacting the Brothers of Mercy community"* states Siedah.

History of the Sacred Heart Home

In 1950, the Brothers purchased 126 acres of farmland in Clarence, NY, which would eventually evolve into today's "Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus". The Sacred Heart Home was the original Skilled Nursing building.

In 1951, ground was broken on the first wing of Sacred Heart Home, which served 36 male patients at that time.



In 1963, Sacred Heart Home added a South Wing and new Chapel to the facility. At a cost of \$1.3 million, the expansion added 56 beds (going from 36 to 92) to the facility.

In summer 2020, the new Memory Care and Enhanced Assisted Living community will add another level of care to the Clarence Wellness Campus. The new building will retain the Sacred Heart Home name, honoring all those that worked and lived in our first building.

Brighter Days are Ahead for All of Us

By Mindee McDonald | Executive Director | Sacred Heart Home



I certainly envisioned that the first newsletter in the new SHH would be much different. Times have undoubtedly changed as we mark one year of living under these pandemic circumstances. I am grateful and proud of all those involved in the move, especially our residents (THE REAL SUPERSTARS). We did this successfully and without one resident or staff transmission - in the winter, near the holidays, and under pandemic restrictions!

It is SHH's priority to keep our residents and staff safe and while we will continue to do that we recognize that this is getting harder each day as our residents miss "normal" and their loved ones terribly. We continue to have to work within the guidelines of NYSDOH, but I can assure you that we strive to maximize our potential within them. Our campus leadership has, and will continue to regularly advocate for the importance of visitation, socialization, and other important activities for our folks.

We look forward to perfecting the way we do things within our beautiful new environment and we are hoping that with spring right around the corner some brighter days will come too. Brighter not only with sunshine and warmth, but also with the hopes that the COVID19 rules and restrictions will continue to lessen as the vaccination rate increases, the positive cases decrease, and we can get outside where the risk of transmission is known to be less. HAPPY SPRING!!!

SHH Residents Receive Donated Prayer Shawls

By Renée Villa | Campus Director of Spiritual Care

Many local parishes provide outreach to the sick through the prayer shawl ministry. Knitters gather once a week to knit shawls that are blessed and given to those who are in need of comfort for any number of reasons, such as illness or bereavement.

BOM's Montabaur Heights resident Mary Swanz is an avid knitter and has over sixty shawls that she has kept in storage to donate for this purpose. She offered to give them to the residents of Sacred Heart Home for distribution. In the beginning of January, staff at Sacred Heart Home were thrilled to give each resident a blessed prayer shawl.



What a wonderful way to provide comfort during these challenging times. During this season of hope in the midst of darkness, this is certainly one of the kindnesses that help to light our journeys.

We Rise by Lifting Others

By Mary Baty | Executive Director | Brothers of Mercy Senior Apartments



In times of great struggles, as 2020 has been, it helps to put life into perspective and recognize our blessings by helping others.

While there are so many wonderful and deserving global charities, there are many things we can do for others in need here in our own community.

In February, the Senior Apartments began our “Lifting Others” program. Residents who may have a specific need, have a specific charity, a family crisis, or need prayer, specific items, or donations for a special situation or cause, are encouraged let the office know of their need. Each month,

a request will be chosen as our “Lifting Others Recipient” where residents can contribute to their requests and needs.

On the flip side is what residents in our community have offered to do for their neighbors. Many have offered rides, shopping, reading to those with sight issues, picking up mail, and/or a daily check in call. We have already made connections for those who need and those who give!

As we all hope for things to get back “to normal”, it is important to stay active in that hope and focus on positive actions!

A Big Thank You to Clarence Pharmacy

By Valerie Kane | Executive Director | Montabaur Heights



The residents of Montabaur were very fortunate and are extremely thankful to CLARENCE PHARMACY. Jon Vorreuter, pharmacist and owner of Clarence Pharmacy, set up 4 visits to Montabaur and vaccinated 96% of our residents! Our staff was also fortunate in being able to obtain their vaccines through the Nursing and Rehab Center. Approximately 75% of our staff has been vaccinated.

