A Connection 27 Years in the Making

John Heydel first became introduced to the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine in 1990 when he met Sister Mary Jacob Yelcho, CSA, at a medical conference in Atlanta. That was the start of a relationship that has blossomed over the years.

At the time, John was a senior assistant administrator at the 625-bed Schumpert Medical Center in Shreveport, Louisiana. Sr. Mary Jacob was the president and CEO of Providence Hospitals in Columbia, South Carolina, which was part of the Sisters of Charity Health System. John was interested in a position as president of a large hospital with a respected cardiac program. After more than 40 years in health care, Sr. Mary Jacob was searching for someone to fill her role while continuing to support the Catholic mission of the hospital.

“She invited me to come to Columbia and we hit it off right away. I was brought in as an executive vice president in 1991 to ensure I would be true to the mission and ministry of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine,” said John.

He was named president and CEO of Providence Hospitals in 1992. He left there in 1998 to become the president and CEO of Self Regional Healthcare until retiring in 2008, but he never lost touch with the sisters. He continued to stay involved with an organization he helped found in 1992—Healthy Learners, which is a ministry of the Sisters of Charity Healthy System that is devoted to removing South Carolina children’s health barriers to learning.

As president and CEO of Providence Hospitals, he got to know many sisters both in South Carolina and Cleveland. He and his wife Drenda even spent several days at the Motherhouse at Mt. Augustine, which is also the location of Regina Health Center.

continued on page 3
Birthdays and anniversaries are often times to reflect on the past and look ahead to the future. As we prepare for Regina Health Center turning 25 next year, we’re doing the same.

Since 1993, we’ve built a reputation for excellence as a top-rated facility as we’ve cared for so many over the years—clergy, vowed religious and family members—who have served so many of us throughout our lives.

The compassionate, faith-based care we provide and exceptional quality ratings—and awards that follow—happen because all of the pieces here at Regina Health Center work together, from our dedicated staff to our supporters like you to our physical facility.

The facility has served its purpose for many years, starting in 1956 when the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine built their new motherhouse. In 1993, they converted a portion of the building into a state-of-the-art nursing and assisted living care facility for the aging religious and clergy population. We can’t ask for a better maintenance staff who keeps everything in top shape, but without a major building rejuvenation, our age is starting to show.

As is the case with any large project, it will require time to plan plus capital that needs to be raised to ensure all aspects of the project meet the needs of our residents and those who skillfully care for them.

To that end, we formed an advisory committee to help identify and garner support for a proposed 25th anniversary capital and endowment campaign to begin the process of rejuvenation. We are still in the preliminary planning stages, but are excited about the prospect of taking the steps now to position us to remain a high quality home for the aged for the next 25 years and beyond.

In addition to the interior renewal, we’ll be celebrating Regina Health Center’s silver anniversary with special events for residents throughout the year and a gala anniversary event that is scheduled for September 8, 2018. Watch for invitations and more details soon.

This is an exciting time at Regina Health Center. We’re thrilled to have you with us as we celebrate 25 years and prepare for a bright future. Looking ahead to our golden anniversary in 2043, we can be confident Regina Health Center will shine just as brightly as it does today in providing exceptional care to our residents.

Mark C. Yantek, LNHA

Executive Director, Regina Health Center
Including Regina Health Center in Your Estate Plan

Your estate documents are a powerful tool for ensuring that your assets pass to those you love and to the charities that mean so much to you and your family—which John and Drenda Heydel recognized [see cover story]. Over the past 15 years, Regina Health Center has received more than $3.2 million from loving and generous individuals who made an estate provision to benefit this ministry of care and compassion. Their gifts were put to good use by being properly invested to generate much-needed operating income, for the direct care of the residents, or toward much-needed capital improvements and resident comfort.

Please consider a provision in your estate documents to benefit the vowed religious, clergy and family members who call Regina Health Center home. Regina Health Center is a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit organization and certain estate tax benefits may apply. Contact your estate planning professional to see the best way to accomplish this and ensure your wishes are carried out appropriately. When adding Regina Health Center to your will or estate document, your attorney will list us as:

Regina Health Center
5232 Broadview Road
Richfield, Ohio 44286

Thank you for your consideration of this most meaningful decision. Please contact Maureen O’Neill-Laszlo at 330.659.5132 for more information.
What if You Live Too Long?

Why Ignoring the Importance of Incapacity Planning Can Have Serious Consequences

It’s a common misconception that all your efforts to create a comprehensive estate plan are focused on what happens after your death. That is very much not the case, and it’s a dangerous misconception to plan by.

