

www.stcolumbanshome.org

# St. Columban's *Today*

St. Columban's On The Lake Retirement Home

Spring 2011



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# A Time of Growth, Renewal & Rebirth

By Sr. Corona Colleary,  
Administrator

Our 40th Anniversary celebrations are officially over. Thinking back on the past year, I now reflect on wonderful memories of the special men and women who touched the lives of all at St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home over the past four decades. How truly blessed and thankful we are for having the privilege of their presence and personal touch in our lives; an imprint on our hearts which will last a lifetime.



With the season of spring rapidly approaching, we are mindful that this is a time for growth, renewal and rebirth. Just as springtime buds push forth their heads to greet the warmer weather and sunshine, we too must push forward to see new dreams and goals become reality. At St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home we have been busy during the cold winter months planting seeds for new opportunities and improvements for our resident family. Please take a moment to review all that has happened in our lives during the past few months. See our dreams for the future and know that you can be part of our hope! I trust that you are nurturing your special "seeds" and soon will see them blossom and grow.

# Springtime Is Festival Time!

55th Annual Columban Sisters Spring Festival, Sunday June 5

The beautiful, sprawling grounds of St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home will serve as the backdrop for the 55th Annual Columban Sisters Spring Festival, the yearly fundraising event which supports the Columban Sisters worldwide missions. For more than half a century, this time-honored tradition has served as a sure sign that summertime is just around the corner.

Plan on joining family and friends between 12 noon and 6 p.m., to enjoy a myriad of festival offerings including delicious Chiavetta's Barbeque Chicken with all the trimmings. Chargrilled hamburgers and hot dogs, fried ice cream and cool beverages will satisfy your springtime cravings while you laugh, reminisce and create new memories. Try your luck at some of the many games of chance and bring home beautiful handcrafted items. The Baker's Corner is a must-stop spot with mouthwatering treats to take home, including Irish soda bread, sour cream coffee cake, almond pastry

and carrot cake to name just a few.

Guided tours of the retirement home will be held from 1:30 to 4:00 offering a glimpse into the special lifestyle offered at St. Columban's on the Lake. The day will culminate with the awarding of over \$5,000 in cash prizes. All proceeds will support the special missionary efforts of the dedicated Columban Sisters who offer supportive services to elderly, neglected and frail men, women and children in Chile, China/Hong Kong, England, Ireland, Korea, Myanmar (Burma), Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Scotland and the United States. So don't forget, circle June 5 on your calendar and be part of the fun, excitement and support of the 55th Annual Columban Sisters Spring Festival!

*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.*

**55<sup>th</sup> Spring Festival**  
Sunday, June 5, 2011, Noon-6pm

To benefit the Columban Sisters worldwide missions

- \* \$5000 in cash prizes
- \* Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ
- \* Children's activities & games
- \* Gift & craft booths
- \* Classic Car Cruise

Rte 5, Three Miles West of Silver Creek, New York  
716-934-4515  
www.stecolumbanhome.org

**St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home**

► On the Cover: Residents greet the crowd from the St. Columban's float at the 2010 Festival of Grapes parade. See story page 6.

# “Special Angels” Honored At Volunteer Appreciation Day

Volunteers are at the core of all that happens at St. Columban’s on the Lake Retirement Home. Offering their time, talents and nurturing spirit to others, they add dimension and life to a myriad of programs, events and activities offered in the home.

On Monday October 11, 2010, the dedicated men and women who are part of the volunteer family of St. Columban’s on the Lake were honored at a Volunteer Appreciation Day program and reception held in gratitude for all that they bring to make a difference in the lives of our resident family.

Activities Director, Jane Ball and Administrator, Sister Corona Colleary welcomed the guests. Resident Jeanne

Pecoraro read a poem entitled “Angels”. The St. Columban’s Residents Choir entertained with four musical renditions of angel-themed songs created especially for the many volunteers present. Shimmering crystal angels were presented by Jane Ball and Sister Virginia Mozo to the volunteers in thankfulness for all that they do. Volunteers with 10 years or more of service were recognized with a certificate of appreciation and a floral bouquet. A special video montage highlighting all the volunteers in an array of activities and interactions was masterfully created and shown by volunteer Dorie Manning.