While we are certainly aware of the continuing risks for Covid-19 we are all looking forward to spring with cautious optimism in anticipating a return to a new normal with increasing activities, time spent with one another and getting outdoors to enjoy all that the season brings!

Our modified restrictions continue in line with NY state and CDC guidelines and regulation, including; wearing our mask, frequent handwashing, small gathering restrictions, 2 visitors per apartment restricted to visiting in the apartment only and a limited number of people traveling in our vehicles. Our Dining room has reopened with modifications following NY state guidelines.

Happy Spring To All!

Taking Care of Your Spiritual Needs

As part of our mission, the Brothers of Mercy is committed to the pursuit of excellence by providing a supportive, compassionate and healing environment for those we are privileged to serve.

Part of that mission includes Spiritual Care. We provide spiritual counseling, facilitate services, distribute Eucharist and are always available to comfort and support our residents. We also celebrate mass at the Sacred Heart Home in our beautiful chapel, and have services at Montabaur Heights and the Senior Apartments.

Spiritual Care can help a person discover hope, resilience and inner strength in times of illness, injury, transition, and loss. Spiritual Care attends to a person's spiritual or religious needs as they seek to heal physically and emotionally and thus regain a sense of well being.

Providing spiritual support, mercy and compassion are manifested not simply as a consoling message, but in practical help.

Super Bowl Champions

By Renée Villa | Campus Director of Spiritual Care



"Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love." - Mother Teresa

'Well done...good servant. You have been faithful over a little... Enter into the joy of your master. Matthew 25:21

A champion is a person who has defeated or surpassed all rivals in a competition. It is someone who fights or argues for a cause on behalf of someone else. Synonyms include advocate, protector, winner, and victor. Who are our modern day champions? Two categories come to mind: Our residents and our staff. Who is the opponent? COVID, the invisible but formidable opponent.

For most of us, this is the first time we are living through a pandemic. Pandemic—a disease that is prevalent throughout the world, from the Latin for all people. That means we are all affected. Take a moment to really soak in the reality of the term Pandemic.

Because this is something extreme and a first time experience, the current regulations are obsolete. This is new and challenging territory. In a competition, one studies their opponents and adjusts the defense in order to win. Implementing this strategy is a monumental task given when we are working with the entire planet. Our priority is the safety of the most vulnerable people, our residents. Most times keeping safe comes with inconvenience and frustration for all involved. These are challenging yet exciting times. We have witnessed the worst but also the best in people. At times like these, small kindnesses mean a great deal. It is at times like this we can glean what is truly important in life.

Our residents are someone's mother, uncle, sister or cousin. Staff and family members are frustrated that they cannot care the way they would like to. Our residents spend most of their waking hours with our staff. They too are our family. We accompany them through their daily routines, as well as their joys and sorrows. We miss them as they transition to greater levels of care. We cry at their final farewell.

As a family member, it is always a heart wrenching decision to place a loved one in an adult home. There is a tremendous sense of loss because the person is no longer able to live as independently as before. Emotions run high and far beyond the normal threshold because of the pandemic. However, it is so important to remember to appreciate what we do have. A loving family, a caring staff, a safe place to live. Visitation may be challenging, but being alone in the community would also have been a grim alternative.

In a championship there is always a prize. The reward is the satisfaction of being able to serve our residents carrying out each task with great care and love. The goal is to persevere for the long game. Peace.

Thank You Once Again Russell J. Salvatore!

By Nancy Gugino | Executive Director | Brothers of Mercy Facilities Foundation



The generosity of Russell J. Salvatore has been a blessing for the Brothers of Mercy Campus over the past few years. He has helped fund the purchase of flat screen TV's in the skilled nursing home, renovations on the 4th floor, the construction of the Russell J. Salvatore Outpatient Therapy Center and a major gift for the brand new Memory Care Community, just to name a few.

For the past few years, the Brother of Mercy has been in desperate need of a wheelchair van for transporting residents. At a recent meeting, I asked Mr. Salvatore where he gets his vans from. Not missing a beat, Russell said: *"You need a wheelchair van Nancy? I'll take care of it."* Needless to say, Brothers of Mercy's prayers were once again answered by the kindness of Mr. Salvatore. We took delivery last month and residents will be able to take advantage of those "new wheels" immediately. Below are pictures of Russ Salvatore showing off the new van and handing over the keys to Brothers of Mercy CEO Peter Eimer.



