

Excellence



Brothers of Mercy News, Events, Awards and Campus Updates



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Summer 2021

Celebrating Nurses Week and Spirit Week 2021



May 2nd marked the kickoff of Brothers of Mercy celebrating National Nurses Week and Sacred Heart Spirit Week. Monday kicked off festivities with hot coffee and donuts. A huge thank you goes out to Goodrich Coffee for generously supplying our team with fresh coffee throughout the day, and Paula's Donuts for donating hundreds of delicious donut holes to our nurses and team members!

The Nursing and Rehab Center held "Nurse of the Year" nominations, and the team was thrilled to award two very dedicated ladies the honors. Congratulations to BOM's Nurse of the Year, Emma Fox, and runner-up, Emma Garvey. Close to 50 members of the Nursing Team were nominated, and each nominee received a congratulatory potted flower generously donated by Weeks Nursery and Thompson Brothers Nursery.

Our Healthcare Heroes at Sacred Heart enjoyed custom BOM swag bags and treats on Tuesday, along with delicious ice cream sundaes on Wednesday. A big thank you goes out to Perry's Ice cream for donating sundaes to both Sacred Heart and the Nursing and Rehab Center Nursing team.

(Continued on Page 2)

Care-A-Thon 2021 Returns in November

In the Spring of 2020, as COVID was effecting our world, it was unclear how our development goals were going to be met. Thanks to WBBZ, WIVB and Russell J. Salvatore, we were presented with a unique opportunity to take our largest annual fundraiser and move it to TV!

Care-A-Thon 2020 was our first attempt at a virtual fundraising event. Even though we had no clue if this idea was going to work, the many hours of planning and hard work turned out better than anyone ever expected. It was the most successful fundraiser in the history of the Brothers of Mercy raising over \$157,000. This was a 22% increase over the 2019 Caritas Dinner held the prior year.

(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
Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ	16

Nurses/Spirit Week

(Continued from Page 1)

Brother Kenneth and the Nursing Home Enrichment team were hard at work making cinnamon rolls for our Nurses. Brother shared his famous recipe - and the results did not disappoint! These yummy treats were handed out on the Nurses Week on Wednesday.

Nursing & Rehab residents worked with the Enrichment team to home-made chocolates to share. Our Nurses were so touched by the thoughtful gesture!

The Nursing team also celebrated Cinco de Mayo and Nurses Week with a delicious meal prepared by Chef Kyle and BOM's wonderful dietary team. Tieaira and company delivered yummy churros (complete with festive tunes and decorations)!

Thursday was Cake Day. Team members enjoyed delicious, home-made cake generously donated by BOM's Advisory Council member, Jerry Burgin. Sacred Heart rang in Friday with pizza for all, generously donated by Picasso's Pizza!

To close out the week, Nurse Managers pulled out grass skirts, tiki umbrellas and flower leis to deliver yummy watermelon to our Nurses on the Snack Cart!

Staffing, Staffing, Staffing

By Peter Eimer | Brothers of Mercy CEO



As you all know, the senior care industry is in a real staffing crunch. Before the pandemic it was difficult and now it is overwhelming.

First, I want to thank everyone for the extraordinary work you've done during the worst of times. You've literally risked your lives to care for our vulnerable senior population. You have to be a very special person to do that!

Secondly, most of you have worked overtime and weekends to cover our staffing shortages. Again, thank you for that.

Although we have well over 500 "team members" (employees) here, we could easily use 100 more. We have been looking at a variety of ways to attract people and we have to do more to both attract and retain team members. Recently we have increased wages pretty much across the campus, but this can be done only so often because we just don't get the money from Medicaid and insurance companies that we truly need.

So we have to do other things to make Brothers an attractive place to work. We are looking at a myriad of things such as college tuition assistance, bonuses and other things such as child care.

The other important thing we need to do better is to retain team members. People leave jobs for a variety of reasons and an employer cannot always affect that. However, we need to improve our work environment by listening to and appreciating everyone who works here. We are working on improving that.