Sister Corona Colleary closed the program with a poem entitled “Angel

By Your Side”. A reception immediately followed offering all the opportunity to reminisce and socialize on this special day for some very “Special Angels” who touch the lives of all at St. Columban’s on the Lake Retirement Home.

## Volunteers Needed

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

## Make A Difference...

in the lives of others for years to come. Make St. Columban’s part of your planned giving, contact us at (716) 934-4515.



▶ St. Columban’s Residents Choir honors volunteers at the Appreciation Day celebration.

# New Trees Pay Tribute To The Nurturing Spirit of St. Columban's



▶ (l. to r) Trish Saville of Saville Landscape Maintenance, Natalie Granata, Lee Lamb, Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, John Stonefoot and Helen Howard admire one of the 40 new trees planted on the St. Columban grounds in honor of the home's 40th Anniversary.

The 40th Anniversary of St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home was officially celebrated last year on May 3, 2010. The year-long festivities included a myriad of activities and celebratory gatherings. Each special event marked this monumental milestone in the history and future of the retirement home.

Throughout the past four decades, St. Columban's has offered service, love, care and support to over 700 elderly men and women in our community. It has been the mission of St. Columban's to provide the elderly with an environment of dignity and respect, while allowing them to pursue individual interests and activities in a

homelike atmosphere. The golden years are exceptional at St. Columban's due in part to the planning and nurturing of programs, interventions and services dedicated to the well-being of the elderly lifestyle. Sister Corona Colleary, Administrator of the retirement home since it opened in 1970, has instilled a philosophy of dignity and respect into the minds and hearts of all who care for the residents of St. Columban's on the Lake.

As a tribute to the nurturing spirit of the home, 40 new trees were planted in late October and early November 2010 on the sprawling grounds of the retirement home. Grounds Maintenance Supervisor,

John Stonefoot and Tricia Saville, owner and operator of Saville Landscape Maintenance, selected and strategically planted the new trees which in years to come will provide beauty, shade and dimension to the lakeside landscaping which is so uniquely St. Columban's.

## Support The 40th Anniversary Fund Drive

Making a donation to the 40th Anniversary Fund Drive is easy! Just call (716) 934-4515 for more information.

# 40th Anniversary Fund Drive Is In Progress!

## Plans include new construction and improvements to the building

The 40th Anniversary Fund Drive is underway! Over a third of the \$1 million goal has been reached since the kick-off of the fund drive last year during St. Columban's 40th Anniversary celebration. Through the generosity of numerous, men, women, foundations and organizations improvements to the building and grounds will soon become a reality. Plans include:

- Construction of a new four-season Community Room
- Improvements to the Exercise Room/Wholeness & Wellness Program
- Installation of a new Residents Kitchen
- Renovation of the Residents Dining Room, Coffee Shop & Beauty Parlor

Construction on the new Community Room will begin soon with hopes of completion by the end of the year. Our residents are eagerly awaiting this new, windowed area where they will be able to enjoy the ever-changing seasons and beauty of nature in a climate controlled-environment. The enhanced ability to



▶ The Residents Dining Room will be completely renovated and refurbished.

socialize with family and friends or enjoy some of the many wonderful and exciting programs and activities within the home will be an added bonus of the new room. Plans and selections for wall covering, carpeting, window treatments and more for renovation of the Residents Dining Room are also in the works.

With over a third of the fundraising goal now a reality, we are energized to begin work while continuing to raise the remainder of the money needed to bring all the dreams to fruition. Please

plan on being part of this monumental project and know that you can help to make a difference in the lives of our resident family for years to come. For more information or to make a donation to the 40th Anniversary Fund Drive, please call 716-934-4515.



▶ The popular exercise room will be updated and moved to a more spacious area.

