



MILWAUKEE
CATHOLIC HOME

FOCUS

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FAMILY TIES

Clarence and Jean Burg's dedication to their family has been evident throughout their lives.

Both were born and raised in Milwaukee; Jean grew up just four blocks from Milwaukee Catholic Home, while Clarence's family lived above and behind his father's hardware store.



Clarence and Jean Burg

After high school, Clarence studied mechanical engineering at the University of WI-Milwaukee. He joined the army a year after the attack on Pearl Harbor and was sent to Texas for training, followed by a year of college at Oregon State College. After finishing his junior year, Clarence was sent to England with the Combat Engineer Battalion, but as he says, they "never caught up with the war." They went to Germany after the Battle of the Bulge, but the war in Europe ended while they were there. They then boarded a ship for a 14,000-mile journey from the Mediterranean Sea to the Atlantic Ocean, through the Panama Canal, to Pearl Harbor and ending in Manila; the Pacific War ended before they reached the Philippines. Upon returning home, Clarence finished his college degree at the University of WI-Madison, followed by one year of graduate work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He then returned to Milwaukee and joined A.O. Smith as the head of the Automotive Research Laboratory and subsequently as the Director of Information and Resource Control Systems.

During the war Jean worked at Cutler Hammer. She married and had three daughters; however, she was widowed when her daughters were only

one, three and five years old. One weekend, Jean attended a hiking club with two other widows and met Clarence. They enjoyed a day of hiking and began dating afterwards; Jean "hasn't been hiking since." Clarence and Jean got married in 1956, and one year later, Clarence adopted Jean's three young daughters. When the adoption became official, Clarence called his mother and told her, "I'm a dad!" Clarence would become a dad three more times, as he and Jean had three daughters together. They initially lived in Shorewood, before building a house that Clarence designed in Glendale. The family joined St. Nicholas Parish, where Clarence served on the Parish Council and the Archdiocesan Planning Council, and Jean volunteered and participated in Ladies of Charity. Clarence and Jean also enjoyed attending their daughters' activities and sporting events.

The Burg family traveled extensively, camping in each of the 48 contiguous states and the Canadian provinces and cruising Alaska and Hawaii. Clarence and Jean valued the family time and found each trip memorable, although one experience stands out to both of them – when their van was stolen in Montreal and they lost all of their possessions. They made the best of the situation, renting a car and driving home. Years later, they finally made it on that trip! Since retiring they have traveled on many Elderhostel trips.

Clarence and Jean lived in Glendale for 48 years, until they moved to Milwaukee Catholic Home two years ago. The Burgs are active in the community at MCH, attending daily Mass, exercise classes, softball games and other activities; they really appreciate the friendly residents and staff. They also cherish family time with their daughters, 11 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. For Clarence and Jean, family still comes before all else.



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FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR



Administrator
Sandra Dugan

It was very sad to have to say goodbye when Executive Director Paul Connolly retired at the end of September, but at the same time, we find comfort in knowing that he leaves Milwaukee Catholic Home in good shape to move into the future. Ever since he joined Milwaukee Catholic Home 21 years ago, Paul has been a pillar for the organization; or, perhaps I should say Paul has been a rock, since it was he who helped build the very foundations that have made Milwaukee Catholic Home such a successful organization.

When asked, Paul attributes his success to the staff and residents of MCH, but I think we all know that the success of the organization stemmed from his commitment to his work and to the residents he served for so many years. Paul has been an integral part of the MCH community and will certainly be missed! Milwaukee Catholic Home will not be the same without him, but we will continue to try to live up to his extraordinarily high standards of quality as we move forward.

The Milwaukee Catholic Home Board of Directors Search Committee began the important task of seeking a new Executive Director as soon as Paul made his retirement plans known. The Search Committee is communicating to our residents and staff that the search for a new chief executive to lead our organization at this time of high census and employee retention has produced a group of fine, talented candidates. The Search Committee is carefully interviewing and screening applicants to find the person who will be the best fit to lead Milwaukee Catholic Home into the next chapter of its long history. The final candidate will then have to be approved by the full Board of Directors before being hired.

Until a new Executive Director is in place, the Board of Directors is working closely with the management team to provide leadership to the organization and ensure a seamless transition for the residents and staff. Once the Executive Director has been hired, the Board of Directors will make a special introduction of that person to the residents, staff and stakeholders of the organization. Until then, the staff and Board of Directors will continue to do what we have always done – provide outstanding care for our residents at Milwaukee Catholic Home. We say goodbye to Paul with heavy hearts, but also with an eye towards the future, as we look to build upon the foundations that Paul put in place over the past 21 years. With that perspective in mind, this truly is an exciting new phase in Milwaukee Catholic Home's 96-year tradition of service on Milwaukee's Eastside!



FALL BAZAAR A SUCCESS!

The Milwaukee Catholic Home Fall Bazaar was held on Thursday, October 21st and was once again a great success. The Bazaar is held each fall to raise money for resident activities and programs. It features crafts that are handmade by the residents, decorative household items, books, baked goods, a raffle, a silent auction and a "boutique" of finer items. This year the Bazaar also featured the pumpkin carvings of Miguel Rodriguez, who whittled a variety of beautiful pumpkins for purchase.