I DO believe we are a good place to work, although we definitely can improve. If you have ideas on how we can get better just shoot me an e-mail at peter@brothersofmercy.org.

Care-A-Thon 2021 Returns in November

(Continued from Page 1)

"The great success of our first annual Care-A-Thon was directly related to the financial support of all our event sponsors" states Foundation Executive Director Nancy Gugino. "Feel free to call me at 906-9014 if you are interested in either sponsoring or volunteering that night".

The 2021 Care-A-Thon is scheduled for Sunday, November 14th at 8:00pm. Once again WBBZ-TV will be airing with John DiScuillo and WIVB's Gabrielle Mediak hosting the event. Make sure you tune in!

Enjoy Every Moment of this Beautiful Spring

By Teresa Dillsworth | Administrator | Skilled Nursing & Rehabilitation Center



Oh it is so good to finally feel warmer weather. It was a long, lonely winter for many and the ability to enjoy the great outdoors has brought many people's spirits up. Ah...to be able to visit on the patio, sit under a tree or umbrella and just enjoy the fresh air and the spells that come with Spring. The only thing that could make it better would be to be able to see the smiles on the faces that we haven't seen in so long (due to the mask mandate). That too shall come as we slowly learn to live with this virus.

The changes that have occurred over the last year happened at warped speed. Adapting to that was a struggle for most. The change wasn't pleasant but it was necessary to make it to here. The struggles have been real and I could not be more proud of my residents and the Nursing & Rehabilitation Center Team. When the going got tough, they got us through our darkest days. I have a tremendous amount of appreciation, gratitude and joy for the Brothers of Mercy Family.

As we continue to wind our way through this, I do believe we are stronger for it (I really wish we could have found another reason most days). I do believe the toughest days are behind us now. We will never forget the lessons learned nor those we lost along the way. May their loved ones continue to find peace with love in their hearts. Enjoy every moment of this beautiful Spring my friends!

Emma Fox...2021 Nurse of the Year

Congratulations to BOM's Nurse of the Year, Emma Fox, and Nurse of the Year Runner-Up, Emma Garvey! The Brothers of Mercy Nursing and Rehab Center held Nurse of the year nominations in honor of Nurses Week, and the team was thrilled to award these very dedicated ladies the honors last month. To our Nurses of the Year, and our entire team of dedicated Nurses, thank you for all that you do!



Outdoor Fun in the Sun

By Lauren Grawe | Director | Russell J. Salvatore Outpatient Rehab Clinic at the Brothers of Mercy



As the weather begins to heat up in Buffalo, it's a great time to get outdoors to enjoy the sun. However, there are a few risks to keep in mind in order to keep yourself healthy. The most recognized issue during the summer months is the dreaded sunburn. Although a beautiful tan is often more desirable, sun damage can cause many problems as we age.

Peak hours for the sun range between 10am - 3pm, so it's important to reapply sunscreen every 2 hours (more often if you are swimming). Also be sure to apply at least 30 minutes before going outside for the best protection. Statistically speaking, a person has more than double the risk of skin cancer if they've had more than 5 burns in their lifetime!

Hydration is key while outside in the hot summer months. Unfortunately caffeinated and alcoholic drinks don't help you hydrate, so make sure you're taking in extra water during outdoor activities. If you are feeling thirsty, you may already be dehydrated so try to stay proactive.

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.

Change for the Better

By Mindee McDonald | Administrator | Sacred Heart Home



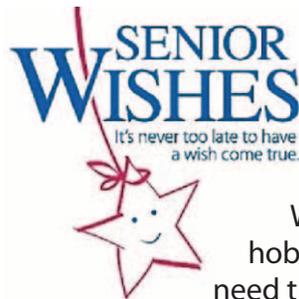
"The secret of change is to focus all of your energy not on fighting the old, but on building the new" - Socrates

This past year had certainly been filled with change. A brand new, state-of-the-art Assisted Living and Memory Care Community, staffing challenges, limited visitations, Covid disruptions and mandates have pushed us all to the limits. However, as the 19th century German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche once said *"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger"*. Well, we not only survived, but came out stronger!