Special Fundraising Events for 2021

January...1/26 Take Out Tuesday • 1/21 to 2/4 Valentines Flower and Cookie Sale

February...2/12 Valentines Day Sale

March...3/10 to 3/24 Easter Plant Sale • 3/22 Annual Event Sponsorship Drive & Easter Appeal Drop

April...4/2 Easter Plant Sale delivery & Good Friday Fish Fry • 4/20 #GiveFromHomeDay • 4/23 Meat Raffle

May...5/9 Mother's Day Brunch or Dinner To Go • 5/27 Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner

June...6/30 Brothers of Mercy Community Day "Light the Night" Ceremony • 6/24 Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner

July...7/22 Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner

August...8/26 Chiavetta's Chicken Dinner

September/October...9/10 Oktoberfest 5K Race

November...11/14 Care-A-Thon 2021 • 11/15 Annual Appeal • 11/16 Giving Tuesday

December...Holiday Festival of Lights • Gift Card Gathering Event • Christmas Cookie/Poinsettia Sale

Dedicated Staff makes all the Difference

At the Brothers of Mercy, the level of dedication, commitment and genuine care our staff provides is one of the things we are most proud of. It's these personal characteristics which make a profound difference in the lives they touch.

For generations, the staff at our Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center, Outpatient Therapy, Sacred Heart Home, and the two Independent Living communities have provided comfort, spiritual guidance and care. For those facing a life-limiting illness or injury, our Hospice wing will help keep your loved one comfortable.

As a historical landmark in WNY, the entire Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus has earned an exceptional reputation for treating seniors with dignity and respect. Our focus and attention on "spiritual care" sets us apart from all others.

As a non-profit organization, the work on the Brothers of Mercy campus is more about providing the finest 5-Star Care...rather than the bottom line. Here, patient and resident wellness is at the center of everything we do!

Skilled Nursing Employees of the Month

All Employees of the Month receive a \$50 check as well as a special parking space for that month.



SUE BLASKO | DIETARY COOK - January 2021

Sue always shows her willingness to go above and beyond whenever called on. Her skill set and overall knowledge in the kitchen is over the top. Sue stepped up in a huge way during our current pandemic and aided in running the department when needed. She is always bringing new ideas to the table as well as ideas for improvement. Sue is a pleasure to work with daily and deserves the Employee of the Month title!



EMMA FOX | LPN - February 2021

Emma has been an employee since July 2020. Emma is a very kind and compassionate person. She always has a smile on her face and a kind word to say. She is a role team player. She goes above and beyond to help not only her patients, but will do anything she can to assist her co-workers. Emma has a love for nursing and is quick to offer a loving hand to make sure our patients get the absolute best care they deserve. We are grateful to have Emma as part of our BOM team!

WORK ANNIVERSARIES

35 Years:

Liz Marino	Montabaur Heights	Dir. of Food Service	1/6/86
------------	-------------------	----------------------	--------

25 Years:

Tanya Hinton	Nursing Home	LPN-Staff	12/07/95
--------------	--------------	-----------	----------

20 Years:

Peter Eimer	Campus	CEO	3/04/01
-------------	--------	-----	---------

15 Years:

Lisa Nye	Nursing Home	Per Diem CNA	12/05/05
David Nabozny	Nursing Home	Per Diem OTR	2/25/06
Joanne Kostanciak	Sacred Heart Home	Admin Secretary	3/06/06

10 Years:

Jose Negron	Nursing Home	Maintenance	3/10/11
-------------	--------------	-------------	---------