Estate planning does not equate to death planning. There are several ways in which your estate plan can drastically impact you and your loved ones’ quality of life well before you pass away. That is why it’s also crucial that your plan includes up-to-date provisions for what will take place if you don’t die.

The relationship between incapacity and your estate plan

Many people become legally incapacitated, where they lose the ability to make their own legal decisions on either a temporary or permanent basis. This legal incapacity is not the same as being disabled for social security or workers compensation purposes. Rather, it is the result of coma, cognitive impairment caused by degenerative illnesses or other situations in which a person is no longer able to make their wishes known due to loss of physical or mental function.

What happens if you are in need of help because you can’t manage your finances any longer? A robust, trust-based estate plan will include the necessary documents to make sure your wishes are carried out to a T—even if you aren’t able to express those wishes at the time.

You need a plan that will protect your privacy, free you from court interference, help you protect and manage your assets, save you money on taxes, and enable you to name the people you trust the most to act on your behalf. Without a comprehensive incapacity plan in place, a judge can appoint someone to take control of your assets and make all personal and medical decisions for you through a court-supervised guardianship or conservatorship. You and your loved ones could lose valuable time, money and control until you either regain capacity or die.

Don’t let a lack of incapacity planning damage your quality of life and cause undue stress for your loved ones. Schedule a time to make sure your estate plan has solid, up-to-date provisions in place that make your wishes regarding incapacity plain and clear.

This article is courtesy of:
Marie Mirro Edmonds Co LPA
807 E. Washington Street Suite 200
Medina, Ohio 44256

This article is for informational purposes only and is not intended to be construed as written advice about a federal tax matter. Readers should consult with their own professional advisors to evaluate or pursue tax, accounting, financial or legal planning strategies.
THE GRATEFUL HEARTS TRIBUTE PROGRAM was established so donors can make a meaningful gift to support the mission of Regina Health Center and at the same time, remember or honor a loved one or a dear acquaintance. In 2016, 265 tribute gifts were received. Regina Health Center thanks the generous donors who made gifts of tribute and congratulates those who have been honored. We pray for all listed on these pages, living and deceased.

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We regret if we have inadvertently
excluded or misspelled any names.
Please call the RHC Mission Support
and Donor Relations office at 330.659.5132
so that we can correct any errors.
Thank you.

* Deceased

GRATEFUL HEARTS TRIBUTE SOCIETY

The Grateful Hearts Tribute Society offers
an opportunity for family and friends to
establish a permanent tribute to honor or
memorialize their loved ones. Permanent
tributes can be established for tribute gifts
with accumulated giving of $5,000 or more.
Permanent tributes are included in the
intentions at daily Mass at Regina Health
Center. The book of tribute names is located
at the rear of the main chapel. We thank
the thoughtful families and friends who
remember their loved ones in this way.

PERMANENT TRIBUTES
IN MEMORY OF

Margaret Anne Brosnan
Mary Barrett Brosnan
Patrick J. Brosnan
Elizabeth Carraher
Sr. Elaine Eggert, OP
Thomas and Louise Fleming
Donald A. Gedeon
Mary Ellen and John Greco
Ruth Marian Raybuck
Lois Soss
Sr. Siena Ward, OP
When is it time to look for alternative senior living accommodations?

By Lori Presser, Regina Health Center Marketing Director

The signs that a loved one needs help can be subtle; spoiled food in the refrigerator, dust on the furniture, spills on the floor and carpets, piles of old newspapers. The failure to tune into these signs can lead to not-so-subtle problems such as falls and health issues that could threaten a loved one’s ability to remain healthy and independent.

HERE ARE OTHER SIGNS TO WATCH FOR:

1. Look over the grocery list. Has your loved one’s declining health prompted them to purchase more convenience and junk food, and neglect proper nutrition? Is he/she losing weight?
2. Are they engaged in social events with family and friends?
3. Has the inability to lift their arms and climb stepstools prevented them from cleaning high places?
4. Are frayed carpets, throw rugs and furniture creating tripping hazards? Are stairs no longer being used due to safety or health limitations?
5. Is poor eyesight making it difficult for your mom or dad to read medication labels? Is he or she forgetting to refill and to take them on schedule? Check the refill date against the number of pills in the bottle to help determine if your loved one is taking medication regularly or call the pharmacy.
6. Is clothing dirty and unkempt, and is your loved one neglecting personal hygiene? Is laundry being done?

If you notice these signs, it may be time to consider alternative accommodations for your loved one’s quality of life. Regina Health Center can provide personal care services, nursing staff to dispense medications, social/recreation calendar, daily Mass, therapy services, three-meals a day with snacks, laundry and housekeeping services for both short-term rehabilitation stays and long-term stays.

