

www.stcolumbanshome.org

St. Columban's *Today*

St. Columban's On The Lake Retirement Home

Fall 2011



Inside This Issue:

▶ Spring Festival mission parade, p. 2.

▶ Salute to our resident volunteers, p. 4-5.

▶ A special visitor from across the globe, p. 7.

Year End Brings New Beginnings

By Sr. Corona Colleary,
Administrator

Greetings as yet another year rapidly comes to an end. This year we were blessed with the ability to complete many of the projects and renovations that have been in the works for the past few years. Our window replacement project is finished. Renovations to our offices were made possible through the generosity of benefactors. Construction of the all season 40th Anniversary Community Room is underway and we dream that we will be able to enjoy this new addition to our home in the near future. More important than the new additions and renovations to our home are the impact they will have on improving the quality of life and life experiences for our current resident family and those who will join us in the future. We are so very thankful to all who help make our dreams a reality and hope that the seeds you planted in the beginning of this year have taken root and soon will yield you a bountiful harvest of joy and new beginnings.



Spring Festival Draws Support For Worldwide Missions

55th annual event continues to be a favorite with the entire community

Once again the community came out to support the fundraising efforts of the Missionary Sisters of St. Columban during the 55th Annual Columban Sisters Spring Festival on Sunday, June 5. The annual event attracted a large crowd of enthusiastic local supporters who enjoyed a wide variety of delicious summertime treats. Games for the young and young at heart helped to keep all entertained and provided opportunities to meet up with old friends and meet some new ones along the way. As the day turned into evening and the festivities drew to end, Sister Corona Colleary, Administrator of the retirement home, along with excited volunteers drew the names of the lucky winners of the Annual Spring Raffle. Proceeds from the annual event provide financial support to the worldwide missionary efforts of the dedicated

Columban Sisters. This generosity helps to provide a multitude of support services to those who need it the most: the young, elderly, frail and neglected in remote areas around the globe including Chili, China/Hong Kong, England, Ireland, Myanmar (Burma), Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Scotland and the United States.

On behalf of the Columban Sisters and all those who receive support services from our annual fundraising efforts around the globe, our sincere thanks for your generosity and gifts of time and talent in support of this annual event.

Each issue of St. Columban's Today features a special insert which highlights an area where the Columban Sisters minister and gives you a firsthand glimpse of how your support helps those less fortunate.



▶ A colorful parade featuring costumes and banners depicting the Columban Sisters worldwide missions was one of the highlights of the Spring Festival activities.

Construction Begins On New Community Room

40th Anniversary Fund Drive Continues As Renovations Move Forward

The 40th Anniversary Fund Drive, which began last year during St. Columban's on the Lake's celebration of 40 years of service to the elderly, has successfully funded some much needed improvements to the retirement home and continues to seek donations to reach its goal and complete the projects in progress.

In early September, ground was broken for the construction of the new, four-season Community Room. This spacious windowed area will enable residents to enjoy the changing seasons in comfort and provide space for social activities and programs.

The room is expected to be completed and ready for use by early spring 2012. Following completion of the Community Room, the residents dining room will receive a facelift making it more user friendly with features addressing the needs of today's seniors.

Generous contributions to date have also funded renovation of the nutritional services/dietary department office, personal care/nursing office and general office. These renovations will allow the staff to conduct their daily work in modern and more confidential surroundings.

Each of these improvements not only enhances the quality of life for St. Columban's residents, but also strengthens St. Columban's position in the marketplace, helping it to remain competitive and maintain the high quality service and care for the elderly for which it has been known for over four decades.

Make A Gift. Make A Difference.

Contributions to the 40th Anniversary Fund Drive are still needed . Your financial support can make a difference in the lives of others for years to come. Call 716-934-4515 for more information or to make a donation.



▶ St. Columban's resident centenarians, Oliver Hooge (far left) and Sam Weber (with shovel) are joined by (l to r) Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, John Stonefoot, General Contractor, Frank Pagano and Administrator, Sr. Corona Colleary at the groundbreaking for the new Community Room.



▶ Workers and equipment at the construction site get the project underway.

Resident Volunteers Are The Heart of the Home

St. Columban's on the Lake is truly blessed to have resident volunteers who offer their time and talents in a multitude of activities and services in the home throughout the year. They serve as an inspiration to everyone and prove that service to others has no age limit – hats off to our resident volunteers!



Evelyn Martin came to St. Columban's in November of 2006. She served as a volunteer for 22 years prior to becoming a resident, so her transition into resident volunteer service was effortless.

