



February 6, 2024

The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus Unveils Art Gallery at Montabaur Heights *Gallery for 'Wellness Through Art' program is open to the public daily from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

CLARENCE, NY – The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus (BrothersofMercy.org) today announced the opening of an art gallery at the Montabaur Heights independent living community on its Wellness Campus. The gallery, which will feature up to four exhibits each year, is now open to the public seven days a week from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. through Thursday, April 11.

The inaugural exhibit is called “The Legacy Artists” and features the following seven prominent artists from across Western New York. Each artist has several pieces of art on display.

- **Bruce Barber**
- **Todd Chalk**
- **Susan Miller**
- **Beth Pedersen**
- **Russell Ram**
- **Richard Rockford**
- **Catherine Tillou**

Visitors who come to see the artwork may also enjoy lunch any day of the week between 11 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. in the Montabaur Heights dining room by calling 716-407-5102 to make a reservation at least 24 hours in advance. Lunch is \$12 per person, payable by cash or check to Montabaur Heights, and no parties larger than 10.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for the greater Buffalo area to visit our beautiful campus and enjoy the gallery as well as the many talented artists who have displayed their craft,” said Ashlie Kohlhagen, Executive Director of Montabaur Heights Independent Living Apartments. “The gallery will not only become a showcase for regional artists, but also for those aspiring artisans who call The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus home. We look forward to hosting many shows and getting to see old and new friends while sharing the mission of The Brothers of Mercy.”

This new art gallery is part of an overall “Wellness Through Art” initiative that will take place across The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus. The goal of the program is to encourage residents to continue thriving at any age by remaining active in the different forms of art they enjoy creating or viewing. The program will enhance quality of life for patients and residents on campus through a variety of activities, including artist presentations, hands-on demonstrations and trips to other art galleries.

“The Brothers of Mercy Art Committee is thrilled to celebrate the opening of the gallery and the launch of the Arts Initiative on Campus! Thanks to Russell Ram for curating our opening exhibit and bringing together works by distinguished local artists to launch the ‘Wellness Through Art’ initiative on The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus,” said Mary Jo Ketchum, Chairperson of the Art Committee. “Art can be a powerful tool to help older adults cope with issues such as isolation, loneliness and stress. We also aim to help residents in memory care at Sacred Heart Home to participate in the new art program, as it can alleviate their focus on aches and pains so they can experience enhanced coordination, improved immune function and reduced pain.”

Anthony Fulgenzio, Director of Development, welcomed and thanked members of the Clarence Chamber of

Commerce for participating in the launch of the Wellness Through Art Initiative that will add to the Clarence community's rich culture and heritage.

The Brothers of Mercy thanks its legacy sponsors for their support of the Wellness Campus and the new art gallery: the Clarence Chamber of Commerce, Joe Basil Chevrolet, Buffalo Pharmacy, Family Choice of New York, Highgate Medical Group and The David & Joan Rogers Family Foundation. For more information about the art gallery, call 716-407-5100.

Please note: Ransom Road is closed south of Bergtold Road due to construction for a new bridge over the New York State Thruway. To access The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus, take Main Street to Ransom and turn right or approach from the west on Wehrle and take a right Shisler Road, then a left into the campus.

About The Brothers of Mercy Wellness Campus:

The Brothers of Mercy is a nonprofit Catholic provider of comprehensive, compassionate residential, health care and rehabilitation services for Western New Yorkers. The organization operates a Medicare-rated 5-star, 126-acre Wellness Campus in Clarence, NY. With a continuum of lifestyle options, The Brothers of Mercy ministry of care features skilled nursing, inpatient & outpatient therapies, assisted living & memory care, independent living, spiritual care, respite, hospice and at-home companion care. It is the largest retirement community in the region, as ranked by *Buffalo Business First*, and ranks annually on the *U.S. News & World Report* and *Newsweek* "America's Best Nursing Homes" list.

In 2024, The Brothers of Mercy's will commemorate its 100th anniversary of serving seniors seeking their best quality of life. From its origins of riding bicycles through the streets of Buffalo to deliver home care, the mission has remained devoted to serving the essential health needs of the community through the motto of "The Charity of Christ Urges On." For more information, **call 716-759-6985, email info@brothersofmercy.org or visit BrothersofMercy.org.**

###