5 Years:

Amy Dykes	Nursing Home	Unit Clerk	1/18/16
Lakessia Farmer	Sacred Heart Home	Cook	1/18/16
Alan Brzoskowski II	Montabaur Heights	Cook 1	12/18/15
John Fouchie	Montabaur Heights	Driver	12/18/15
James Hockey	Montabaur Heights	Chef	12/18/15
Paul Parkot	Montabaur Heights	Driver	12/18/15
Joseph Raimondo	Montabaur Heights	Driver	12/18/15
Michael Tramontana	Montabaur Heights	Maint. / Concierge	12/23/15
Ann Carrier	Montabaur Heights	Coordinator	12/28/15
Joseph Angert	Senior Apartments	Dir. of Env. Services	12/01/15
Theresa Drew-Fouchie	Brothers Residence	Cook	12/28/15
Mary Martin	Brothers Residence	Secretary	12/18/15
Maura Zackey	Nursing Home	LPN	2/01/66
Gary Pumm	Nursing Home	Driver	3/14/16

Kyle Higgins - Executive Chef at the Skilled Nursing Home



As Food Services Director and Executive Chef at the Brothers of Mercy Skilled Nursing facility, Kyle Higgins started cooking right before his 15th birthday, and just fell in love with the industry. *"I was lucky enough to know right away that I wanted to be in the food service business. That made it an easy choice when choosing a career"* states Kyle.

Born in Buffalo, Kyle grew up in the Kaisertown neighborhood before his family eventually moving out to East Amherst. After earning his high school diploma from Williamsville North, he received his Associates degree from Niagara Community College.

Kyle started here as an executive chef with Sodexo in May of 2018. Sodexo was a third party company that was hired to manage food service operations. Kyle was tasked with running the department at that time even though he was titled as an executive chef. In July of 2019, food service management was brought in-house once again, and he became a Brothers of Mercy employee as Food Services Director and Executive Chef. He really enjoys working with the staff, works hard and does everything he can to help Brothers succeed.

"I love to watch the food service industry evolve. Things are always changing and new ideas and concepts are developed. I love to help the residents enjoy some of their favorite foods as much as we can. Last year we did a number of cooking classes with the residents, and really looking forward to eventually getting back to doing those classes again" states Kyle.

On a personal note, Kyle enjoys spending time with the family, is married (Karie) and has two kids - Dani Jo his daughter and Sawyer Gene his son. When not with the family, he plays guitar for his church and with a group of friends. *"I used to play in a local band called 5below back in the college days. Seems life a lifetime ago"* says Kyle. He also owns a small company called Morphin Time Exotics with his wife and business partner, that breeds and sells pet reptiles. Some day he hopes to reach a point of doing educational shows and owning a store front.

NEW ASSOCIATES December • January • February

Nurses:

Donnasia McCleary
Amariah Sullivan
Gabrielle Fogarty
Marissa Yoder

Nursing Administration:

Siedah-Michelle Bodie
Michelle Adams

Env Services:

James Tesch (SHH)
Linda Cornell
Cassey Sobierag**
Richard Huber (SHH)
Alivia Brunea**
Julia Diebel

Enrichment:

Carrie Smith

Communications:

Patti Ostrander (SHH)

Social Work:

Kelsey Waver

Health Services Sacred

Heart Home:

Christine Bonk
Dayquanna Dancy
Deborah Coddington
Diariou Bah
Ashley Beaver
Ashley Velez (LPN)
Shanthi Henderson
Dana Porter
Idaiza Ortiz
Kameren Barney
Tiara Triplette**
Tomi Burton (LPN)
Triniya Graham
Tajnae Harris**
Erinn Bell
Reshawna Petty (LPN)

Nursing Assistant

Trainees:

Tajai Munn
Danai Phillips

Dining Services:

Ladia Lee
Tavon Rowe (SHH)
Erin Miley (SHH)
Jorneshley Quinones (SHH)
Bruce Fryer (SHH)
Dylan Rifenburg
Daniel Plowy
Ava Carrow (SHH)
Bettyjane Trowbridge (SHH)
Anthony Anzalone (SHH)
Robert Engelhardt (SHH)
Evelyn Hejaily
Aracelys Ibarra (SHH)
Chanya Swain

Ancillary Aides:

Mia Moore

Nurse Aide Trainees:

Abbygale Campbell
Shatiadenise Foggie
Lashika Speed
Shania Snowden
Briana Moon
Zae'la Franklin

BOM Staff and Departments Going Above and Beyond

At the Brothers of Mercy, customer service is the direct one-on-one interaction between a patient, family member or visitor and anyone they come in contact with.