Evelyn assists the Activities Department Director, Jane Ball in countless programs and events. She also assists in recording resident participation in events throughout the year.



Betty Rosten joined the St. Columban's family in December 2005. Betty offers daily assistance in our nutritional services department. She sets tables for meal service and alerts the staff about

special needs on resident tables. Her support is much appreciated and welcomed by the dietary staff.



Maud Saville is our newest resident volunteer, joining us in August 2008. Her musical talents have blossomed since her arrival at St. Columban's. She provides the home with countless hours of

musical enjoyment. She entertains us throughout the day and also during special events and programs. Maud provides the musical accompaniment on piano or organ during the Residents Choir in-house programs and on visits to other facilities.



Theresa Szocki joined us in September 2003. Theresa still works part time in the Deli at Tops Market in Silver Creek. During her free time, she helps organize many aspects of the annual Columban

Sisters Spring Festival. Theresa and her sister, Louise Anzalone purchase many of the prizes and contact the many volunteers needed to run a large portion of the games and booths at the yearly event. In 2007, Theresa and Louise also initiated the Annual Columban Sisters Fall Mission Raffle, which helps to raise additional funds to support the Columban Sisters worldwide missions. Theresa also plays an integral role in the annual appeal mailings and is a member of our Residents Council.



Dolores (Dee) Trewiler has been an active member of our resident family since February 2000. Dee is instrumental in maintaining our activities and special events bulletin boards. She also coordi-

nates our weekly in-house movie night with Sister Mark. Dee can also be found helping with annual mailings from the Mission Office under the watchful eye of Sister Mary. She assists Activities Director Jane Ball in an array of projects and in-home activities and is a member of our Residents Council.

Volunteers Needed

If you would like to be a volunteer at St. Columban's, contact Jane Ball (Activities Director) at (716) 934-4515.



▶ Evelyn Martin (l) helps Activities Director, Jane Ball with the department's many activities and events.



▶ Betty Rosten helps in the dining room to make mealtimes enjoyable for every resident.



▶ Maude Saville provides everyone at St. Columban's with hours of musical enjoyment.



▶ Theresa Szocki with the Fall Mission Raffle display which she organizes every year with the help of her sister, Louise Anzalone.



▶ Dee Trewiler keeps everyone posted as she maintains the activities and special events bulletin boards.

Residents Council Helps Things Run Smoothly at St. Columban's

The residents of St. Columban's on the Lake have a voice in all that happens in the home through the Residents Council. The five member council is comprised of residents who meet once a month with members of the home's administration to discuss issues of interest to the resident family. The Residents Council offers insights into menu planning and special functions, and relays information regarding program evaluation of the Activities Department. Members also offer suggestions on helping new residents in adjusting to community living. The council was involved in creating and designing the contents of the Residents Handbook which addresses many of the questions and concerns a new resident may have upon moving in. This useful and welcoming handbook also serves as a reference guide following the initial adjustment period. In addition, Resident Council members often act as liaisons between the residents and administration in addressing questions and concerns before they become an issue. Thanks to the assistance and suggestions of the Residents Council, the lines of communication are always open and many positive improvements have been implemented which have enhanced the quality of life for St. Columban's residents.



► Current members of the Residents Council include (l to r) Gloria Wells, Theresa Szocki, Twila Nash, Dee Trewiler and Anne Matyjakowski.

The Sound Of Music

St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home is now filled with the sweet sound of music. A new grand piano was delivered one early morning in April and given a place of honor in the Chinese Room. David Patrillo, a long time friend of the Columban Sisters, gifted the home with a brand new Samick ebony grand piano from Illo's Piano of Buffalo. Resident Maud Saville sat down and enthusiastically played "Oh What A Beautiful Morning" which delighted the residents and ushered in this new addition to the home. A round of applause for David for his generosity and friendship echoed throughout the home. The sound of music will now fill St. Columban's on the Lake for many years to come.



► Maud Saville (seated) is surrounded by enthusiastic music lovers who enjoy the well known songs she plays on the new grand piano.

