



Des Moines – S. Jeanie Hagedorn

Lots of potholes and a few new speedbumps have been found in the month of May – not only on streets and roads, but also in our personal and community lives. Illnesses that slow us down as well as deaths of relatives and friends that throw us unexpectedly. That has been true for many of us including the Hagedorn sisters. We are so grateful for Sr. Johanna’s regular CHM “Updates” and the responses of prayerful support and prayers offered for one another! The same experience of solidarity can be seen even on the national and world scene as we continue to witness the wars, political division and disparity; but also the efforts of good people and countries to “repair the holes” in the foundational structures of human relationships and systems. We do this through prayer, outreach and speaking out through whatever means we have, such as VOTING -- which is taking place in the weeks ahead!

Spring reveals not only the potholes, however, but also the speedbumps that can be reminders to *slow down* in these busy times, and take time to “smell the roses”-- to listen to the quiet *and* to the beautiful melody of life’s joys. (Even sickness can offer that time for awareness and gratitude). Srs. Elaine and Jeanie enjoyed one of these by attending Dowling Catholic High School’s Spring production of the famous Iowa musical “The Music Man.” A cousin’s daughter played a leading role as Marian the librarian, and her incredibly beautiful voice thrilled the audience. Her dear parents and many of us relatives were so proud and happy to see her talent appreciated by the enthusiastic audience. Another senior cast member was the grandnephew of Sr. Joanne Mauro!

Humility of Mary Center S. Mary Rehmann

Lots of events: birthdays, horse races, games, news, prayer, Mother’s Day, upcoming assembly....

Cinco de Mayo was celebrated with Margaritas and mint juleps, Mexican food including “fried ice cream”, and festive table decorations.

Kentucky Derby: **Shelley Seifert** created the spreadsheet with 400 spaces for bettors to choose, with a winner totally by chance, since no names of horses were inserted until after close of betting. With horse #20 (Ethereal Road) scratched, the last-seconds entry, #21 Rich Strike, UPSET the whole thing by winning (paid out 80:1!) and its name not even on the page! So, winners were ##2 (Epicenter), 3, 4 & last: Srs. Rachel and Lillian, Joyce was third and Shelley was last. P.S. In the Preakness on 5/24, Epicenter #2 again!

Mother’s Day was celebrated with what has become tradition: floral bouquets, white roses for each sister, a chicken dinner and gourmet cupcakes, all from **associate Jan Stewart** in memory of her mother and recently deceased associate father, **Dr. Lyle Hellyer**. The bouquets of white and blue flowers arrived just in time for the regular First Friday Holy Hour on May 6.

Sr. Rosalia Riedel, a resident of BDRC, finally made her long-planned visit to Humility of Mary Center (HMC) in late May. Delayed by COVID-19, she joined the residents for prayer and Mass, cards, corn hole toss, and a birthday party.

Sr. Johanna Rickl, CHM President, was inaugurated into the Purple Hat Society during celebration of her 80th birthday. Staff and residents listened to “age-appropriate” poems, and shared words of appreciation. All were offered the birthday treat of choice, “Black Cows”.

Sisters and Associates look forward to the Annual Assembly, to be “in person” on June 23 – 26, in the new meeting space at the east end of the HMC building. Sighs of relief were heard when the AC units, delayed by “supply chain” problems, arrived this month. The Assembly will begin with the formal blessing of the space by Bishop Thomas Zinkula on Thursday, and close with the celebration of Jubilees on Sunday afternoon.

Ottumwa - S. Irene Muñoz

On June 11, we are having a Hispanic Theological Conference at Bridgeview in Ottumwa sponsored by the Multicultural Office of the Davenport Diocese. Our main speaker will be Cardinal Gregorio Rosa Chavez and others from El Salvador. The Cardinal will speak about his relationship with Saint Oscar Romero. We hope to attract many Hispanics. Also, in June we will have a presentation by the Catholic Worker House of Iowa City who will present their efforts in organizing immigrants and who have formed an immigrant group called Escucha Mi Voz (Hear my voice). They have a documentary from Univision presenting the efforts to organize in our local communities. Looking forward to all of this.

Bishop Drumm Center **Pat Rothamel & Barb Gross**

Going to the Dogs!

Many people love dogs. And, research shows that having a pet in your life offers a variety of health benefits. The CHM sisters at Bishop Drumm Retirement Center in Johnston enjoy

the benefits offered by nearby “therapets” such as Teddy 2 from Johnston.

Teddy 2 is a three-year old Cavechon who belong to human, Jerry Brown. Brown and his wife, Jane are both retired from lives dedicated to service of others. It’s no surprise that in retirement, Jerry would continue this service with the assistance of Teddy 2.

Teddy 2 became a certified therapy dog through the THERAPET program at the Animal Rescue League in Des Moines. He was accepted into the program at the end of January. By the end of February, Teddy 2 and Jerry were ready for their visits. They are authorized to visit retirement homes, some health facilities and other agencies where people can benefit from Therapet interaction. This service requires a full commitment to abide by the guidelines of the program from both Jerry and Teddy 2.

During the current events discussion after Mass on April 24th, CHM sisters and other residents at Bishop Drumm had the opportunity to meet Teddy 2. The residents faces lit up when they saw Teddy 2. He is a natural. The month of May brings to mind our Mother Mary and the May crownings many of us experienced as children. At Bishop Drumm Retirement Center, we also celebrate two special birthdays of our CHM sisters.



Sister Joan LeBeau & Teddy 2



Sister Cathleen Real and Teddy 2



Sister Dorothy Ann Chevalier and Teddy 2

BDRC Birthdays!

Sister Joan LeBeau celebrated her birthday on Sunday, May 15. S. Joan shared birthday cookies with the sisters and other residents of the Northeast wing on Friday and began her celebration on her actual birthday with Mass, which included a rousing version of “Happy Birthday” sung by the attendees. She also enjoyed visiting with her niece from Chicago. Saturday, May 21st was

Sister Nancy Schwieters’ birthday. She shared her favorite cupcakes (chocolate with white frosting) with the other sisters and residents in the Northeast dining room on Friday the 20th. S. Nancy also enjoyed a box of goodies from her sister, Shirley. She reported that her sister “spoils her.”



Sister Nancy Schwieters



Birthday Treats at BDRC!

Photos by Pat Rothamel & Barbara Gross