

Enriching Lives

SUMMER 2018

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS WITH THREE MAJOR GIFTS TO THE MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY

In 1868, the founders of Saint John's responded to a Milwaukee housing need with some donated dollars and a vision to serve. Its humble beginnings by volunteer Episcopal churchwomen anchored Saint John's mission of service.

With the continued long-term involvement of volunteers, dedicated staff, and donors of charitable gifts, Saint John's has expanded over time to become a leader in retirement residences, a continuum of health care services, and programs that promote aging well. Now, 150 years later, we celebrate Saint John's by giving back to the Milwaukee community that has nurtured Saint John's for all these years. Three gifts were announced at the Annual Meeting in May...



Former Saint John's President Dennis Gralinski; Current President Renée Anderson; Bishop Steven A. Miller; Former President Kathie Eilers and Chaplain Jana Troutman-Miller.



President Renée Anderson; Resident and Foundation Board Member Dick Miller; Saint John's Board Chair Stephanie Sue Stein; and Resident and LifeStreams Committee Chair Kent Mayfield.

1. President Renée Anderson announced the launching of the Institute On Aging at Saint John's. The Institute will solidify Saint John's role as a spiritual and civic leader as well as an innovator, by pioneering community-oriented, values-based education and training. These initiatives will be anchored in cross-continuum, practice-based research that promotes authentic aging in diverse environments. The Board of Saint John's Communities Foundation approved funds totalling \$500,000 over the next three years. These resources will serve to advance the mission of the Institute by building strong local and *(Continued p. 2)*

LOOKING BACK ON 150 YEARS OF LOOKING FORWARD

Saint John's official founding on June 17 was celebrated with a Sunday morning service in the Chapel, presided over by Bishop Steven A. Miller. The Bishop's message paid honor to the Episcopal Churchwomen of long ago who provided housing to Milwaukee's needy. He then recognized our contemporary leadership of women: Kathie Eilers, our first woman president, and Renée Anderson, our second and current woman president, and all who serve or have served as board members. Our leadership continues the important work of taking on bold initiatives which secure Saint John's position as a leader in retirement services. As a member of the board, Bishop Miller, knows well the resources necessary to maintain and grow our organization that is today, home to more than 350 residents, 220 employees, and 250 active volunteers.

The Good News

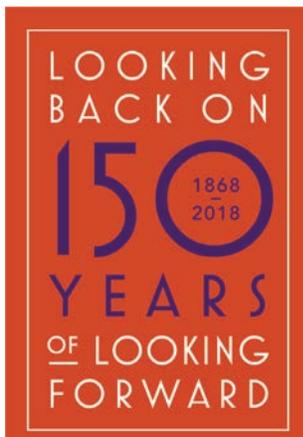
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national partnerships with healthcare institutions, community-based organizations, faith communities and governmental agencies, as well as universities and research institutes. Saint John's has recognized that these efforts will create a bold new path for our future.



2. Milwaukee's public library system dates back to 1878 and is a valuable resource for the City. With a strong Saint John's partnership as well as many fond resident patrons, a gesture of appreciation was indeed worthwhile. To acknowledge their purposeful work, Saint John's made a \$25,000 donation to the Library's Foundation in support of the advancement of digital technology for readers who live with visual impairment. Ryan Daniels, Executive Director of the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation, was most pleased to accept the donation from Kathie Eilers and Renée Anderson.

3. The Park People is a volunteer organization that supports the Milwaukee County Parks department. It was founded by the late Joy Teschner, a Saint John's resident. In honor of our anniversary, Saint John's has gifted a park bench – the Teschner bench – to be placed on the Oak Leaf trail east of our campus. Miriam Reading, resident and a member of the organization, accepted the gift with gratitude for this generous gesture on behalf of the Park People.



OUR MESSAGE

This issue is filled with inspiring stories that define our thriving community and the desire to be the best in retirement living. We give thanks to all those who give joyfully to support the mission of Saint John's and all the ways we advance life-long learning.

Through the many contributions of time, talent and treasure, our donors are able to enrich the present and enhance the future.

With gratitude,
Sybil and Mary

FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBERS

As stewards of the Foundation's purpose, Board members look forward to hearing from you.

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Donors with Heart

ANNUAL APPEAL

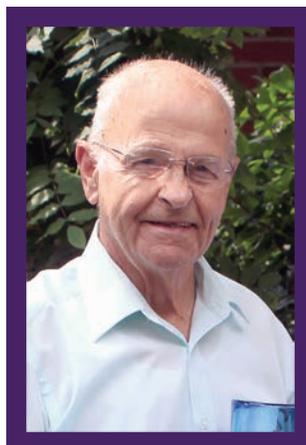
Each spring, the Office of Philanthropy solicits charitable contributions for operational support and for the numerous programs offered in our activities calendar. Our menu of funds provides a variety of options, allowing donors to align their philanthropic giving with their personal values and interests.