First impressions are lasting impressions. So whether it be the front desk, a nurse, CNA, administrator, hospital screener or kitchen staff, a courteous and empathetic interaction can mean all the difference in the world to a patient or family member.

A couple of years ago, we implemented a system where staff members and departments could be recognized for their "above and beyond" service. The following individuals have been acknowledged for their extraordinary efforts in keeping the Brothers of Mercy 5-Star reputation intact.

Congratulations to our "Customer Service Honorable Mentions" for September, October and November of 2020.

Open Enrollment 2021-2022

It is that time of year again! This past year has changed a lot of things, including the benefits for this upcoming year. Most of the benefits you know and love are staying the same, with a few differences. Don't Panic! HR will be here to walk you through it all.

We will be changing to Independent Health effective April 1st. The plan structure is the same and will still have \$1500 and \$3000 deductible plans, only the company is changing.

Another major change effective April 1st. Brothers of Mercy will be transferring our 401k to VOYA.

More details to follow soon. Watch for Paycom notifications and memos!



Tracy, Cheryl & Jacquie
Your BOM Human Resources Team

Compassionate Care Yields Kind Words

These are actual letters we received from grateful family members of a resident.

"Thank you so much for taking the time to send a letter on the passing of my husband. I am most grateful that he was able to spend the last ten months of his life in the presence of such genuinely loving, caring people.

Just before COVID started in March, I submitted a volunteer application. I hope that once COVID is over, I will be able to help in some way.

Thank you again, Teresa, to the entire Brothers staff, and I thank anyone who helped Ted in any way."

"I feel that Joanne has received wonderful care from the nursing staff, CNA's, and social worker. I received phone calls from the nursing staff, head nurse, and social worker.

My phone calls are always returned, and when I talk to Joanne she is always in a wonderful mood. Thank you for the excellent care you give Joanne.

Our family prays for all of you, especially during this difficult time."

Msgr. David LiPuma talks about the Brothers of Mercy



Monsignor David LiPuma from Our Lady of Victory Basilica was asked to talk about his personal experience with the Brothers of Mercy during Care-A-Thon 2020, which aired last October. This is what he had to say during that interview.

"Back in 1999 my grandmother was just about to turn 100 years old. I was always one of those people that said I would never put my grandmother or mother in a nursing home. She was pretty independent, she fell and broke her wrist and ended up in rehab at Brothers of Mercy - and I fell in love with the place!

The doctor at the time said you really can't take her home any more, it's not good for you, it's not good for her. And so we made the decision within 24 hours to move her from rehab to the Sacred Heart Home. My grandmother went on to live 4 and a half years, and I attribute that to the wonderful care at the Brothers of Mercy. From day one you felt the family connection, you felt that 'at home' kind of feeling, and you felt the love and compassion for my grandmother and then they become part of your family. I really fell in love with the Brothers of Mercy, their staff and all that they do to the point that when I was asked to get on their board I immediately said yes because Brother Jude, at the time, was so generous and supportive of me and helping me, financially as well, to make all this happen and so, I wanted to give back and to serve on the board is my opportunity to get the message out to others that if you have a loved one, if you're like me, afraid to do anything, that's the place to go.

'The charity of Christs Urges us on', which is their motto, they live that and they pass that on to all of their staff and all of their employees that they model that motto. And I know from my grandmother when she was there, one of the important things while she was there, was the daily Mass and the weekly Mass and the Rosary. Knowing that was available and to be able to go, and just the Brothers themselves walking around and visiting them was a strong, strong spiritual sense, and you feel it when you're on the campus. Whichever building you're in, you feel the power of prayer, the power of healing, and the compassion. Go to Brothers of Mercy, they're the best! The best in Western New York and I would even say probably throughout the state and throughout the country!"

BOM Senior Apartments Awarded by WNY Heroes, Inc.

The Brothers of Mercy Senior Apartments was given an award by WNY Heroes for their participation in the 2020 Adopt a Family Campaign. Because of their generosity and donation, a WNY Veteran family was able to have a beautiful Christmas.