Despite the struggles and the never-ending restrictions that COVID has placed upon us, I am very proud of our SHH family members, staff, and most important the residents for staying strong and unified during these challenging times. I want to THANK YOU ALL for your participation, cooperation, and most importantly patience and compliance with all of the ever changing unforeseen measures we have had to endure.

Now go and have yourself a wonderful summer. You deserve it!

Senior Wishes is Seeking Wish Applicants



Senior Wishes, a local non-profit located in Orchard Park, strives to bring special moments to seniors across WNY by granting their wishes. The program is currently accepting applications for wish fulfillment throughout 2021.

Will you be celebrating a special milestone birthday? Have a hobby or passion you would like to pursue? Or, just have a simple need that will impact your life? We want to hear from you.

Qualifying seniors may submit an application which is reviewed bi-monthly by a volunteer wish granting committee. If your application is approved, a Senior Wishes representative will work with you to plan the details of your wish experience.

Established in 2013 by the United Church Home Society, the program is dedicated to honoring the lives of area seniors. To qualify, wish recipients must be 65+ and a resident of WNY; U.S. Citizen; annual income under \$38,000 for a household of one or under \$44,000 for a household of two. Medical items, bill payments, furniture and vacations are excluded.

Visit www.seniorwishes.org or call Wendy at 716-508-2121 for an application or more information on the program.



A New Energy at the Senior Apartments

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



There is a new energy at the Senior Apartments! We are opening the windows and letting the fresh air rejuvenate us. Many pre-COVID updates to the building are just now getting underway. More and more activities are being scheduled and some exciting outside events are coming our way.

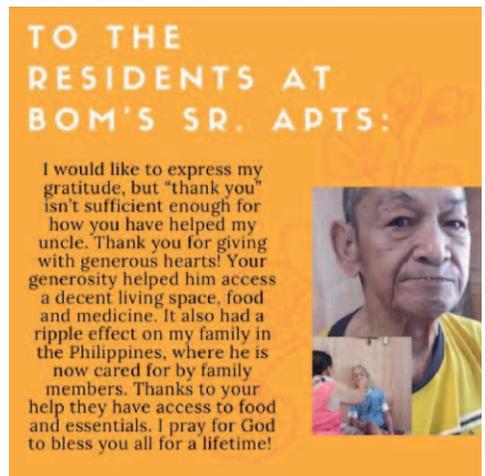
It's been a difficult time of isolation but the residents relied on their "families" here inside the community and helped each other through the difficult times. We mourn the loss of great friends in the past months, but look forward to building some new relationships with the newest additions to our community family. Spring has Sprung in the Senior Apartments!

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land. Song of Solomon 2:11-12

Senior Apartments Residents Making a Difference

Last month the residents at Brothers of Mercy's Senior Apartments rallied together to carry on the legacy of our founding Brothers and help a member of their "BOM family". They donated money, household items and non-perishables to the uncle of our hair dresser, Fely.

Fely's uncle lives in the Philippines and his home was destroyed in the terrible flooding a few months ago. Fely and her family were deeply touched by this, and wanted to share their gratitude with our community. To Fely and her family, our prayers are with you. To our wonderful residents, thank you for living our mission! We are blessed to call you all a part of the BOM family.



Social Activities picking up at Montabaur Heights

By Valerie Kane | Administrator | Montabaur Heights



We are welcoming spring with newly planted flowers and fresh vegetable gardens around the building and the lifting of some Covid-19 restrictions. We are enjoying the beautiful weather, a partial break from masking and enjoying an increase in social activities.

We are busy planning for the summer months with additional outings and special events.

We want to thank everyone who participated in our Montabaur Raffle. Everyone enjoyed the event so much that we plan on holding another raffle next year! Our residents, staff and family members contributed to the baskets that were on display and we are so appreciative of everyone's generosity. We wish you a happy and healthy summer ahead!

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.

Why Work in Health Care?

By Renée Villa | Campus Director of Spiritual Care



Proverbs 17:3 - Gold and silver are tested by fire and a person's heart is tested by the Lord.

