



MILWAUKEE
CATHOLIC HOME

FOCUS

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RECOUNTING THE YEARS TOGETHER

Don and Marj Steinmetz have been together for almost their entire lives. They share similar backgrounds and a bond that has seen them through service in WWII, many years of schooling, multiple runs for judicial office and 65 years of marriage.

Both Don and Marj grew up on the south side of Milwaukee. Marj had always attended Catholic schools, but in ninth grade she transferred to Walker Junior High School, and that is where she met Don. They quickly developed a friendship, which strengthened as they attended high school at South Division and began dating.

Following high school, Don proposed to Marj by placing the engagement ring in a music box that played "I Love You Truly" when opened. Soon afterwards Don joined the Air Force and was sent away for training. While he was gone, Marj worked as a secretary and planned their wedding, hopeful that Don would be able to get leave from the Air Force to attend! Fortunately, Don was granted a 10-day furlough and the wedding went on as planned. After the wedding, the couple moved to Tampa, Florida, where Don expected to be deployed; however, due to complications from oral surgery, Don was held back in the states. Each day he had to report to the field to find out if he was to be sent overseas, but he never was and instead worked in Tampa as an Air Force instructor and officer for about one year.

Following Don's discharge from the Air Force, he and Marj moved back to Milwaukee, where they attended the University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee.

After completing the two-year program in Milwaukee, they attended the University of Wisconsin–Madison, working their way through school. Marj was employed as a Playground Director and at Quality Candy, while Don worked in grocery stores and as the Senior Manager of the men's basketball team. Having received their Bachelor's degrees, Don went on to law school, while Marj cared for their first child. Don's family includes a long history of lawyers who graduated from the University of Wisconsin, including Don's father and brothers, though Don pointed out that his father only had to attend one year of law school, since there were fewer laws at that time. One of Don and Marj's sons and one son-in-law are also lawyers who attended the University of Wisconsin.

When Don finished law school, he and Marj moved back to Milwaukee, where he worked as an Adjuster for insurance companies. Don and Marj raised their five children on the Eastside; the family attended St. Robert's Parish, where the children also went to school. After seven years of private practice in the insurance industry, Don began to work for the City Attorney's office, then transferred to the District Attorney's office and became First Assistant District Attorney. He chose to run for Milwaukee County Judge and won the election by 500 votes; a recount was necessary to confirm the narrow victory.



Marj and Don Steinmetz

In 1980, Don decided to run for the Wisconsin
(continued on page 4)



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Paul Connolly

Ideally, every organization operates with a variety of systems in place to track goals and measure outcomes, in order to assure that the desired result or mission is realized. Here at Milwaukee Catholic Home, we currently utilize the state survey process, CCRC accreditation protocol, annual financial auditing, medical quality assurance measures and other systems that help keep us focused on our goal of excellence and customer satisfaction.

This past year, key staff, the board of directors and I participated in the creation of a corporate strategic plan, which will now serve as yet another vehicle to assure that we continue to be accountable in multiple ways to the mission, values, vision and goals of MCH now and in the future. The plan serves to plot our course as a business for the next four to five years and outlines six key goals we aspire for, each having numerous Key Performance Indicators or objective scores. These measures give us day-to-day, month-to-month and year-to-year feedback on the effectiveness of the tactics we use to meet our goals.

As with any plan, the first step in getting people involved is

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communicating with everyone who will have input it its success; stakeholders need to be aware of the goals of the organization and what it will take to reach those goals. The official unveiling of the strategic plan to stakeholders took place during a presentation at the Annual Corporate Meeting on January 29th.

From this point forward, all staff members and volunteers will undergo education and training related to how their role in the organization fits into the goal of excellence within all aspects of our operations. Employee job descriptions will now incorporate adherence to the principles of compassion, excellence, integrity, benevolence and stewardship; these principles were identified as the ideals our organization embraces and continually strives to meet. All current and future board members, staff members, volunteers, residents and donors will be provided with literature about our strategic plan and receive regular updates as to the status and progression towards meeting the organization's goals.

With excitement, we look towards the future of Milwaukee Catholic Home and know that without a plan there can be little growth, learning and improvement. A strategic plan is a way in which we can formalize our main objective of being a continuing care retirement community of unsurpassed quality that our residents are proud to call home.

CHOIR SINGS SWEET MELODIES

Milwaukee Catholic Home residents could often be heard singing beautiful Christmas music this holiday season. The MCH Choir, comprised of residents, staff members and friends, rehearsed diligently throughout the fall and winter in preparation for a performance on the Epiphany. The choir presented their selections for residents of the Health and Rehabilitation Center prior to their communion service and residents of The Residence following daily mass. The appreciative audiences enjoyed the varied program, which ranged from popular hymn, "Joy to the World," to African-American spiritual hymn, "Children Go Where I Send Thee." The performances were a great way to keep the holiday spirit alive and wrap up the festivities of the season!



Members of the Milwaukee Catholic Home Choir

LUNCHEONS STRENGTHEN BONDS WITH LOCAL PARISHES

Several times each year, Milwaukee Catholic Home hosts luncheons for the priests from area parishes and residents and community members who currently attend or previously attended those parishes. The luncheons allow the residents to maintain a connection to their parish and a relationship with the priest. The priests appreciate being able to visit with parishioners in a relaxing social setting. Previously MCH has hosted parish luncheons for St. Robert's, St. Monica's, St. Eugene's, Three Holy Women and Holy Family Parishes. If you wish to receive an invitation to any of the parish luncheons held at Milwaukee Catholic Home in the future, please contact Linda Cardinale at (414) 220-3216.



