



Heritage Happenings

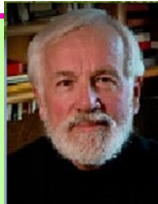
Archives Office
April 2024

Lest We Forget...



Easter Egg Hunt

Archive photos sometimes show up the most interesting events that most of us never heard of. In the early 1970's Sisters from the surrounding areas were invited out to Chambers Island up in Door County where they were treated to an Easter Egg Hunt!! I wonder if anyone remembers going on this event. It must have been fun!!



In February Michael J. Cooney from Oshkosh visited the grottoes around our Motherhouse. *I am currently finishing my book on Wisconsin Shrines, Chapels and Grottos and as such I would like to include your Lourdes Grotto. I need some history.* He has

already written a book "Pioneer Churches of Wisconsin: exploring our immigrant faith heritage in which he describes 113 unique churches. This new book will feature Our Lady of Lourdes Grotto both the old one and the present one, St. Francis Chapel, and Sacred Heart Grotto along with a brief history of each and where they are located and how to schedule a tour.



Archives recently acquired this 15-decade rosary. After the death of Sister Annette Blonde, her sister, Sister Cecilia, wanted this rosary given to the archives in Sister's name. The rosary includes 5 different medals: Cristo De Limpias, My Mother, My Confidence, Maria Goretti, Sainat Dominic, Virgin of the Rosary, Jesus Have mercy, Our Lady of Consolation.



Several weeks ago, a small paper bag showed up on my desk with a note from Shirley Fessler. She had attended an event at Holy Cross Church in Mishicot sponsored by Fr. Christian who spoke about "Our Lady of Good Health". This is the story of this small statue. *Our Lady of Good Health appeared to a shepherd boy named Tamil Krishnannesti Sankaranaranayam in Vailankanni, India around 1550 AD. Three miraculous events happened: 1-The Virgin Mary asked a shepherd boy, Tamil, who was delivering buttermilk, for some of his milk to feed her child. He gave her milk and went on his way. When he delivered the rest of the milk, he apologized that there would be less milk than ordered. But when he opened up the containers, they were filling up and flowing over. 2-Years later she appeared again to a lame boy who was selling buttermilk. She asked for a cup of milk which he gave her and she fed her child. She then told the boy to go to town and tell the man he would meet to build a chapel in Vailankanni. He ran, cured of his lameness. 3-In the 1600's, a terrible storm hit a Portugese merchant ship. The sailors invoked Our Lady, Star of the Sea, and the seas were calmed. They landed in Vailankanni, saw the small chapel and proceeded to build a larger one.*

In 1962 Pope St. John XXIII proclaimed the chapel a minor basilica, calling it the Lourdes of the East. Her feast day is September 8th. (Google: Our Lady of Good Health for more information)

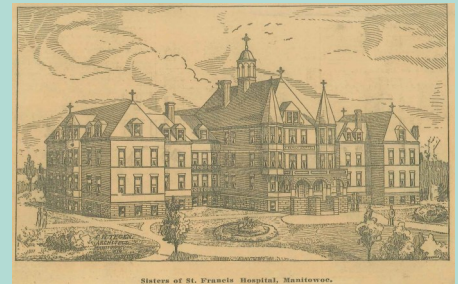




Honoring 125 Years of Growth Holy Family Hospital 1899 to Froedtert Holy Family Memorial 2024



Mother Alexia said many times: "This house will build up, and we will have more work than we can do....Success must be waited for and not rushed. Our big ship will come in some day and this house will be overtaxed." Then she said to Sister Gualberta, "You and Sister Clarence take this statue of Saint Joseph. Make a nice little grave over there on the Rankin farm.



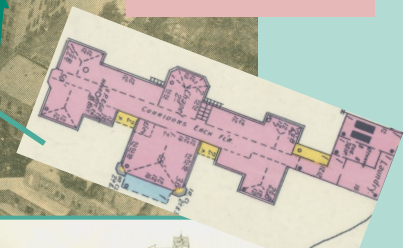
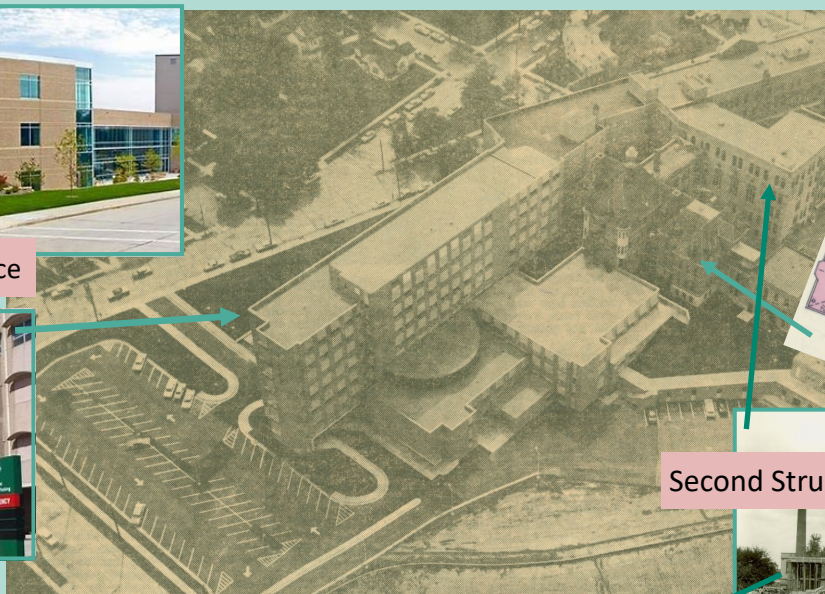
Bury it, and tell St. Joseph to keep that place for us. We will be needing it for our future buildings. They went to bury the statue, laughing on the way about the future buildings, and said, This house will never be filled as long as we live. Here we are six years and today we have seven patients." Many days we had less....but St. Joseph's grave will still be!



Present Front Entrance



Original Building



Second Structure



Cancer Care Center



Expansion continued with addition of diagnostic and treatment center .



Original 1899 building finally comes down. Notice Holy Family Hospital lettering and second structure with chapel windows and Sisters living quarters above. Watching from the windows brought tears as the wrecking ball swung back and forth—1973.



New Western Avenue Entrance.
Two Floors added in 1966.