Below is a picture from our Campus of a late spring snow squall. The snowy day was an inconvenience, but I couldn't argue with the beauty of the surroundings. So much is stated about the many jobs that are waiting to be filled particularly in health care. It takes a special type of person to answer the call to work in health care.

Many times, it is through first-hand experience that one feels the call to work with the elderly. Someone experiences a grand-parent or parent who is declining in health and becomes their caregiver. One may volunteer to help, or one may be drafted. I was the primary caregiver to my parents and in-laws for approximately five years. After their deaths, I stepped away from elderly care only to be called back to it as a career a few years later.

Make no mistake, it is difficult work, but rewarding beyond measure! Ministering during a pandemic raised the bar of this work: Health Care 2.0. Somehow when your feet are to the fire, you find resilience you never thought possible in yourself and those around you. I am utterly amazed at the resilience and strength of the residents and staff I encounter every day.

Certainly there are days that are discouraging and difficult. Still, it is possible to find joy and blessings in every difficult circumstance. It is revealed in the light in someone's eyes when they know you understand what they are experiencing or the gratitude that someone cared enough to be there. There is a hidden beauty in each circumstance, just like that snowy photo.

It may be more financially rewarding to remain at home, knowing there is a job that awaits you. But when I look back on my life, I hope I spent my time doing something more meaningful than binge watching *Schitt's Creek*. There will be time enough to stream these programs when I transition from caregiver to the one who receives care.

Peace.



BROTHERS OF MERCY MASS SCHEDULE

Currently the Mass schedule is suspended. Opportunities for prayer are available according to current guidelines.

A Great Big Hug from your Brothers of Mercy Family

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



The Foundation has been hard at work with raising funds for all four Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus communities.

Our Spring Easter Appeal is nearing the \$10,000 goal. Mini online- events such as our Valentine's Day sale, Easter Event, the first Good Friday Fish Fry, Virtual Meat Raffle and Mother's Day Sale added \$15,000 to our net revenues for 2021.

Last month we began our Summer Chiavetta's Chicken Dinners. Three more dinners are scheduled for June, July and August. Just go to the Brothers of Mercy website to show your support and enjoy a great chicken barbecued dinner as well.

The Foundation fully supported Nurse's Week again this year for our Healthcare Heroes in the Skilled Nursing and Rehab Center, as well as our brand new Assisted Living with Memory Care and Enhanced Services Community. Thank you to Perry's Ice Cream, Picasso's Pizza, Russell J. Salvatore, Advisory Council Member Jerry Burgin, Salvatore's Italian Gardens, Local Garden Centers and Nurseries, Goodrich Coffee, Paula's Doughnuts, Wegman's, Tops, Dash's Market's and so many more. Our hearts go out to all of you for your generosity and heartfelt support! You all truly stepped up during these challenging times to support our front-line staff and we cannot thank you enough for making this week special for our nursing staff.

Moving forward and full steam ahead, we look forward to the return of the Oktoberfest/5K Race 2021 being held on September 10th. Purchase your tickets now while they are still available. In November, we host our 2nd Care-A-Thon Event which will be televised again this year! So much to see and win with our online raffle prizes. Trips, spa packages, in-home chef inspired parties, a party table for eight at you guessed it - the King of Hospitality, Russell's Steaks, Chops and More: "Be Our Guest and Let Us do The Rest!" Other prizes include special local artwork pieces and so many gift cards supporting so many businesses in WNY... you don't want to miss this event. Follow us on the BOM website for more!

Thank you to all our generous donors for supporting the Foundation. Our residents and staff are blessed to have your support. You truly make a remarkable difference in the lives of those we are privileged to serve as well as the lives of all our tireless caretakers! A great big hug from your Brothers of Mercy Family to each and every one of you! Thank YOU - we simply could not do it without YOU!