WNY Heroes, Inc is a 501-C3 nonprofit organization, and offers financial assistance and referrals to vital services for all Veterans. WNY has the 2nd highest Veteran's population (2nd only to NYC and Long Island), with all donations staying right here in the region.



Resident Shows His Appreciation by Writing a Poem

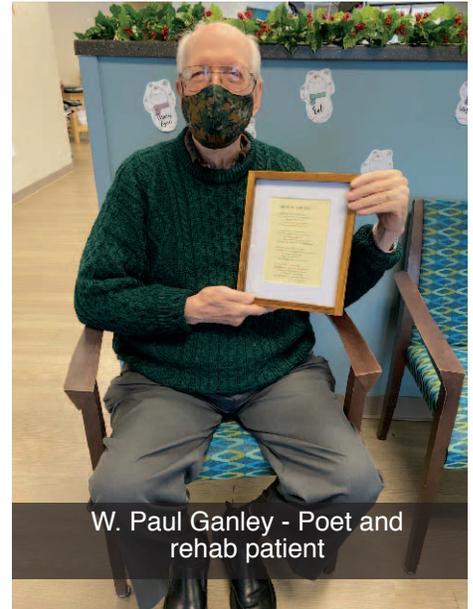
How do you show your appreciation to a rehab staff that's helped you back to good health? Some buy flowers, candy or treat them to a pizza for lunch. W. Paul Ganley did it a little differently. He wrote them a poem and called it "Mean Girls". The staff was so touched that they had it framed and it sits at the front reception desk.

Ladies of pain, I adore you;
I've waited all morning just for you!
My leg's been so sore
And you'll make it hurt more,
So I'll never be apt to ignore you.

Ladies of pain, I implore you;
and I'm really not meaning to bore you ----
My Honey tells me
That you'll help with my knee!
When you do, I'll be bowing before you.

Ladies of Pain, I'm just reeling!
My knee makes me want to start squealing.
That's just when I like
To go sit on your bike
And spend half an hour just wheeling.

Ladies of pain, so appealing,
You know how upset I've been feeling!
But you'll heal my knee soon
And then give me a b'loon
And I'll dance way up there on the ceiling.



W. Paul Ganley - Poet and rehab patient

Brother Ken Records The Stations of the Cross for BOM Residents

The Holy Season of Lent is upon us. One of the long standing traditions Catholics all over the world have participated in is The Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross are a 14 step Catholic devotion that commemorates Jesus Christ's last day on Earth as a man, and are most commonly prayed during Lent on Wednesdays and Fridays

Because of recent Covid restrictions, residents are not able to attend the Stations, so Brother Ken recorded a video version that residents can watch and participate in the comfort of their own room.



BOM Announces New Manager of Leasing and Development

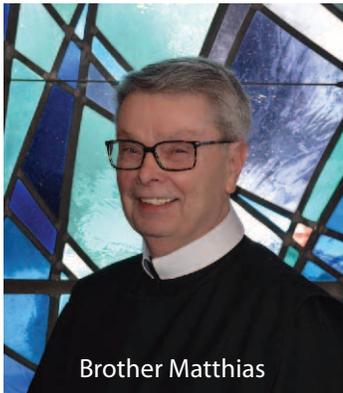
The Brothers of Mercy has added a new member to the leadership team. Vince Dunston has been named the new Manager of Leasing and Development. In his new role, Dunston will oversee the conversion of an existing 59,000 sq.ft. facility into a multi-use “Wellness Center” space. Noteworthy projects Vince has worked on in the past include the Buffalo State College new on-campus housing project (2011) and the Tesla Buffalo Gigafactory 2 project (2019).

Dunston will play an integral role in the development and launch of BOM’s innovative new Wellness Center, the proposed features of which could grow to include a primary care clinic and pharmacy, in addition to housing, child care and educational career training center offerings. The space also has the potential to serve as a collaboration site between BOM and local universities looking to conduct on-site clinical research studies.

