

Family & Friends

A Newsletter for the Friends of Stella Maris

February/March 2004

Stella Maris Completes 50th Anniversary Garden



***The Stella Maris
50th Anniversary
Garden, all decked
out for the
holidays.***

Stella Maris
A Tradition of Mercy • A Heart of Care

2300 Dulaney Valley Rd.
Timonium, MD 21093
www.stellamarisinc.com

The Stella Maris 50th Anniversary Garden, a tranquil space for residents, visitors and friends to enjoy the beautiful natural surroundings at Stella Maris, was recently completed and will be officially dedicated with a ceremony and reception on Sunday, April 4, 2004.

Located south of the

main entrance, the garden was created as a lasting symbol of 50 years that the Sisters of Mercy have blessed Stella Maris with their compassionate care for the elderly of Maryland. It includes a walkway formed by bricks and pavers in three different sizes, special planting areas, wooden benches, a sundial and a water fountain. Each brick is engraved in a precise, clean-cut style and, after engraving, the bricks are sealed

against weather and other environmental factors.

Over 400 bricks have been purchased in honor or in memory of a loved one, as well as several benches, a sundial and the water fountain. There are still bricks available for purchase and engraving. If you would like to remember or honor someone special, an order form can be obtained by calling Kelly Sheridan in the Development office at x7570.

Happy Holidays



Stella Maris has partnered with the St. Peter's Adult Christian Learning Center each year since 2000 to provide holiday gifts for their developmentally disabled adults. Here, the adults sing in thanks to their audience, including Stella Maris employees, at their annual holiday party.

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Advisory Board Inaugurates 'An Education in Wine' Event



The Stella Maris Advisory Board, led by Chairman Bill Apollony of M&T Bank, will host the 1st Annual Stella Maris Wine Tasting & Auction on February 28 from 7-10pm at M&T Bank Stadium in Baltimore. Spearheaded by Jack Cavanaugh, a member of the Advisory Board's Development Committee, the event will feature an international selection of wines, light fare, a silent auction, and a jazz combo. Tickets are \$125.

Over 300 guests are expected to attend. Funds raised will benefit the programs and services of Stella Maris.

"We wanted to raise more money for Stella Maris as well as awareness of the tremendous work the Sisters of Mercy do for the community," said Dave Resurreccion, a Senior Vice-President of MBNA and Chairman of the Development Committee.

Sister Karen McNally, RSM, Chief Administrative Officer, praised Resurreccion and the committee's efforts: "It's always good to see our Advisory Board involved and backing a project such as this. It promotes awareness among all the board members' friends and colleagues, and is an excellent tool to introduce Stella Maris to members of the community who may not be familiar with our organization."

The 26-member Stella Maris Advisory Board, formed in 2000, is composed of community leaders who provide expertise on matters related to leadership, community relations and fundraising.

For more information on the event, contact Janet Ferra in the Development Office at 410-252-4500, ext. 7268.

From the Stella Bulletin Board

Please Note:

In order to help prevent infection, the nursing staff asks family members to please not bring in bars of soap for residents in the nursing home. Liquid soap is preferred by the staff. Thank you!

Flu Season Alert!

February and March are prime flu and cold months, and we ask each volunteer and family member to remember these precautions when visiting Stella Maris:

- ❑ Always wash your hands after visiting someone, especially if that person is suffering from flu or cold-like symptoms
- ❑ NEVER visit someone if you are suffering from flu and cold-like symptoms
- ❑ If a unit or resident is quarantined because of illness, please follow the

instructions of the quarantine and do not visit that unit/person.

Facilities Update

- ❑ Elevators #5 & #6 will undergo a refurbishment that will require each elevator to be out of service for approx. 4 weeks. We apologize for any inconvenience.
- ❑ We will soon replace the entire roof of Stella Maris and portions of the connecting ramp to St. Elizabeth Hall. Weather permitting, this project will begin in February and take approx. 4 months to complete.

Auxiliary Gives Holiday Gift

At the recent Stella Maris Auxiliary general meeting and brunch, Eileen Kelmartin, President, presented Sister Karen McNally, RSM, Chief Administrative Officer of Stella Maris, with a check for \$25,000, designated for the future renovations of 3 Shehan. This is the largest mid-year gift ever made at one time by the Auxiliary.

In 2002, the Auxiliary pledged \$500,000 toward the renovations of 3 Shehan. To date, the Auxiliary has raised \$205,000 toward that pledge, which they hope to pay off within the next 2-3 years.

"This \$25,000 gift is a big compliment to the Gift Shop and Good Buy Shop volunteers; they pulled it together," said Kelmartin. "This is an

outstanding amount of money. We're really happy so far with the amount we have donated. It's been truly amazing and has really been a team effort."

This is the last year of Kelmartin's term as President of the Auxiliary. The Nominating Committee is currently accepting names for the President and other officers. The Stella Maris Auxiliary has 225 members who raise funds through a number of activities including a Gift Shop, Good Buy Shop, and an Annual Shrimp Feast fundraiser. If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary and possibly serving as an officer, please call Cass Bittner at ext. 7254. Elections will be held in May at their final general meeting and luncheon. ■

Honor/Memorials: Wonderful Way to Remember

Each year as Lent begins, many people make donations to Stella Maris in the name of someone living in the nursing home or a loved one who has recently passed. These donations can be designated to one of our four major funds:

- Hospice Care – For medical equipment, renovations and furnishing for the Hospice Care Program
- Monsignor Lyness - To assist patients who have insufficient funds to pay for hospice care
- Capital Improvement – To meet capital and equipment needs of Stella Maris
- Unrestricted – For any needs Stella Maris is experiencing

Each person is remembered in the Chapel's Book of Remembrance and in the donor newsletter, *Reflections*, which is mailed three times a year. If you would like to make a donation, please use the enclosed envelope and send in your check or credit card number. Your Lenten donation will go a long way toward improving the lives of our patients and residents. ■

Lost & Found:

Once again, the Lost & Found is bursting at the seams! On Thursday, February 26, 2004, all items will be removed and offered to our residents. Items not selected will be sent to the Good Buy Shop.

The Lost & Found is located on the first floor Shehan wing near the Administration offices. During the week, you may call Mary Mayer, our Safety Officer, at 410-252-4500, ext. 7572 or gain access to Lost & Found through the Security Officer at the main entrance after hours and on weekends.

Upcoming Support Groups

Loss of Child Support Group
Mondays – 7pm
February 23 – March 29

Sudden Loss Support Group
Tuesdays – 7pm
February 24 – March 30

Loss of Spouse Support Group
Wednesdays – 7pm
February 25 – March 31

Parent Loss Support Group
Thursdays – 7pm
February 26 – April 1

Dementia Family Support Group
Wednesdays – 2pm
February 18, 2004
March 17, 2004

Calendar of Events

February 2004

14 Valentine's Day
16 President's Day
25 Ash Wednesday
28 Wine Tasting & Auction
M&T Bank Stadium, 7pm

March 2004

17 St. Patrick's Day
20 First Day of Spring

About Family & Friends

This newsletter is designed to keep our residents' loved ones informed about what is happening at Stella Maris. For more information, contact Kelly Sheridan at 410-252-4500, ext. 7570.

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Return Service Requested