Regina Health Center welcomes short term rehabilitation stays!

SCHEDULING A SURGERY? RECOVERING FROM AN ILLNESS OR INJURY?

Contact Sharon Bournigal, admissions director, at 330.659.5143 for more information.
Resident Sr. Mary Grace Betzler, CSA — 50 years
Sr. Mary Grace enjoyed her time as an occupational therapist and chaplain at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center. “It gave me the opportunity to use my skills and work with patients in orthopedic and cardiac rehab,” she said. Since moving to RHC, she has employed a ministry of prayer, listening, conversation and delivering the “art of compassionate care.” Sr. Mary Grace said her personal daily mantra for interacting with others is, “What can I do to make you more comfortable?” She is conscientious to observe other’s moods and tries to reach out to them in a way they are willing to accept and be reminded that they “still have value and that God loves them.”

Resident Br. Eugene Blee, SSS — 60 years
Br. Blee spent most of his early ministry by guiding and counseling troubled youth in Los Angeles, which he said was a “challenge to reach out to care, share, dare and bear.” After joining the community at RHC, he manages to keep himself busy by serving as the co-chaplain of the Knights of Columbus, where he has achieved the status of Fourth Degree Knight. When he’s not at one of the monthly meetings, Br. Blee is visiting his fellow residents who are sick and delivering affirmations through his prayer and sacrifice.

Resident Fr. Thomas Gilles — 50 years
“...The ministry I came to appreciate most of all is what many spiritual writers call the Ministry of Presence. As Christ came to make present his Father’s loving care for his people, I cherished being a spiritual companion to the many persons I was called to serve over the span of 50 years. Living in retirement at Regina Health Center continues to offer daily opportunities to exercise this same priestly Ministry of Presence on behalf of my fellow residents, their loved ones and members of the staff. All has been a gift. All continues to be good.”
Sr. Mary George Haky, OSU — 70 years
Sr. Mary George fondly remembers her 41 years as a school teacher, from grades K-12, but she said her favorite years were with fourth and fifth graders. She also enjoyed seeing the changes in the students over the years. Her ministry at RHC has been to offer her sewing and mending skills to anyone who needs them, which she does cheerfully. Sr. Mary George encourages everyone to “smile at people when you see them; it may be the only one they receive that day, but will start a chain reaction with the next person and the person after that.”

Sr. Caroline Kocur, OSU — 60 years
Sr. Caroline Kocur taught first and eighth grades, eventually becoming an assistant principal before becoming principal, for a total of 50 years in school administration. She “learned a lot from the kids and the pastors” in her role and enjoyed it, especially when she became the yearbook advisor. Sr. Caroline continues her ministry at RHC through prayer for everyone’s special intentions, be they fellow residents, community members, friends, staff and others.

Sr. Judith McGuire, CSJ — 60 years
Sr. Judith McGuire served as a school counselor for 30 years. “It seemed to fit me,” she said. She commented that she has always been the “local bartender” who everyone seems to want to talk to and share their problems. Inspired by her Aunt Ruth McGuire, who worked at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center, she said she always wanted to be a part of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine community. “God has blessed me by being surrounded by the very community I once wished to join. In essence, God has gifted me with more than I could possibly imagine.”

The following sisters, who have current affiliations with RHC, have also celebrated a jubilee year:

Serving 70 Years
Sr. Theresa Bontempo, CSA
Sr. Rose Miller, OP (recently deceased)

Serving 60 Years
Sr. Cecilia Moran, SIW assistant in the Pastoral Care Department at Regina Health Center
Sr. Miriam Erb, CSA RHC Board of Directors vice president
Regina Health Center (RHC) has the fortune of employing a staff of dedicated and caring individuals, who have had close contact with many of this newsletter’s readers over the years. We asked a few administrative staff members to tell us what it means to work for the RHC mission.

Sharon Bournigal  
Admissions Coordinator

Sharon is usually the first face that interested residents and family members will meet, either in person or by phone. She has been in her position for two years and understands the challenges that individuals and their families experience when making the decision to move to a long-term health care facility. She has the opportunity to meet with most new residents and said that’s what she enjoys the most. “They talk about their thoughts and feelings about leaving home and I do what I can to set them at ease. Sharon comments that when she tours prospective residents and family members through the facility, several residents stop us and let them know, ‘This is the best place to be if you need to come to a health care facility.’ It helps families to relax and know they are making the right choice. Families are happy and grateful that they found Regina Health Center for their loved one. It is a pleasure to accept the residents into our wonderful environment.”

