



MONUMENTAL NEWS



Dear Friends of Marian House,

It is summer at last. Summer is one of my favorite times of the year, because of the wondrous possibilities of what is to come. The garden is alive with flowers and plants of all sorts, spilling their colorful blossoms over the sides of the pots. It is a colorful reminder of the miracles we can see all around us, if only we look.

At Marian House it is a time to reflect on the many miracles that happen here. As I entered through our front door one day earlier this week, I noticed that many staff members were gathered in Sister Mel's office. There was so much joyful laughter I couldn't wait to see the reason. I was delighted, because a former resident was visiting with her newborn baby. This was a particularly joyous birth since Laurel and her husband had experienced the disappointment of miscarriages in the past. In addition Laurel had spent several months on bed rest to carry this little girl to term. What a beautiful little girl Isabella is, indeed.

Laurel's success story is about even more than the birth of this wonderful child. It is about overcoming drug addiction, employment problems and all the other obstacles women at Marian House face. Laurel has succeeded. She has a wonderful family life, an active support system, and a new job at Mercy Hospital.

This success story and all the others like it, are just the starting point. Hundreds of women like Laurel have passed through the doors of Marian House, and hundreds are yet to come. That is why, as we head into our 25th year, we must continue to find ways to make life better for all the women who need our help. We expand our services, we expand our facilities, and we expand our expectations of what we can accomplish.

Take the time to enjoy the pictures of life at Marian House inside. This month we are featuring the 24th birthday party, work in the courtyard, and stories about volunteers that have been a part of Marian House for years.

We invite you to be a part of the Marian House story. We invite you to look at our new web site, where we will constantly publish what is current and exciting about Marian House. We invite you to participate in some of the events we are planning for the 25th year. We also hope that you will consider giving a birthday gift in the form of an extra donation or by becoming a "Giving Back" matching gift donor so that the doors are always open at Marian House I, II, III, Aftercare and Serenity Place.

Sincerely,

Sister Loretta
Sister Loretta

P.S. Remember Ciera, and how we asked and received scholarship money for her to attend Mercy High School? She's doing well, but the need for scholarship money continues. Please help again, if you can!



Laurel and Isabella

Marian House Now Proud Owner of St. Bernard's School

Marian House, along with partner Homes For America went to settlement on the old St. Bernard's School on April 27. Work can now begin on transforming this old building into new housing for low-income residents.

We will be having a ground breaking, homecoming, fund raising event on September 29. Look for more information on the back page.



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We Celebrate Success!

Juanita, Tanya and Betty are all working at Country Inn Suites-BWI in housekeeping. They are looking to take advantage of advancement opportunities, as promotions come from within at Country Inn Suites.

Monica was highlighted in the Genesis Jobs Newsletter, because she had worked for a long time at Legal Images. She was recognized as a faithful and committed employee. In addition, she spoke before the Baltimore City Task Force on Inclusiveness Zoning and Housing. She felt it was important to testify because of the problems low-income families have with housing.

Terry graduates on July 14th from North American Trade School. She will complete her training as a diesel mechanic and is already working with K Neal International Truck Dealership.

Tanya, daughter of **Schaswette**, has received her acceptance into Mergenthaler Vocational/Technical High School with a composite score of 498.

Helen has reunited with one of her three children in a Shelter Plus Care, Marian House III home. She expects to have all of them back with her by the end of the year. She completed a 12 week parenting

class at The Family Tree in April.

Tanya and Edna have both celebrated one year anniversaries with their Narcotics Anonymous groups.

Deborah has a new full time position as a receptionist at a downtown law firm.

Paula has just moved into a Shelter Plus Care, Marian House III home. She has worked as a Senior Teacher for nearly a year and a half at the Weinberg Childcare Center at Stadium Place.

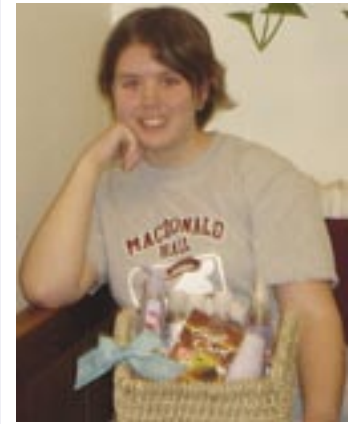
Lesly and Bert have both spoken publicly on behalf of Marian House recently. Lesly at Ascension Lutheran Church and Bert at Loyola College.

Amber (daughter of **Adrienne**) will graduate from Western High School in June.

Chanta has bought a home of her own at market rates! Here she is shown with Sr. Paula at her new front door.



Bless You, Volunteers



Teenager Tori Borland provides birthday gifts and cake for the children of our residents through her non-profit Make My Day Special.



Hilary Klein comes to Marian House several times a month to develop a resident records management system to assure needed files are always available and up-to-date.



The American Radiology Call Center prepares welcome baskets for new residents.