▶ Architect's rendering of the new all season Community Room soon to be built at St. Columban's.



# St. Columban's Is Judges Choice At 2010 Festival Of Grapes Parade

September in Silver Creek is a special time of the year. It signals the harvesting of crops including the delicious grapes for which the lakeside town is well known. It also marks the annual Festival of Grapes in this small, rural community which produces grapes for Welch's and local wineries.

Every year, the community comes together for a three-day festival in celebration of the grape harvest. The annual festival culminates on Sunday with the Festival of Grapes Parade. Local schools, organizations, social clubs and individuals all take an active role in presenting their talents and "purple spirit" to mark the occasion.

This year, the staff and residents at St. Columban's on the Lake Retirement Home created a mini-replica of the retirement home as their entry in the parade. Staff members including Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, John Stonefoot, Activities Director, Jane Ball and Housekeeping Supervisor, Laura Karin energized the staff and residents to assist them in creating a special 40th Anniversary float to represent St. Columban's on the Lake. The idea was to create a small, visual replica of the majestic retirement home, complete with working doors and windows, interior décor and landscaping.

After weeks of planning and countless hours of creating the heavy cardboard structure, a delegation from St. Columban's set off to the parade site.



► Grounds Maintenance Supervisor, John Stonefoot (l), Activities Director, Jane Ball (c) and Housekeeping Supervisor, Laura Karin (r) are all smiles as they proudly display the Judges Choice Award presented to St. Columban's float at the 2010 Festival of Grapes parade.

The residents attired in purple gazed out windows and waved to onlookers while tossing candy to the children who eagerly scooped up the tasty treats. The judges took note of all the hard work, time and talent and awarded the Judges Choice Award to St. Columban's on the Lake.

The recognition from the judges and the community for the time and energy that was put into the project was a treasured gift to all who worked so hard and diligently on this year's entry. What do they plan for next year? Let's wait and see!

## Take A Tour

To schedule a tour of St. Columban's on the Lake call us at (716) 934-4515.

## Visit Us On The Web

Learn more about our retirement home at: [www.stcolumbanhome.org](http://www.stcolumbanhome.org)

# Volunteer Tom Hagerty Enriches The Lives Of Others

Thomas (Tom) Hagerty has never let anything prevent him from accomplishing his dreams. A native of Western New York, Tom attended Prince of Peace Grammar School and Niagara Wheatfield Schools and then focused his education at Niagara Community College.

Following college, he worked at Ferguson Electric for six years. During that time, Tom was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in August of 1984. Unable to work in his current position, he became eligible for Social Security disability. Tom then focused his energy as a volunteer for the next 20 years with the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. He kept himself active with sailing and sled hockey, and a love for photography also blossomed at this time.

Tom's parents, Liz and Jack Hagerty lived in Hanford Bay (Silver Creek) at the time and their connection with St. Columban's became the catalyst for Tom's introduction to the retirement home and the resident family. In February 2007, Tom met Activities Director, Jane Ball and shortly thereafter he found himself involved in assisting her in an array of volunteer activities.

He visited with residents, prepared all the materials for arts and crafts projects, correlated activities paperwork such as songbooks and programs, and even took our dog for walks. Tom also photographs many aspects of the home and the lives of the residents, some of which have been utilized in our newsletter publications. He also was instrumental in assisting with the numerous annual mailings and fundraising ventures within the home. Tom also worked Bingo with his parents in early 2000.

Life after being diagnosed with MS is full and rewarding and Tom claims he is more active now than before his diagnosis. We are thankful for all that Tom does to enrich the lives of others.



▶ Tom Hagerty is active in a wide variety of volunteer activities at St. Columban's on the Lake.



▶ Tom Hagerty (foreground) and a delegation from St. Columban's participate in a MS Walk to benefit the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.



- ▶ Every day is like a holiday 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](http://www.stcolumbanshome.org).*

  
**ST. COLUMBAN'S**  
*On the Lake*

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