A Special Visitor

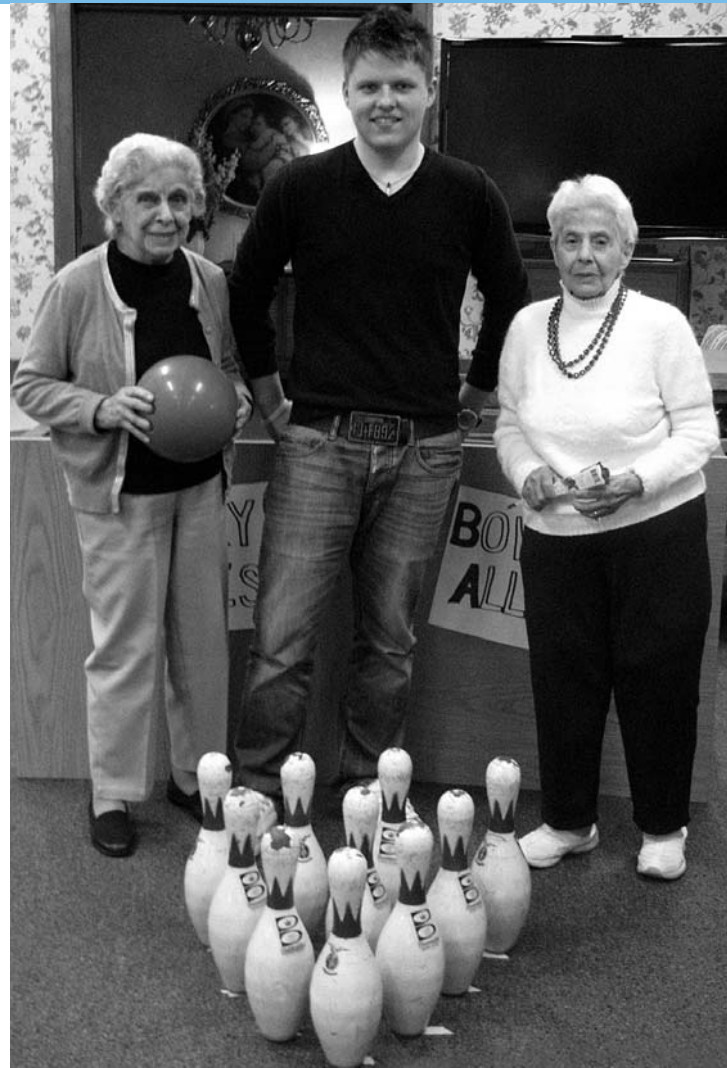
Foreign Exchange Student Has Engaging Experience At St. Columban's

Last January, St. Columban's on the Lake had a special visit from two Silver Creek High School seniors. Sam Deike and foreign exchange student David Melisek, who was being hosted by Sam's family, came to participate in our monthly "Coffee and Conversation" program. During this special program residents share memories or learn of new experiences from visitors while enjoying a cup of coffee and some homemade treats.

David and Sam's visit was indeed unique and allowed the young men a glimpse into the world and lives of our special seniors. In return, the residents had the opportunity to learn about life in Zilina, Slovakia, which is David's hometown in the former Republic of Czechoslovakia.

David answered a myriad of questions including what life is like in Zilina, the celebration of holidays and traditions, and how the weather in his hometown differs from Western New York. David explained that life is indeed different in the United States. It took some getting use to, but after a short while he felt as though he fit in well. The only problem he thought was his accent, which in reality turned out to be an advantage with the female high school students. The use of electronic gadgets is more popular in the states than back in his hometown where he spends his free time with his family visiting other countries or pursuing his passion for skiing.

The visit was so enjoyable that David and Sam returned the following day and helped to organize a bowling tournament with Activities Director Jane Ball and a group of eager bowling enthusiasts. Engaging in a game of pool and a round of scrabble completed their second day visit.



▶ Foreign exchange student, David Melisek joins residents Josephine Matney (l) and Gert Pagano (r) as they get ready for a bowling tournament during his visit to St. Columban's.

David returned to Zilina in February. He has taken the experiences of his time in the United States with him and the memories of special people like his foreign exchange hosts Ruth and David Deike, Sam's grandparents, his classmates and the special seniors at St. Columban's who have touched his life in the same special way that he has touched theirs.



▶ The living is easy at St.Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home.



ST. COLUMBAN'S
On the Lake
RETIREMENT HOME

St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home was established in 1970 by the Columban Sisters whose experience and dedication in caring for people is well-known in the health, education and social work fields. St. Columban's offers retirement living for senior singles and couples of all faiths, private rooms in a beautiful, lakeside setting and accommodations to suit a variety of budget needs.

To add a name to our newsletter mailing list, call 716-934-4515. For more information, visit www.stcolumbanshome.org.



ST. COLUMBAN'S
On the Lake

*St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home
2546 Lake Road
Silver Creek, NY 14136*

Address Service Requested