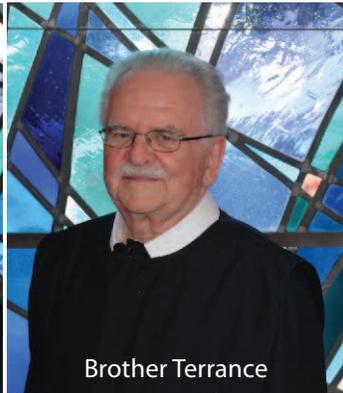


Vince Dunston

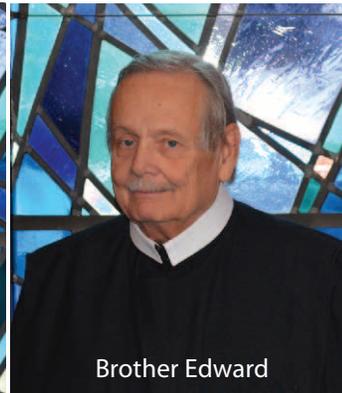
February and March Mark Four Anniversaries for the Brothers



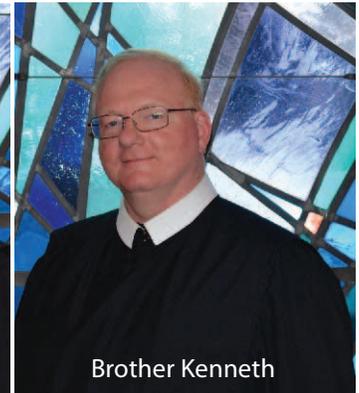
Brother Matthias



Brother Terrance



Brother Edward



Brother Kenneth

February and March marked some major anniversaries for four members of the Brothers of Mercy of Mary Help of Christians Congregation.

February 2nd marked seventeen years of dedicated service by Brother Matthias Moller. Brother Terrence Mansfield celebrated his 64th anniversary and Brother Edward Lewis celebrated his 58th anniversary as a Brother. On March 18th, Brother Kenneth Thomas, House Superior of the Brothers of Mercy, celebrated his 23rd anniversary. Please join us in wishing the Brothers congratulations on such milestones!

The Brothers of Mercy Campus, as well as Brothers of Mercy Mary Help of Christians, is very blessed to be able to benefit from the wonderful service of these dedicated Brothers!

Elinor Smith Wins Montabaur Height's Walking Challenge

The Montabaur Height's Walking Club recently met with BOM's Outpatient Therapy Clinic to review individual results of January's Wellness Walking Challenge, and set goals for coming challenges.

As a bonus, they received pedometers as prizes to track their results. Elinor Smith walked a whopping 168,735 steps (that's an average of over 5,400 steps per day!) in January, and received some fun fitness prizes (including water bottles and a Wegmans gift card!)

Congratulations Elinor! We are looking forward to seeing the Club's results for next month - so stay tuned!



BOM Celebrates "National Activity Professionals Week"



The Brothers of Mercy was thrilled to celebrate "National Activity Professionals Week" and all of our Incredible Activity and Life Enrichment team members that support every community on the BOM Wellness Campus. Special thanks goes out to: Julie Kaczmarczyk, Ashlie Kohlhagen, Valerie Sonnenfeld, Lisa Healey, Heather Drake, Anne Marie Childs, James Keller, Natalie Schrock, Kristin Sorgi, Zara Lohman, David Chriswell, Carrie Smith, Lauren Grace Mendola, Lynn Marie Schafer, Harold Lee Jauch, Meredith Howard, Isabella Mora, Emily Catherine Kreher, Maria Sayers and Edith Lukowski!

Our residents and team members benefit so much from your dedication, hard work and generous hearts. Your creativity and enthusiasm spread so much joy and truly make our communities a brighter place!

Everybody LOVES a Meat Raffle

Attention meat lovers! The Brothers of Mercy is holding a Meat Raffle on April 23rd. You'll have 10 chances to win a combination packages of steaks, chops, Italian and Polish sausage, ground beef, chicken breasts, ribs, roasts and more.

Tickets are just \$10 each, and when purchased before April 16th, you will be entered in our "Early Bird Drawing" to win a \$50 gift certificate to Alabama Holly Farms. For more information or to purchase tickets, call Joanne Turskey at 759-6984 Ext. 258, or get them at the front reception desk at your building.