MCH residents and volunteers worked diligently to prepare for and carry out this year's Bazaar. The event was well attended by residents, MCH employees and community members, and raised a significant amount of money that will be dedicated to resident programs and entertainment.



Miriam Conley and granddaughter Kati Conley at the Bazaar

QUILT MADE WITH LOVE BY RESIDENTS AND VOLUNTEERS

A group of Milwaukee Catholic Home volunteers worked tirelessly to create a beautiful hand-stitched quilt. Residents worked side-by-side with community volunteers. The idea to put together the quilt was suggested by Director of Leisure Services Anne Catalane and brought to fruition due to the efforts of Volunteer Coordinator Mary Cherniack. Hundreds of hours of loving, patient work went into designing and creating the beautiful quilt. Raffle tickets are being sold in The Residence lobby, with the winning ticket to be drawn on December 17th at the residents' Christmas party.



Some of the MCH quilters with their quilt

Thank you to all the volunteers who had a hand in piecing together the quilt: Helen Burkard, Mary Byrne, Victoria Caruth, Gerry Conway, Denise Elfe, Sue Erdmann, Ruth Flaherty, Eli Honigsberg, Julia McKale, Kathleen Rickert, Rita Roth, Alice Siedlecki and Gina Spahn.

WINTER MOVE-IN SPECIAL!

This winter Milwaukee Catholic Home is offering a move-in special to those individuals who reserve an independent or assisted living apartment after November 1st and move into the apartment before March 1st. Those individuals will receive a \$2,500 incentive. Don't miss out on this one-time offer! If you have been thinking about moving, now is a great time, as there are a variety of apartment styles available. Contact Linda Cardinale in the marketing office at (414) 220-3216 for more information or to schedule a tour of independent or assisted living.

2009 CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

During this holiday season of caring and sharing, please consider a gift to help make the residents' Christmas Wishes come true.

Campus-wide

Sponsor an Aviary or Aquarium

(\$100 per month)

Our birds and fish are a delight to watch, but they need monthly care and maintenance.

Flower Fund

Nothing lifts the spirit like flowers. Flowers brighten the table and our residents' faces at meals.

Assisted Living

Entertainment & Decoration Fund

Help provide cheerful entertainment and decorations for residents to enjoy.

Exercise Program

Help residents in Assisted Living stay active mentally and physically.

Generations Day Center

Gift cards

We use gift cards from retail stores to purchase games and materials for craft projects, bingo prizes, and decorations.

Health & Rehabilitation Center

China for Dining Rooms

Appearance and presentation of meals is important for maintaining healthy appetites.

Music Therapy Programming

(\$60/group session)

Providing music therapy for residents can promote rehabilitation and improve quality of life.

Residence Apartments

Paul Connolly Tribute

Gifts honoring former MCH Executive Director Paul Connolly's retirement are designated for art to beautify our lobby.

Indoor/Outdoor Holiday Decorations

Create the magic of the season for kids of all ages to enjoy.

Theatre Chairs

Provide comfort to our many movie patrons.

You can make these Christmas wishes come true. Please send your gift to the Development Department, Milwaukee Catholic Home, 2462 N. Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53211, or call Richard Lowe at (414) 220-3214 for more information.



GIFTS FROM THE HEART

Milwaukee Catholic Home gratefully acknowledges our generous benefactors. Gifts of cash, property, securities, bequests and other gifts assist us in providing outstanding retirement and health care services for our residents. We encourage gifts in memory or honor of a loved one. We will be happy to notify the individual or family member of your generosity.

The following gifts were received between July 1, 2009 and September 30, 2009:

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DONOR CIRCLE RECEPTION MOVES TO SPRING

Traditionally, our donor appreciation event has been held in the autumn. However, most gifts are received in December, a month or two after the event. As a result, almost a whole year passes before we can invite and thank the many yearend donors. Therefore, the Donor Circle Reception is moving from a fall event to an early spring party, allowing us to include everyone who gave \$100 or more in 2009. The party will be scheduled for late March or early April.



MCH HOSTS GALLERY NIGHT



Milwaukee Catholic Home was recently a host venue for Gallery Night, an evening of open galleries and art shows throughout the city. MCH featured the Lifetime Art Competition, which was sponsored by Interfaith Older Adult Programs and the Helen Bader Foundation and included a watercolor painting created by resident Audrey Komarek in the MCH Community Art class. A reception was held for residents, the artists, their guests and community members. It was exciting for the MCH community to be a part of this wonderful cultural event!

MCH Community Art Teacher Dorothy Bisek and Audrey Komarek with Audrey's painting

RING IN THE HOLIDAYS AT MCH

Join Milwaukee Catholic Home for an afternoon of holiday festivities on Wednesday, December 16th in The Residence. From 1:30 to 3:30 p.m., stroll through apartments decorated for the holidays, treat yourself to home-baked cookies and cider, visit with Santa and enjoy Christmas music. This fun afternoon will be sure to put you in the holiday spirit!



www.milwaukee catholic home.org

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