Special Fundraising Events for the Rest of 2021

June...6/24 Chiavetta's BBQ Chicken Dinner

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

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

September...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



COLIN FREY | SUPERVISOR/DIETARY AIDE - March 2021

Colin has been an employee since January 2019. He has been a great addition to the Brothers of Mercy dietary team. Colin has a great work ethic. He keeps moving and makes good decisions. He is always willing to help wherever needed in the kitchen. Colin has moved his way up the ladder. We are extremely grateful to have Colin as part of our dietary team!



MELISSA MANEY | ADMISSIONS SCREENER - April 2021

Melissa has been an employee at BOM since July 2018. Melissa is always very friendly, outgoing and great with the residents and the families. She is always willing to step up and help out no matter what the situation. Melissa never skips a beat and is a great asset and team member to the Admissions Department. Thank you and congratulations Melissa!



CHERYL EVERTT | CNA - May 2021

Cheryl has been an employee at BOM since May 2000. She is a thoughtful, caring, kind employee who always goes above and beyond. Cheryl has a jump start at the first footstep in the door. She gives her full attention to her residents, and enthusiasm is contagious! Quick with a smile and ensures her tasks are complete, she is always there to give a fellow employee a hand. Cheryl's commitment is over the top!

WORK ANNIVERSARIES

30 Years:

Wendy Groll	Sacred Heart Home	Housekeeping	4/10/91
-------------	-------------------	--------------	---------

25 Years:

Sandy Lippert	Management Co.	Payroll Coord.	4/15/96
---------------	----------------	----------------	---------

15 Years:

Jeff Sztukowski	Nursing Home	Dir of Therapy Svcs.	5/22/06
-----------------	--------------	----------------------	---------

10 Years:

Lynn Brady	Nursing Home	Ins Instructor	4/04/11
Tammy Hanley	Nursing Home	C.NA	5/23/11
Peggy Shuknecht	Management Co.	Controller	5/16/11

5 Years:

Tim Tryjankowski	Nursing Home	Maint Mechanic	4/11/16
Jon Tesch	Sacred Heart Home	Diet Aide/Cook	4/29/16
John Russo	Sacred Heart Home	Diet Aide	5/10/16

Murad Ramadan - Director of Plant Operations SHH



Anyone that has been on the Brothers of Mercy campus for awhile probably knows Murad Ramadan. He's the kind of guy that when you first meet him, makes you feel like you've known him for years. As Director of Plant Operations at the Sacred Heart Home, he is responsible for the day-to-day operations and the safety of all residents, family members and staff. At the old SHH building, Murad did whatever it took to keep the building open and operational. He was also instrumental in opening the new building and moving all the residents, their furniture and possessions. Not an easy task.

Born in Jerusalem, Murad came to the United States as a young boy in 1975. He grew up on the west side of Buffalo and graduated from Lafayette High School in 1992. His career in Health Care began in 2004, where he realized he enjoyed helping residents and family members make their transition into long term care. *"I love the day-to-day problem solving and helping residents, family members and staff with any issues they have at the Sacred Heart Home"*, states Murad.

Murad had been married to his high school sweetheart Kimberly for 27 years. They have two children - Nina who is 26, and AJ who is 20. Oh, and don't forget Luna, their 10 year old dog.

"We don't know how we would have done it without Murad". Mindee McDonald said when talking about all the things that had to be done moving into the new building. *"His dedication to SHH and this campus is invaluable"*.

NEW ASSOCIATES

March • April • May

Dining Services:

Jonathan Ferrari
Tinya Franklin
Sania Thomas Purdue
Mitchell Sayers (MH)
Alex Kiener (MH)
Samar Purdue
Kaitlyn McLaughlin (MH)
Kaylee Weston (SHH)
Francisco Quebral (SHH)
Leah Garrett
Jeremy Dread
Adam Flynn
Tyquan Jordan
Meghan McDoanld (SHH)

Health Services (SHH):

Ebony Mathews
Tammy Edmonds
Jared Emery
Elyjah Marrero
Alyssa Gendron
Daniel Borton
Anquonique Phillips**
Kristen George**

TNA Nursing Assistant

Trainees:

Malisha Lofton
Alisha Talbot
Kenisha Thomas
Tajinani Ross
Kamilah Khalfani
Natavia Simmons
Salena Jackson
Rhonda Tallington
Tacara Tidwell
Sequaziah Ralands
Aviance Clark
Chaquenia Coleman
Madison Penetrante
Robin Gray
Mikayla Crofford
Shaheria Nash
Tonya Johnson
Amber Gonzalez
Zaireden Williams**
Natalie Robinson**

Activities:

Maria Johnson**

Nurses:

Nicole Young
Kayla Budniewski
Destiny Goldsmith (SHH)
Kaileen Dunphy (SHH)
Rosalind Hampton (SHH)
Lawanda Lewis (SHH)
Briana Langford
LaShante Jackson
Brittany Rimbeck

Companion Care:

Susan Burkard
Evelyn Hochreiter

Admissions:

Shannon Masterson

Communications:

Sydney Schmidt (SHH)

Unit Clerk:

Sarah Foley
Sheryl Walter (SHH)

Env Services:

Allen Prude
Heather Fladie
Talia Laster
Alan Ground (SHH)**

C.NAs:

Zamar Volious
Ian Morrison
Nataya Artis
Michael Allen**
Melissa Bove**
Meghan Trombetta**

Enrichment:

Kathryn Clark
Amanda Drybala
Dawn Murphy

Nursing Admin:

Marilyn Almeter Milbrand

** Welcome Back!

College Tuition Assistance is now Available

At the Brothers of Mercy, we are committed to your personal growth, success and education. All full time and part time employees are encouraged to take advantage of one of the following college tuition assistance programs:

Tuition Assistance Program

Now expanded to include ANY degree. The annual maximum is \$5,000 for full time employees and \$2,500 for part time employees.

Erie 1 BOCES LPN Program

Available to all employees, you must be working full time or part time during the program. We cover the entire tuition.

Trocaire College Scholarship Program

Available to Nursing Home and Sacred Heart Home employees, you must be working full time or part time during the program, and have worked here for one year. We cover the full tuition to receive your LPN, RN or BSN degrees.

Contact HR to review the Tuition Assistance Policy for full details.

The HR Team is Here for You

We are here for you to answer any questions or concerns you have during these challenging times. Feel free to stop down at any time.

Looking to make some Extra Cash? An easy way is through our **Employee Referral Bonus Program.**

Earn \$2000 in Bonus Cash!!!

\$2,000 Bonus Payout for ANY position ANYWHERE on the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. \$1000 after 6 months + \$1000 after 12 months. See HR for additional details.



Tracy, Cheryl & Jacquie
Your BOM Human Resources Team

Compassionate Care Yields Kind Words

We receive so many thank you notes, cards and letters that we would need many more pages to print. However here are a few samplings that collectively summarize those thoughts and kind words.

"The outpouring of support and love from so many there will never be forgotten or taken for granted. It takes a special culture to have such deep care and concern for individuals under your watch as well as the respect and concern for their family."

"My mom went to Brother's of Mercy by van without anything but the clothes on her back. I live 5 hours away and the staff did an excellent job taking care of her. People were so kind and caring. We are so grateful for all the great people that helped mom!"

Attention Nurses and CNA's

Looking to Earn Some Extra Cash?

The campus Companion Care Program is looking to fill some hours. You are already employed by the Brothers of Mercy, therefore, we would just need to go over a job description. Hours vary and may fit in to your already busy schedule. If interested please call **Susan Reilly at 716-291-6178.**



Stories of Honor: Seven decades after WWII, Arthur Miller Remembers the Happier Moments

By Harold McNeil - The Buffalo News, Photography by Robert Kirkham - The Buffalo News

In May and June, The Buffalo News is featuring stories of some WNY's veterans who served in the armed services in WW II and beyond. Last month, Brothers of Mercy resident Arthur Miller shared his story.

During his time as a communications officer in the 3rd Infantry Division during World War II, U.S. Army Sgt. Arthur P. Miller of Buffalo cultivated a broad range of memories from triumphant to tragic.