The recent mailing highlighted two 2018 funding priorities:

- The Annual Spirituality & Aging Symposium: an event featuring nationally-known faculty and authors who advance the study of aging and to promote community connections.
- The *Campaign to Make a Joyful Noise*: charitable support to finance the purchase of a new chapel organ. This campaign is gaining momentum with many generous gifts to date.
 - The new organ will feature the latest in digital technology to provide the spectrum of pipe-like sound required for the broad range of historical and modern organ repertoire.
 - The replacement will give us an opportunity to expand the music program and highlight the qualities of a finely-crafted instrument.

If you are one who has responded to the appeal, we are grateful. For those who prefer end-of-year giving, we look forward to your gift to whatever fund speaks to your heart.

GIFTS OF TIME



Peter Randall

Our community knew Peter Randall and his little red wagon for the last six years while he managed the grocery stock of the Corner Store. In the summer, he made time to work in the gardens and to practice his baritone with the Freistadt Alte Kameraden Band, including German Fest performances. The school year found him substitute teaching at Homestead High School where

students were in capable hands. While THANK YOU seems an inadequate message, we share in the acknowledgement of this special man, and our loss at his passing.



Al Block

Tapping into his career as an educator and his love of history, Al Block brought a special flair to his monthly World War History discussions at Saint John's. For those with other interests, he offered the "Al's Choice" potpourri of videos and discussions on a wide variety of topics ranging from national parks to classic comedy, twice a month. His desire to teach, inspire, and encourage civil

discourse never wavered for the many years he volunteered. Al's wry wit, passion for learning and big heart are dearly missed.



Bob and Marge Polack

LEGACY SOCIETY NEWS

It was with deep sadness that we marked the passing of Legacy Society member Bob Polack in March. Bob and his wife Marge took advantage of a unique and effortless way to make a lasting statement of support through a residency contract refund by designating a gift to Saint John's Foundation. Bob's gift to the General Endowment Fund helps to support what we do well – a calendar full of programs that engage residents to live life well by focusing on all aspects: social, spiritual, intellectual, vocational, physical and emotional. We are humbled to recognize his generosity.

You too can become a member of our Legacy Society by arranging a future gift to any of our Foundation funds. What goals would you like to achieve with a planned gift?

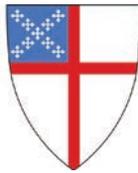
Sharing the Love



(left to right) Vice President of Facilities Management Mike Lingle; Chaplain Jana Troutman-Miller; Resident John Armbruster; President Renée Anderson and VJS Project Superintendent Mark Sowinski.

SHARING THE LOVE

What's old is new again, thanks to all the generous donors who responded to a unique Chapel project – to transport and install Saint John's former generator to the Community Center of the Episcopal Diocese of the Dominican Republic. The efforts were championed by resident John Armbruster with Chaplain Jana Troutman-Miller, who inspired contributions of more than \$5,000. The repurposed generator will provide energy support to the Center that houses a clinic, an emergency shelter, and the Diocesan offices. A most beautiful collaboration.



FAQ

This is not to be confused with 'Frequently Asked Questions', here we refer to the Fine Arts Quartet! Congratulations to the Friends of the Fine Arts Quartet – a group of many residents and volunteers who championed the efforts to raise more than \$40,000 to sponsor the 2018 June FAQ Festival. The Quartet offered a series of June concerts and special events – some were hosted here at Saint John's while the musicians were artists-in-residence for the week.

SAVE THE DATES

- 34th Annual Employee Scholarship Award Program: **Wednesday, August 15, 2:00 p.m.** in the Cultural Arts Center. Please plan to attend and hear the stories of our awardees. Last year, 19 students benefitted from the awards. You can make a difference in the lives of students by supporting the activities of the Thrift Shoppe, whose profits fund our annual scholarship awards. Visit the Shoppe today to donate saleable items and/or purchase our treasures. Receipts are available for tax purposes.
- Volunteer Appreciation Event: **Thursday, September 27, 4:00 p.m.** in the Cultural Arts Center, with reception to follow in the Museum Gallery. All are invited.

INVITATION TO GIVE

We encourage you to enjoy the gift of giving. Our office accepts gifts by cash, check, credit card, assignment of a life insurance policy or retirement account, or appreciated stock. Credit card gifting is available through our website at www.SaintJohnsMilw.org. Once there, look for DONATE NOW in the banner above our logo or click OUR FOUNDATION.

It's easy. It's secure. All donations to Saint John's Communities and Saint John's Communities Foundation qualify under Section 170(f)(8) as eligible for tax deduction.

For information about any form of giving, contact **Sybil Bell at 414.831.6911** (sbell@saintjohnsmilw.org) or **Mary Przybylski at 414.831.6905** (mprzybylski@saintjohnsmilw.org).

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