Fr. Jerry Herda visits with residents during the St. Monica's and St. Eugene's Parish luncheon

LEARN HOW TO LEAVE A LEGACY AT MCH

This year Milwaukee Catholic Home will present four free seminars in our "Leave a Legacy" series. Well-known and respected financial professionals and guest speakers from community foundations will present updates on the economy and how conditions are impacting those 65-and-over.

Members of the Anna Marie Hackett Society—named in honor of one of the founders of Milwaukee Catholic Home—will receive invitations. All others are welcome to attend. For information about upcoming dates and topics—or to suggest a topic—please contact Richard Lowe, Development Director, at (414) 220-3214 or email rlowe@milwaukeecatholichome.org.

ASSISTED LIVING RESPITE NOW AVAILABLE

Milwaukee Catholic Home is now offering respite care in the Assisted Living apartments. Respite provides a short-term option for older adults who may need assistance with everyday tasks, while allowing them to keep their independence and freedom. Respite stays can range from a couple of days up to a month. Each respite apartment is fully furnished and includes a kitchenette, spacious bathroom with walk-in shower and bench, emergency pull-cord, telephone and cable television. The respite care program was unveiled to residents during an open house that the Assisted Living residents hosted for their friends in The Residence. During the open house, residents toured Assisted Living apartments, ate home-baked cookies and shared enjoyable conversation. Call Theresa Owens, the Assisted Living Manager, at (414) 220-3233 for more information about respite care at Milwaukee Catholic Home.

RESIDENTS TO SAVOR A TASTE OF MILWAUKEE

On Friday, February 20th, residents of the Health and Rehabilitation Center will experience a "Taste of Milwaukee" during a special luncheon. The Food Service department will prepare a menu celebrating Milwaukee traditions: veal schnitzel with spaetzle and braised cabbage; or flanken (sweet-sour ribs) with potato pierogi and rutabaga mash. The meal will be accompanied by Wisconsin beer, wine and root beer. Gillies custard and Racine Kringle will be served for dessert. Each of the dining rooms will be decorated with photos of famous Milwaukeeans and popular local destinations and will also feature live entertainment for the residents to enjoy as they dine.



RECOUNTING THE YEARS TOGETHER *(continued)*

Supreme Court, following 14 years as a County and Circuit Court Judge. By this time their children were grown, and Marj was critical in Don's campaign, managing the financial contributions. Don and Marj campaigned together, meeting with civic groups in small and large towns statewide to gain supporters. Don won the election by 5,000 votes, but once again, a recount was required. In order to cut down on Don's commute to Madison, he and Marj built a house on Okauchee Lake and moved from Milwaukee. Ten years later Don successfully ran for a second term; finally, no recount was needed!

Since retiring, Don remains loosely connected to the legal community. The only legal work he does is for Marj and himself, but he attends a monthly luncheon with other retired judges and lawyers, during which they discuss law and politics. He also recently swore in new Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Michael Gableman at a ceremony in Madison.

Don and Marj are very proud of their family, which now includes 13 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. When they decided it was time to move from their home on Okauchee Lake, they moved to Milwaukee Catholic Home in their original Eastside neighborhood. Don and Marj appreciate the ease that life at MCH has given them, particularly having meals and housekeeping provided for them. They are also pleased to be able to attend daily Mass at St. Anne's Chapel, and Marj enjoys volunteering in the Chapel and participating in the welcome and food committees. And when people ask Don and Marj about the secret to 65 years of marriage, they have a simple answer: unconditional love, integrity, respect, sacrifice and the blessings of the Grace of God.





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.

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Beginning in the next *Focus* newsletter, commemorative gifts that are designated to a special fund will be listed in a new format. For example, when Mr. and Mrs. John Smith make a gift in memory of Mr. John A. Sample and designate it for our Fine Arts Fund, the gift will be listed as shown below:

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The goal of this listing is to connect the donor, the person being memorialized and the intent of the gift. It will also provide a more concise presentation and conserve space.

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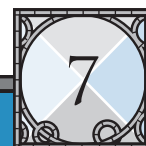
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Milwaukee Catholic Home sincerely appreciates your donation. Every effort was made to correctly acknowledge all contributors. If your name was omitted or incorrectly listed, please accept our apologies and call the Development Office at (414) 220-3214, so we may correct our records.



BEAT THE WINTER BLUES!

Have the Winter Blues got you down? Visit Milwaukee Catholic Home for some laughter, entertainment and fun. Health psychologist and humorist Dr. Cindy Solliday-McRoy will appear at



MCH on Tuesday, February 24th at 2:00 p.m. to present a program entitled, "Fighting the Doldrums of Winter." Prior to Dr. Cindy's presentation, there will be a luncheon for prospective residents and their friends and family, followed by brief apartment tours in The Residence. Join us for this entertaining afternoon, forget about the cold weather, gloomy days and snow shoveling, and learn how to laugh your troubles away. After all, laughter is the best medicine! Please call Linda Cardinale at (414) 220-3216 for more information regarding the luncheon.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Karen Beaumont

Classical organ concert
Wednesday, February 11th
at 1:00pm

Kurt Ollmann & Jeff Peterson

Cabaret
Wednesday, March 4th
at 7:30 p.m.

Fred Moyer

Piano concert
Thursday, April 9th
at 7:30 p.m.



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