As he sat under a gazebo on the grounds of the Brothers of Mercy campus in Clarence more than 75 years later, surrounded by his medals and memorabilia, it was the happier moments about which Miller chose to reminisce. They included sharing a bottle of scotch with a couple of U.S. citizens who were stranded in Rome prior to the liberation of Italy by Allied forces; sharing a 200-pound wheel of Limburger cheese with an entire village in Austria; and sharing a poignant encounter with a German soldier in which they both managed to avoid killing or getting killed.

Miller was born on June 28, 1924, in Buffalo, and grew up on the East Side. He attended St. Stanislaus Catholic Elementary School and was a 1939 graduate of Seneca Vocational High School before he was drafted into the Army in 1941. He served in North Africa, Italy, France, Austria and Germany. Miller joined his men on the Appian Way to Rome in May 1945 for the liberation of Italy. Miller said he and his Jeep driver, Pablo Garcia, encountered an American husband and wife in Rome who had been trapped in the city since the start of the war and were grateful to see him.

"I made friends with people who were ready to kill me" Miller said. "I just talked them out of doing it," he said. "He was the same age I was. We were both 19 or 20, and he carried a rifle, and I said, "I don't like you carrying that rifle. Why don't you put it on the ground? And he said 'why?' And I said, 'because it's making me nervous.' And so he finally laid it down," Miller said. He spoke to the German soldier half in German and half in English, and asked him: "Why do we want to kill each other?' I said, 'why don't we go home. You're as old as I am. You probably have a girlfriend or a wife. You can have a family. You can raise your family and forget about the war,'" Miller said. The two men saluted each other and walked away. "There's only one thing I feel bad about and that's I didn't get his name," Miller said.

After 3½ years of service, Miller was discharged in 1945. He earned the Bronze Star, and during a 2011 ceremony in New York City, Miller was awarded the National Order of the Legion of Honor from the president of France for his participation in the liberation of France. Miller cherishes a framed black-and-white photograph he took of Allied soldiers in the shadow outside the Eagle's Nest in Anzio, Italy.

He married the former Madeline Marie Bokowski in 1950. They had three children, now in their 60s: Gretchen; Timothy, a retired New York City-based actor; and Paul. The couple had two grandchildren. They were married for 65 years until her death in 2015.

Arthur Miller was a mechanical engineer for the Sylvania Company in Batavia for 30 years.



World War II 3rd Infantry Division veteran Arthur Miller



Arthur Miller discusses the war in the European theater



A young Arthur Miller, with his French Medal of Honor

Thank you to Cub Scout Pack 93



A special Thank You goes out to Cub Scout Pack 93 for posting “Thank You Signs” outside of BOM’s Outpatient Therapy Clinic! Our team of Healthcare Heroes was so touched to find two handmade signs flanking the clinic entrance last month. This small act of kindness made their day!

102 Years Young

The happiest of Birthday wishes goes out to our wonderful resident Naomi, who turned 102 in April. Congratulations Naomi. A very Happy, Happy Birthday to you!



Everybody Loves Mia



Do you remember the TV show “Everybody Loves Raymond”? Well the 2021 version is “Everybody Loves Mia”. Mia is the official mascot of BOM’s Senior Apartments. She made her Instagram debut a few months ago and we thought it was time for another appearance.

You can often find her frequenting BOM with her owner, Executive Director Mary Baty. She loves to greet visitors, walks around campus and snuggling with team members after a long day of being a social butterfly!

Flower Delivery to Montabaur Heights

Residents at Brothers of Mercy’s Montabaur Heights were delighted to receive bouquets from the Hospice Buffalo Spring Bouquet Sale.

The Brothers of Mercy has been proudly partnering with Hospice Buffalo for many years at our Nursing and Rehab Center, and we are happy to support this wonderful fundraiser each year on our wellness campus.



Super Hero Day at BOM's Nursing and Rehab Center

Staff and residents enjoyed celebrating their favorite superheroes last month at the Nursing & Rehab Center. A very appropriate celebration seeing that our front line workers are the REAL superheroes - day in and day out!

