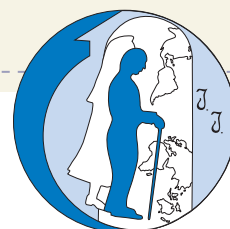




Serving the
elderly poor in
San Francisco
since 1901.



Our New Addition!

Kai Lobacz was born on November 27, 2016, to several dozen proud grandparents. Kai's arrival was the culmination of a love story that began at St. Anne's Home 11 years ago. Menchet Garcia and Tim Lobacz, both long-time employees, met doing what they love to do — caring for the elderly. Menchet, a devoted nursing assistant with the Little Sisters of the Poor for 18 years, and Tim, the creative arts director for 11 years, share the special call to care for the elderly as husband and wife.

The St. Anne's community has always been a part of their special story. Tim and Menchet vividly recall announcing their plans to get married and the love and good wishes that surrounded them not only then, but also when they returned from their short honeymoon. They were welcomed back to a full celebration where Sisters, Residents, and co-workers alike delighted in their happiness. Ten years after that happy celebration, Tim and Menchet were blessed with the news of a baby. Once again, their St. Anne's family has rejoiced in the happy news and the arrival of Baby Kai.



Mom, Dad and Baby on their first visit to St. Anne's.



Baby Kai - just a few days old.

From the moment that the news of the baby was announced, co-workers joined together in supporting the expectant parents as needed. Residents became the protective grandparents looking out for Menchet's health by offering advice and being vigilant that she did not over-exert herself. With little local family for either of them, our community has come together to celebrate and support the arrival of the baby whose name means to REJOICE!

Little Sisters of the Poor

Thankful for our Volunteers

BY MARIA CUNNINGHAM

Since the time immediately after the French Revolution when Jeanne Jugan gave birth to the Congregation of the Little Sisters of the Poor, selfless individuals who joined her as volunteers helped to propel the mission forward. Today that has not changed. Collaboration with a diverse network of volunteers is the essence of what keeps that legacy alive. St. Anne's Home is blessed with the charitable spirit of many devoted volunteers and recently welcomed groups from St. Vincent de Paul Elementary School and the St. Brendan's Chapter of the Random Acts of Catholics group.

The St. Vincent de Paul 5th grade class helped our Residents celebrate Valentine's Day by preparing goody bags and personalized cards for each of them. The thoughtful gifts put smiles on many faces at St. Anne's Home this past February 14th. The St. Vincent de Paul 8th grade class came to visit St. Anne's Home as part of a class community service program. They attended Mass with the Residents, joined together in song, shared lunch, enjoyed one-on-one conversations, and engaged in a variety of games. The biggest reward of the this day was the ageless laughter that emanated from the auditorium as these new friends did a little bowling, golfing and a bean bag toss. Generational lines were erased and it was like watching grandparents having fun with their grandchildren.

The members of Random Acts of Catholics describe themselves as Catholics who are excited to share faith, participate in philanthropy, and have fun doing both. This group of kind young professionals has taken it upon themselves to help the Little Sisters with the power-washing, priming and painting of the East and West walls of the St. Anne's grounds. As described by them, "This WALL is one serious, imposing, seemingly endless stretch of concrete. We bleached cleaned and sprayed. We power washed and scraped. And by the end of the day, both the East and West front sections of the WALL were sparkling,



St. Vincent de Paul 8th graders with their new Resident friends, Mary Mullen and Edith Hartnett.



St. Vincent de Paul 5th Graders and their special Valentine's Day gifts.

Mother Theresa was beaming, and we all felt wonderful. Mother even commented on the quick smiles and positive spirits of our merry little group - that made it all feel even better! Up next on THE WALL: priming and painting."

Our volunteers lighten our burdens in many ways and brighten our days with their generous hearts and their helping hands. It is our privilege to serve our elderly, and having our volunteers join us in our journey is a gift for which we are truly grateful.



Random Acts of Catholic Volunteers ready to take on the job at THE WALL.



New Year's Eve 2016

Time spent with friends, enjoying good food, good music, and maybe a little dancing — a suitable description for a great New Year's celebration. That is how our Residents rang in 2017! Many of them described the evening as "one of the best parties we've had." They enjoyed savory treats, the company of the San Francisco Fire Department's finest, and music by Second Opinion, who raised the spirits of all of our Residents with a lively selection of music that even brought the majority of them to their feet for a conga-line dance.



St. Joseph's Day Celebration with the San Francisco Fire Department.

The San Francisco Fire Department has maintained a long and devoted association with St. Anne's Home, since the days when we occupied the original building on Lake Street. The fire



Residents celebrating with their San Francisco Fire Department escorts.

fighters would join us in our annual St. Joseph's Day celebration, assisting with food preparation and the Residents' meal service. That tradition has evolved into their most welcome presence at our annual New Year's Eve celebration, where they escort our Residents onto the dance floor.

