



Photo provided

Brother Charles Lohrenz, SM, tends the soil of two vegetable gardens on the campus of St. Mary's University. The fruit of his labor go directly to those in need.

One man, two gardens, and nine years of meals

SAN ANTONIO • A Chinese proverb reads, "One who plants a garden, plants happiness."

The gardens of Marianist Brother Chas Lohrenz grow not only happiness but food for hundreds of people each year.

For the past nine years, Brother Charles, 77, has been tending the soil of two vegetable gardens on the campus of St. Mary's University in San Antonio — one outside the Marianist Residence, and the other next to the Center for Legal & Social Justice.

"This is my apostolate. I'm a man of the land," says Brother Charles.

On his land, he plants tomatoes, okra, hot peppers, eggplant and corn in the spring; tomatoes in the fall; and lettuce in the

winter — as many as 800 heads of leaf, butter crunch and romaine lettuces.

The fruit of his labor goes directly to those in need. He gives half of his vegetables to San Antonio's St. Vincent de Paul Shelter for the Homeless, which provides three meals a day to more than 300 people.

The rest of the vegetables are given to a halfway house for recovering drug addicts, Freddie Garcia's Victory Fellowship Ministries, located near St. Mary's.

"One of the corporal works of mercy is 'feed the poor,'" says Brother Charles. The people really appreciate the vegetables, especially my vine-ripened tomatoes."

Brother Charles grew up gardening. He is originally from Milwaukee, where his family tended their own gardens. He now plants three times per year. He does most of the gardening himself, although college students do help occasionally.

He says of his gardening, "It's very satisfying. It helps my stress. I can work at my own pace."

Brother Charles lives at the Marianist Residence on the campus of St. Mary's University. Once a high school teacher, carpenter and maintenance worker, Brother Charles is officially "retired." But in gardening, he is far from idle. He is growing the stuff of proverbs and then some.

CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital-New Braunfels improves facilities

NEW BRAUNFELS • CHRISTUS Santa Rosa (CSR) has invested more than \$3,800,000 in new equipment and services for CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Hospital-New Braunfels (CSRH-New Braunfels) since acquiring the Hospital on Feb. 1.

"This investment," according to CHRISTUS Santa Rosa Health Care President/CEO, Don Beeler, "responds to a number of immediate needs identified by physicians to help enhance existing capabilities in a number of patient care areas of the hospital, and reflects our ongoing commitment to provide outstanding clinical care in the New Braunfels community and to build new and strengthen current programs and services to better meet the health care needs of this growing community now and in the future."

Beeler stressed that CSR is moving forward rapidly with planning in a number of areas such as expansion of cardiology services and pediatrics which were identified by community leaders and physicians during a two-day planning retreat held shortly after CHRISTUS Santa Rosa acquired the New Braunfels facility last February.

These most recent investments in state-of-the-art technology and expanded services will support the hospital's continuing commitment to providing the highest quality and safest care to patients.

CSRH-New Braunfels has purchased new radiology equipment for the operating room to provide advanced imaging capabilities during surgical procedures, three new anesthesia machines, and new cardiac

monitoring equipment for each of the operating room suites that will allow for easy transmission of patient vital sign information from the operating room to other patient care units.

The Post Anesthesia Care Unit will also receive all new cardiac monitors to improve patient monitoring. New overhead lighting systems are being installed in all of the operating rooms. In addition, surgeons will now have available a harmonic scalpel for surgical incisions.

The Intensive Care Unit has received a complete upgrade of monitoring equipment featuring the latest technology enhancement to allow for minute-to-minute assessment of patient vital signs and easy transfer of data to the electronic patient record system.

Patients using the Emergency Department will also benefit from new technology through a state-of-the-art central cardiac monitoring station and the addition of four new bedside monitors to accommodate the hospital's growing emergency population.

In addition, the central cardiac monitors on the medical unit will be replaced and 16 new telemetry units will be added to increase the ability to cardiac monitor up to 48 patients anywhere in the Hospital.

The Imaging Department will enjoy a significant upgrade in the PACS (Picture Archiving Communication System) that will provide improved digital images and the ability to interface with the electronic medical record.

Finally, a pediatric colonscope/gastroscope has been purchased for the Outpatient Surgery Center that allows for safer delivery of care to the pediatric population.

One of the most significant enhancements planned for CSRH-New Braunfels is the addition of a new inpatient dialysis service which opened in June.

Fresenius Medical Care has been chosen to provide inpatient dialysis services at CSRH-New Braunfels.

WHO'S WHO

Jack Steers, who teaches Pre-AP world history and AP U.S. history at Central Catholic High School, joined outstanding teachers from across the state last week at "From Disunion to Empire: The United States, 1850-1900," an institute sponsored by Humanities Texas and Trinity University. "From Disunion to Empire" drew 40 teachers to the Trinity campus for four days of seminars, lectures and workshops exploring U.S. history in the second half of the 19th century. "Humanities Texas was delighted to cosponsor "From Disunion to Empire," said Executive Director **Michael L. Gillette**. "Giving a talented teacher like Mr. Steers the opportunity to interact with his peers and leading scholars will enable him to engage students with exciting new perspectives on state, regional and national history." With presentations by prominent scholars **Orville Vernon Burton** and **H.W. Brands** and workshops examining documents, photographs and paintings, the San Antonio institute introduced participants to diverse topics and resources. The institute faculty included representatives from the National Archives and Records Administration, who provided participants with facsimiles of historic documents that support the teaching of American history. Another institute, held in Denton from June 8 to 11, featured presentations by Brands and the noted historian **Heather Cox Richardson**. The teachers also enjoyed a ragtime performance by **Ron Fink** and the Bourbon Street Stompers. "From Disunion to Empire: The United States, 1850-1900" institutes were made possible with support from a We the People grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



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