Did you know Superman was supposed to be a bald character, obsessed with dominating the world and that originally the Hulk was supposed to be grey in color? Since green looked better in print, the color of the Hulk was changed to green. You learn something new every day!



Bringing out your Inner Picasso



Residents recently enjoyed painting their own masterpieces at the Brother of Mercy's Senior Apartments and Montabaur Heights. This group gets together multiple times a year to share their love of creativity!



Pablo Picasso is probably the most important figure of the 20th century, in terms of art, and art movements that occurred over this period. Before the age of 50, the Spanish born artist had become the most well-known name in modern art. There had been no other artists, prior to Picasso, who had such an impact on the art world, or had a mass following of fans and critics alike, as he did.

Brother Ken's Famous Cinnamon Rolls

Thank you to Brother Kenneth and the BOM Nursing Home Enrichment team for making cinnamon rolls for our Nurses in honor of Nurses Week! Brother Kenneth shared his famous recipe with Julie and team, and the results did not disappoint!

These yummy treats were handed out on the snack cart during Nurses Week festivities. Everyone agreed these may have been the best cinnamon rolls they have ever tasted!



Brothers Celebrate 97 Years in WNY



June 28th marks 97 years of the Brothers of Mercy serving Western New York. Founded over 160 years ago in Germany, the Brothers of Mercy's profound origin story stems from a humble mission: to honor Christ through service those most in need – the sick, poor and aged.

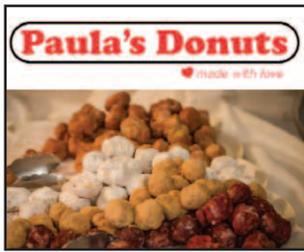
National Occupational Therapy Month

April was National Occupational Therapy Month. Our inpatient and outpatient teams of Occupational Therapists and COTAs are amazingly dedicated professionals!

Thank you for all of your hard work and all you do to help our patients, residents and fellow team members at the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus!



Thank You Goodrich Coffee and Paula’s Donuts



A HUGE thank you goes out to **Goodrich Coffee** and **Paula’s Donuts** for generously supplying our frontline workers with fresh coffee and hundreds of delicious donut holes to our nurses and team members throughout the day. Both the coffee and donuts were such a treat and very much appreciated!

It’s a Dog’s World

Meet Ella, the official mascot of the BOM Foundation. You will often find Ella keeping busy at the White House with her owner, BOM Director of Programming, Ross Jackson. Her sweet disposition spreads so much cheer throughout our hallways. Ella enjoys greeting visitors and campus walks. Rarely does she miss her afternoon nap. Her favorite activity is making the rounds to each and every office at the White House, where she often encounters (and happily accepts) yummy doggie treats from her BOM co-workers.



Double Rainbow Magic



A recent photo taken by our resident photography buff Brother Ken of our beautiful campus features this gorgeous double rainbow shot in early April. What an amazing sight!

However, the occurrence of a double rainbow is magical, but not uncommon. Accuweather explains that as many as four rainbows can be seen, but only if they are reflected off of the earthly objects. But it’s just a natural phenomenon that occurs with some regularity.



CHIAVETTA'S

Drive -Through Chicken Dinner

3 REMAINING DATES

THURSDAY **JUNE 24** | THURSDAY **JULY 22** | THURSDAY **AUG 26**

Pre-order by for **FREE DELIVERY** to your BOM community!

TO ORDER Call or place order directly at the **FRONT DESK** of each BOM community

\$10 Healthcare Hero Discount Rate applies to ALL BOM Employees!



EMPLOYEE REFERRAL BONUS PROGRAM



Earn \$2,000

**\$2,000 Bonus Payout for ANY position ANYWHERE
on the Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus.
\$1000 after 6 months + \$1000 after 12 months**

ALL Brothers of Mercy campus employees are eligible for these Referral Bonus Awards! For more information, please see the HR Department.

****To claim benefits, you and referred employee must sign a referral form and both employees must still be employed at payout dates****