

Our Lady of Prompt Succor Nursing Home & Rehabilitation Center
C'est la Vie Apartments
Newsletter ~ February 2017
A ministry of the Marianite Sisters of Holy Cross

Happy Valentine's Day!

Each year on the 14th of February, candy, flowers, and gifts are exchanged all in the name of St. Valentine, a Catholic saint who lived in the third century. The facts of the life of St. Valentine are shrouded in legend. One story tells that he was arrested on orders from the Roman Emperor for being a Christian and that he actually sent the first "valentine" greeting. The legends explain that while in prison a young girl, who may have been the jailor's daughter, would visit and encourage him. They fell in love and before his death and it is alleged that he wrote her a letter, which he signed "From your Valentine." Although the history of his life is unclear, each of the stories emphasizes Valentine's appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and beloved figure. Today images of hearts, flowers, doves, winged Cupids reflect the sentiments of this commemoration. While each of these objects has meaning attached to it, we are blessed to have symbols of affection and friendship present on our property each day of the year in our residents who live in our apartments known as "C'est la Vie."

Welcome to C'est la Vie!

Traveling down Prudhomme Street past Opelousas Catholic School, you might miss the apartments nestled behind the pine trees. Surrounded by a walking path and individual patios which proudly display a variety of seasonal plants and flowers are thirty-four apartments for Senior Citizens. Located on the same property as our nursing home, C'est la Vie Apartments provide a unique and enriching environment. *Ministries of the Marianites of Holy Cross, the apartments offer* gracious living in a caring and Christian environment. Each of the thirty-four units includes a fully equipped kitchen and central air and heat. The outdoor courtyard invites residents and visitors to sit and relax while enjoying the beauty and majesty of God's creation. Invited to participate in the spiritual and cultural activities of our nursing home, the residents are able to choose his or her involvement in the social activities. There are also activities available at C'est la Vie including Bingo, card and board games, holiday and birthday celebrations. In safe surroundings, residents are offered the independence and freedom to live life to the fullest – C'est la Vie! However, don't just take our word for it, our residents share some of their own reflections.

"C'est la Vie is a great community; while we have individual apartments, we are not isolated from others. The lobby and day rooms provide us with the space to enjoy other areas beyond our apartments. We live in a safe environment. We savor coffee together in the morning in the lobby area and we catch up on the news. We are near Prompt Succor Nursing Home and if there is an emergency, the staff at the nursing home is always very helpful."

"The apartment building and surrounding areas are kept clean and inviting. Together we celebrate birthdays and other significant events in our lives. We are at home and we are able to do as much as possible for ourselves with some minimal assistance from the staff. It is easy to make friends and everyone is one large family. We live right across from the nursing home where we can attend daily mass and visit our friends who are now living there."

“The staff at C’est la Vie is very helpful and responsive when we need something. We have regular card games; we have Bingo three times a week and we plan other activities as we choose. Some of us have been here 9-10 years and some have recently moved into the apartments. While it was difficult to leave our homes, coming here to live has really been the right choice. We highly recommend C’est la Vie and we welcome you to come and visit us!”

C’est la Vie Staff

The coordinator of C’est la Vie is *Sr. Mary Ann Louise Arno, MSC*. She joined the staff in September 2010 after serving in elementary education and administration for the past 20 years in Gueydan, Louisiana. Prior to her service in Gueydan, she taught elementary and high school in various schools in Louisiana, served on the faculty and as registrar at Our Lady of Holy Cross in New Orleans, and spent one year teaching on the Island of Dominica. As the coordinator at C’est la Vie, she enjoys her interaction with the residents, meeting new people, and the flexibility of the environment. To schedule a visit, please call Sr. Ann at 337-942-8154.

Lolita Castille has been serving as the housekeeper at the C’est la Vie for many years. Once a week she cleans each apartment and insures that the general environment is in good order. Lolita enjoys her work with the residents. She is able to support them as she has grown to know each one’s particular preferences in his/her apartment.

In addition to Sr. Ann and Lolita, *Mr. Allen Penick* and his environmental staff work to maintain the beauty of the property and to meet the daily needs of the residents. *We hope you will stop by for a visit!*

Congratulations, Sr. Charlotte LeBoeuf!

Congratulations to Sr. Charlotte, a member of our pastoral care team, who recently completed State certification as a nursing home activity director. This certification adds to Sr. Charlotte’s many other gifts as pastoral care minister, liturgist, and song leader. We know she will bring her musical talents and her skills in art and crafts to our activity department in a myriad of ways.

BIRTHDAYS FOR FEBRUARY

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|----------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| <i>G. Aucoin</i> | <i>2/20</i> | <i>Dot Soileau</i> | <i>2/17</i> |
| <i>Sr. A. Donnenfelser</i> | <i>2/19</i> | <i>E. Storey</i> | <i>2/06</i> |
| <i>H. Fontenot</i> | <i>2/08</i> | <i>R. Tate</i> | <i>2/21</i> |
| <i>M. Martin</i> | <i>2/16</i> | <i>W. Venable</i> | <i>2/14</i> |



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