Our sincere thanks go to everyone who participated in helping to create a wonderful evening of memories for us.

Resident Spotlight: Marie Bellas

BY MARIA CUNNINGHAM



March 2017 marks a special milestone for Marie Bellas, who has been a Resident at St. Anne's Home since 2006. She not only turns 80 this year, but she will also be recording her very own CD at the historic San Francisco Hyde Street Studios, formerly known as the Wally Heider Recording Studios, where the "San Francisco Sound" was born. The recording studio has been around since 1969, and epic recordings by the likes of the Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, Santana, and many others were produced there. Marie admits that she has always privately enjoyed singing, but it was not until about a year and half ago, when St. Anne's introduced karaoke as a weekly activity, that she realized how much fun it was for her. "It was when the senior computers were installed that things really started happening," she says. "They're wonderful! I've learned how to use YouTube to pre-pick my songs, before karaoke meeting days, and I love it," she explains. She spends at least an hour per day researching material; she sings at the computer, and she sings in her room.

She acknowledges that she has never been a part of a choir or any kind of organized musical productions, but in her 20's she took singing lessons with Bill Stoker, who produced a few vinyl records

for her. Unfortunately, she found him to be very strict and too precise. She did not like how he made her sound, so she gave it up. She later learned that Stoker had discovered Johnny Mathis and helped Shirley Temple, as well as other San Francisco and Hollywood talent. Her family is amused that at age 80 she has taken up singing again. After hearing her stories of the process she goes through for each week's karaoke selection, they felt that producing a CD was a logical next step.

Next to having a child, Marie takes great pride in saying that her best accomplishment in life was writing the three volume biography of her family. Her compilation of photos, stories and research dating back to the birth place of her mother in Castelmassa, Italy and of her father in Constantinople took ten years to complete. She then followed with her own autobiography, chronicling her life as a child in San Francisco and her travels through to adulthood. These labors of love are the legacy that she wanted to leave for her family. Her family felt it only fitting that she produce a CD for her 80th Birthday to complete her legacy. Complete that legacy she will, while enjoying every minute of her planning. She is preparing her lyrics, researching tips on recording, and reviewing her vast range of favorites before making a final decision on her selections.

"My legs aren't what they used to be, I can't really go for walks or dance anymore, but I'm having a great time singing," says Marie. She muses, "What started simply as a fun activity for me has added a new dimension to my life, and I hope to sing until I take my last breath."

A Simple Note

By: Mother Superior



Dear Friends,

Lent gives us the opportunity to reflect and ponder God's message to us and to attain renewal through spiritual preparation. Many people give up some of their favorite things as a form of abstinence and self-discipline, while others devote more time to charity. We are deeply grateful to you, our extended family, for the time and gifts that you share with us on an on-going basis for the benefit of our dear elderly.

Your response to our Christmas Appeal for the upgrade of our Resident dining room was most generous; because of that we are well on our way to raising the estimated \$300,000 needed for its completion. Our Residents enjoyed the holidays in camaraderie with our many kind volunteers, members of the Association Jeanne Jugan, our Auxiliary, the Order of Malta, and the San Francisco Fire Department. The celebrations enjoyed with each of you created joyous and lasting memories for each of them and us as we are blessed to be able to share in experiencing their joy.

As you choose whatever means are of most significance to you in preparing to open your heart to the word of God, know that the Little Sisters will gratefully keep you in their daily prayers during your Lenten journey, ever thankful for your kind support of our work.

May God bless you,

Mother Theresa

Upcoming Events



Swing and a Prayer Golf Tournament

APRIL 28, 2017 • 10 AM • PEACOCK GAP GOLF COURSE, SAN RAFAEL

Swing and Prayer Golf Tournament

For more information or to become a sponsor contact:
Celia Barbaccia 415-713-7689 or cbarbaccia.LSP@gmail.com



Spring Luncheon

Tuesday, May 9, 2017
Olympic Club Lakeside
San Francisco
Cocktails • 11 a.m.
Luncheon • 12 p.m.
Complimentary Valet Parking



Boutique Preview Party Gala

Thursday, November 16 • 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
Cocktails • Hors d'oeuvres • Dinner Buffet
• Desserts • Boutique

Boutique & Seated Luncheon

Saturday, November 18 • 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.
St. Anne's Home
San Francisco, CA

Donate Your Vehicle

**ALL CARS ARE ACCEPTED –
RUNNING OR NOT – FREE PICK UP
7 DAYS A WEEK!**

BOATS AND RV'S ALSO ACCEPTED

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