

TidBytes – October 2020

CHM internal community news to CHM sisters, associates, and staff

We invite anyone interested in editing the internal community news (*TidBytes*) for the monthly mailing to please let Sr. Mary Ann know of your interest. Thank you to Kelly for editing this month's mailing. S. Mary Ann

From Des Moines – Sr. Jeanie Hagedorn

Like everyone the Des Moines Sisters and Associates continue to be involved in our current situations politically and otherwise. Sr. Cathy Talarico is making phone calls to urge citizens to get out and vote; Sr. Jude Fitzpatrick attended the Memorial Commemoration for Ruth Bader Ginsberg; Sr. Justine continues assisting her sister Ina and supporting the women in her parish's study group; Srs. Elaine and Jeanie Hagedorn continue participating in Nuns on the Bus by speaking on Network's Virtual Tour visits and facilitating the small group discussions (the focus is being multi-issue voters); they have also been aiding some Hispanic voters with understanding the voting process; Associate Barb Gross continues her ministry to our sisters at Bishop Drumm. Barb, Jennifer Worley and Pat Rothamel have been assisting sisters with voting. Meantime we all continue prayers for the Holy Spirit to guide our electors and leaders.

For those who may not have heard, Sister Simone Campbell will be leaving her position as Executive Director of NETWORK in the Spring of 2021. A search for her replacement is beginning. If you know of any sister interested in the position please refer them to Networklobby.org.

From BDRC – Pat Rothamel

Pat Rothamel wrote an article about Sr. Virginia and Sr. Rosalia for the BDRC newsletter, *Drumm Beats*. This will also be posted on the blog, "A Nun's Pocket" on the CHM website.

"Born in Great Falls, Montana on October 10, 1923 Virginia Bartholome had two brothers. A little over a month later, on November 23, Rosalia Riedel was born in Milford, Ohio. She had five brothers and one sister. Little did these two families know that Virginia and Rosalia would not only become sisters, but this year, they are honored as the two oldest Sisters of the Congregation of the Humility of Mary. This is what women who have given their lives to the service of others look like."

Please check it out on the blog, "A Nun's Pocket" at www.chmiowa.org in the news and events section. Here is link: <https://www.chmiowa.org/posts/2020/10/25/chm-sisters-turn-97>

From Diana Gray

The following movies will be shown at the Humility Center this month: "Malcom X," "Dorothy Day," "The Biggest Little Farm," and "We Bought a Zoo." Check Sr. Mary's report for a review of two of these.

From HMC – S. Mary Rehmann

Movies this month:

- “The Biggest Little Farm” with California couple who followed their instinct to “Go big or go home”, ending up with 250 different plants, in harmony with environment, and beautiful when seen from above.
- “We Bought a Zoo” about a widowed father with two children who finds the right new house, but which comes with a dilapidated zoological park with a lion and peacocks, and the staff too.

Sr. Kathryn O’Meara “gifted” the HMC library with a new little collection “from the writings of Joan Chittister” On Women. “The will of God is always an offer of co-creation. Mary was asked, and Mary said ‘Yes’”. (p. 67)

Sisters and associates attended the organ concert at St. Mary’s parish on a historic instrument, as well as the final Mass the next afternoon before the church was closed. St. Mary’s was merged with St. Anthony parish several months earlier, with staff from the parishes being integrated. Following the Mass Bishop Thomas Zinkula processed with the Blessed Sacrament east on 4th street to St. Anthony’s. Sr. Kathleen Henneberry had continued as Eucharistic minister there until it closed.

The four Vietnamese sisters are busy with classes all week. Because they are exposed to the public, they wear masks in the dining room and are seated separately. All look forward to being integrated again.

Sr. Mary Rehmann joined the NETWORK “Nuns on the Bus” virtual town halls in Dubuque, San Antonio and the final national event on October 23 featuring Srs. Helen Prejean and Joan Chittister. Many of the events, with the theme “Becoming a multi-issue voter”, can be viewed at www.NETWORK Nuns of the Bus. org.

Sisters and associates enjoyed quiche and a fancy Bundt cake at the virtual Jazz brunch fundraiser for HHSI in the dining area in the East Wing. Sr. Johanna served poached eggs “to order” for those who wished. The housing ministry celebrates 30 years in 2020.

Joining the ZOOM conversation recently were Srs. Rachel Beeson, Roberta Brich and Mary Rehmann with associates Laurie Gibson, Mary Martin Lane, Joan Resnick, and “Olenka” Swigon from PA.

Residents have watched political debates and interviews for weeks. “Iowa Press” on IA PBS has been an excellent resource for candidates and issues.

Center residents are anticipating a Halloween brunch on the 31st with, among other items, skinny skeleton vegetables, witchy cupcakes, devilish eggs, and ghouly Halloween popcorn.