

TidBytes for June 2020

Thank you letter from Kelly Bell

Sisters, Associates and Staff:

I feel so much better now than I have for a long time. I can actually stand up straight, my legs are the same length again (at least close enough), I can walk without the pain that I've been dealing with for so long. It has been a long journey to finally get the new hip, and I appreciate all you have done for me.

I am humbled by the outpouring of care I have received from you. The prayers, emails, letters, cards, flowers, magazines, funny dog pictures, special gifts, helping me with my responsibilities at work, and even lottery scratch off tickets are wonderful! As I've often said, CHM is more than a place to work - it is family. Blessings on you all.

Kelly Bell – June 2020.

June 2020 from Des Moines

June's calendar for some, maybe all of us, seems to be about as full as before the pandemic! Srs. Elaine and Jeanie Hagedorn have taken advantage of opportunities for participating in numerous webinars offered on YouTube and Zoom. We've learned about social justice issues, spirituality, joined funerals, Masses, and have a number of virtual retreats scheduled in June and July. None of these is like in person events but we are so grateful for this technology.

Like everyone we are deeply saddened by the "two pandemics" of COVID-19 and racism and try to stay informed with daily news reports. It is easy to get discouraged and feel hopeless with all that is going on, but seeing how many good people are giving of themselves for the healing of our world gives hope!

One of the webinars we watched was with NETWORK's Sr. Simone Campbell and other past "Nuns on the Bus" Sisters. Another exciting piece of news came in the recent National Catholic Reporter (NCR) where we learned that the young man who interviewed Elaine and Jeanie in our apartment before the Iowa Caucus in January has been hired national correspondent for NCR! Described as "a rising star among Catholic journalists" Chris White left CRUX to take on this similar responsibility for NCR. We are so excited for Chris and NCR a newspaper I know the CHMs also treasure. In that same issue (June 12-25) be sure to read Bryan Massingale's article [What to Do About White Privilege...](#) an excellent commentary on our often-unconscious racism with Father Bryan's suggestions for addressing it in ourselves and in society.

Finally, the Hagedorn sisters are organizing a big virtual family reunion for the Pardee cousins. Because of the pandemic it was deemed too risky for about 80 cousins to travel to Iowa for the scheduled reunion in July. So, Jeanie and Elaine have organized a Zoom "Pardee Time" for July 5th! It should be fun -- will let you know how it goes!

From Sr. Mary R at HMC

Ever hear of a "wake-up bump"? Sr. Claudellen's niece sent her a special clock that she sets, puts under her pillow, and gets not only a "wake-up call" but a "jolt" as well in the morning. Remedy for not hearing the normal alarm. [Alarm less needed since Sister had successful removal of ear wax.

Elevator repairs were postponed from Monday, June 22, when "upstairs" and "downstairs" CHMs began eating meals separately. Those upstairs sat, 2/table, on long tables in the East wing dining area. Two staff assisted serving, with table arrangements making it easy to move walkers and providing a patio view. **6/19/20 post: Elevator workers won't start until July 1!!!!**

Sr. Judy Herold has special OK "to go out" to say "good-bye" to brother, Father Tony Herold, who moved from pastor of St. Paul the Apostle parish in Davenport to pastor of Sacred Heart Church in Newton on July 1 ("Special OK" needed because coming in/out of HMC prohibited now.)

On the June movie list were *Midnight in Paris*, *Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, *Edie, and, Just Mercy*. ["Just Mercy" made free online is to be followed by discussion on 6/25/20.)

All residents looked forward to seeing Msgr. Frank Henricksen who celebrated Mass on 6/24, for the first time since the pandemic closures. Also, in contact with Frs. Robert. Mc Aleer and Steve Ebel about coming starting July 1. All who come in wear face masks. Eucharist only with bread, distributed only by celebrant. No singing.

Residents are going out for drives with volunteer drivers Srs. Lynn Mousel and Marcia Eckerman. Srs. Lynn and Mary Rehmann toured VanderVeer and Scott County Parks.

We are sorry to hear that Barbara Kopel is moving to Bishop Drumm, but glad she can get care she needs there. We'll miss your smile, Barb!