Mary Jane Pennell arranges for the donation of plants from Babikow Nurseries, and works with the Marian House women in planting and caring for them each spring.

Letter From a Former Resident . . .

Hi, everyone!

You've all been on my mind and I thought I'd drop a line of two. I hope all is well.

Kimber and I are doing very well. She's excelling in school and by God's Grace, is well adjusted. She's growing up so fast. I'm enjoying every minute.

I've enclosed a little check. I know every little bit helps, but I wish it could be more.

As always, I love you all and pray for you often. Take care and thanks for all you've done for me, and all of us who have been put in your path.

Take care and God Bless.

NOTE: You can match gifts given by former residents. See story on back page.

Love, Carole (Former Resident)

Former resident, Karen Murrill Roberts donated gift packages for all the women. They were much appreciated as Mother's Day gifts.

Be a part of the blessing, as we move toward our 25th year with a special gift.

__ I would like to make a donation to Marian House of \$ _____

__ I would like to give a special gift in honor of Marian House's 25th Anniversary year of \$ _____

__ I would like to become a "Giving Back" matching partner (see back page) at the following rate

__ Dollar for Dollar __ 2 X __ 5 X __ 10 X __ X up to \$ _____ per year.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Method of Donation: Check (Made out to Marian House) _____

MasterCard __ Visa __ Amex __

Account Number _____

Marian House
949 Gorsuch Ave
Baltimore, MD 21218
DEVELOPMENT:
Phone: 410-467-4246
Fax: 410-467-4363
GENERAL OFFICES:
Phone: 410-467-4121
Fax: 410-467-6709

Your contribution is tax deductible as allowed by law. Our current financial statement is available upon request. Contact Marian House. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office Of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.

Giving Back - A Gift Matching Program

It has long been the practice among schools to raise money from former students and their families. Students who succeed financially are happy to donate money back to their schools in generous amounts. In the same way, hospitals are able to raise money from former patients and their families.

Marian House is thrilled when we receive money from former residents. Since the beginning of this fiscal year, we have received \$493, most of it is a dollar here, a dollar there, and sometimes just change. But think about what these amounts represent to the women who have completed our program.

We would like to give you the opportunity to participate with our women in giving back to Marian House, through a gift matching program. We would like you to sign up as a "Giving Back" donor. If you register, every time we receive a gift from a former resident, we will send you a donation envelope that you may use to send back a matching gift, up to any amount you specify. Perhaps you'll want to match each gift 2x, 5x, 10x or even 100x.



Two More Congregations Contribute to Our Mission Partners Program

We are pleased to add St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Parkville and Ascension Evangelical Lutheran Church - Towson to our list of Mission Partners.

We would also like to give recognition to a long-time contributor to Marian House who was left off the list of contributors in our last issue. St. Stephens Ladies of Charity are consistent donors and their gifts are greatly appreciated. They have contributed since at least 1998 (as far back as our database goes). In addition, we thank the Lunch Bunch: IND class of 1950 for a gift we received from them.

Through the Mission Partners Program we are able to cover some of our food costs. If you belong to a church, synagogue or organization that would like to become a mission partner, contact Terri Eckard (410-467-4246) who is coordinating this effort and can provide more information.



Homecoming at Marian House: September 29, 2006

So much is happening at Marian House, we want everyone to celebrate with us. The 25th Anniversary year is coinciding with the purchase and renovation of the former St. Bernard's School building. It is an important year for the women who have passed through our doors, for the community, and for the former students of St. Bernard's and Holy Spirit schools. While there are going to be several events throughout the year, we hope you will join us for what we're calling "homecoming."

The day will start with a ground breaking ceremony in the early afternoon, followed by a fund raising event. Residents, former residents, and former students of St. Bernard's and Holy Spirit can celebrate a homecoming. For the former residents, it's coming home to Marian House, where they once lived and had their lives changed forever. For former students, they can come home to the school they attended as children, and see it for the last time as a school. For you, our Marian House supporters, it is homecoming too, because you will be sharing in the successes that are only possible because of your support and involvement in our mission.

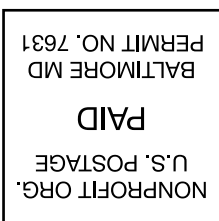
While all the details have not yet been worked out, we know the event will include fun food, a silent auction, music, opportunities to tour the building, and much more. Gather your friends together, spread the word, and make plans now to attend this fun event. Call 410-467-4246 for ticket and sponsorship information.

Save the Date for the Big 25th Anniversary Celebration Concert:

April 28, 2007

Lea Bradley Gilmore returns to the Weinberg Auditorium at Mercy High School to give a concert in support of the Marian House 25th Anniversary Educational Endowment.

Ms. Gilmore, a Mercy High School graduate class of '83 is an internationally known blues, jazz and gospel singer. She is also a seasoned stage performer, writer and lecturer.



949 Gorsuch Avenue • Baltimore, MD 21218-
Women moving from dependence to independence
Marian House