Takeout Tuesday was a Huge Success

Creative fundraising efforts continued last month with Takeout Tuesday. BOM supporters purchased pizza supplied by the Clarence Pizza Company and 4 pack beer samples from Thin Man Brewery. Orders were taken on line, and all you had to do was drive up, and your order was brought right to the car.

Special thanks goes out to both Clarence Pizza and Thin Man Brewery for making Takeout Tuesday a huge success. We could not have done it without you!



EMPLOYEE REFERRAL BONUS PROGRAM

Now Hiring PCAs, HHA's, Med Techs, LPNs & RNs

How would you like to Earn \$1500?



Did you ever consider yourself as a recruiter?
How would you like to earn \$1500, and at the same time help us ensure a stable workforce?

Referral bonus program for **ALL CURRENT EMPLOYEES** who refer direct care positions:

NAT, CNA, LPN, RN

See HR for details

FREE TAX RETURN PREP

FREE ELECTRONIC
FILING FOR FAST
REFUNDS

Offered from:

1/23/21 - 4/15/21

ALL Brothers of Mercy
Wellness Campus employees
qualify for these FREE services
conducted by IRS certified tax
preparers.

There is no income limit
to utilize this service, which
includes both federal and all
states returns in the U.S.

FOR ALL
BROTHERS OF MERCY
EMPLOYEES



What To Bring:

MUST BRING A COPY OF LAST YEAR'S TAX RETURN!

- BOTH spouses must sign the return
- ALL Social Security cards for you, your spouse, and/or dependents
- Proof of identification for yourself and/or your spouse
- ALL Forms W-2 and 1099
- Information for all other income
- Information for all deductions/credits
- A copy of last year's tax return
- Bank account information for direct deposit of refund
- Total paid to day care provider and their tax ID #
- Birth dates for you, spouse or dependents on the return
- Proof of foreign status if applying for ITIN
- Forms 1095-A, B or C (Health care /ACA Statements)
- For prior year returns, copies of income transcripts from IRS (and state, if applicable)

**This FREE service made possible with support from M&T Bank, Northwest Buffalo Community Center + United Way*

Returns Prepared With:

- Wages, salaries, etc. (Form W-2) • Interest Income (Form 1099-INT) • Dividends Received (Form 1099-DIV)
- State Tax Refunds (Form 1099-G) • Unemployment Benefits (Form 1099-G) • IRA Distributions (Form 1099-R)
- Pension Income (Forms 1099-R, RRB) • Social Security Benefits (Form SSA-1099) • Simple Capital Gain/Loss (Form 1099-B) • Sale of Home (Form 1099-S) limited
- Self-employed Income (Form 1099-MISC) limited
- Gambling Winnings (Form W-2G) • Cancellation of Debt (Form 1099-C) limited • Health Savings Accounts (Form 1099-SA) limited • Itemized Deductions limited
- Education Credits (Form 1098-T) • Child Tax Credit
- Earned Income Credit • ACA Statements (Forms 1095-A, B or C) —Prior Year and Amended Returns limited

INTERESTED IN THIS FREE BENEFIT?

* By appointment only (due to COVID,
all correspondence is electronic) *

TO SCHEDULE AN ELECTRONIC
APPOINTMENT:

Contact Audrey Nguyen
Montabour Heights Accountant
and Certified IRS Tax Specialist
E-Mail: audrey@brothersofmercy.org
Tel: (716) 407-5103

WE
NEED
YOUR
HELP!

.5% of Every Amazon purchase
you make can be donated
to The Brothers of Mercy

At no extra cost to you!

DID YOU KNOW? .5% of all your amazon purchases can be donated to Brothers of Mercy! Just visit: www.smile.amazon.com

THREE EASY STEPS TO SIGN UP

- 1 Login with regular amazon credentials OR create an account
- 2 Select "Account"> "Change Your Charity"
- 3 Search and select BROTHERS OF MERCY FACILITIES FOUNDATION

When you want to shop amazon, simply login to smile.amazon.com and shop as usual - watch your contributions towards BOM pile up! Thank you for supporting our mission of care! ALL proceeds benefit patient care at Brothers of Mercy!

amazon smile
You shop. Amazon gives.