Janet Cinadr  
Director of Nursing

Janet came to Regina Health Center in 2001. She said she enjoys her interactions with residents and staff, and having the ability to make a positive difference in the quality of life for residents. “That is what continues to motivate me. Over my 40-year career, this is the most outstanding nursing staff with which I’ve ever been associated.” Janet recalled a phone call she recently received from a daughter of a resident who was only with RHC for four days before she passed away at the age of 102. The daughter told Janet that she was going to provide a lunch for the staff who gave such great care. She told Janet, “She was in the right place. I am so glad I found Regina.” Janet added that each nursing unit has a bulletin board with numerous thank you cards from residents and their family and friends about the exceptional care provided. Janet said, “We serve residents who come for short-term rehab and others who have made Regina Health Center their home for many years. Trying to meet everyone’s expectations can be a challenge at times, but the warm smiles and grateful words from residents and family members are what make it so meaningful.”

“In these moments it’s very apparent to me that our work is a calling from God and not just a job. We’re doing what God put us here to do.”
Shawn Mickle
Director of Social Services

Shawn has been with RHC for 15 years. “I like being able to help our residents and families during what is usually a very challenging time in their lives. Working at RHC with our dedicated team is unlike anywhere I’ve ever worked; everyone works very well together. We are given the freedom and support to assist with whatever is needed, in conventional ways and sometimes in unconventional ways. I have the privilege of working with them in a myriad of ways: with financial, emotional, spiritual and physical needs. It’s an honor to serve the religious, clergy and lay residents of our facility who have spent so much of their lives helping others. Regina is such a uniquely spiritual place. There have been more times than I can count where God’s providence is so present, where residents and families seem to be exactly where they need to be and receiving exactly the gifts from God that they need in that moment. I often talk with our new residents about adjusting to life here and they frequently share that they never wanted to live at a care facility. However, after living here they state that they feel God has led them here for a specific reason and they feel very close to God here. Being able to be a part of that experience with our residents is very moving. In these moments it’s very apparent to me that our work is a calling from God and not just a job. We’re doing what God put us here to do.”

Tuesday, November 28
JOIN RHC FOR ONLINE DAY OF CATHOLIC GIVING

RHC is participating in the Catholic Community Foundation’s second annual day of Catholic giving on Tuesday, November 28, which is also known as “Giving Tuesday,” a global day of giving. This powerful online event provides parishes, schools, ministries, Catholic Charities sites/programs, special ministries and Catholic nonprofits a unique way to build community, connect with donors, and generate excitement for the charities the foundation serves. Consider getting a head start on your year-end giving by visiting the WeGiveCatholic.org website on November 28, click on Search Organizations and type in Regina Health Center. It’s an easy way to make your online contribution. Or, you can make an online gift at any time at www.reginahealthcenter.org, click on the Giving tab and Donate Today. Watch for our year-end Let There Be Light annual appeal in your mail soon.

Sunday, December 3 (INVITATION ONLY)
SPECIAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT and RECEPTION

The well-known Peace Together Choir will perform for residents and RHC donors Sunday, December 3, at 3 p.m. Light refreshments will be served after the performance. The Peace Together Choir is an interfaith choir whose mission is to perform and record meaningful music to bring hope and peace to its listeners. The nonprofit organization donates proceeds from CD sales and donations to charitable groups. This event is by invitation only. Look for invitations to arrive in November.
Circle of Abiding Love Mass and Recognition Ceremony

The Circle of Abiding Love Mass and Recognition Ceremony happens each year in the spring as a way to express gratitude to steadfast donors. This year’s event welcomed many new members who have shared their love and generosity for the benefit of those in need. The event celebrates leadership level gifts in the prior year, individuals who have made an estate gift to benefit RHC, and individuals and organizations whose accumulated giving has reached a significant milestone. The evening began with Mass celebrated by the Most Reverend Roger W. Gries, O.S.B., Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus, Diocese of Cleveland, which was followed by dinner. Donors received a photo with the bishop and Sr. Judith Ann Karam, congregational leader of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine.

Holy-In-One Scores Another Victory

On June 19, more than 220 golfers gathered for the 18th annual Holy-In-One Golf Outing at the world-renowned Firestone Country Club. In addition to a day on the links, participants enjoyed a grilled lunch, buffet dinner, open bar, silent auction, live auction, door prizes and awards. All proceeds go toward the growing cost of caring for the religious, clergy and lay residents who call RHC home. In 2017, generous participants helped set a new record by raising more than $213,000!

Special thanks go to our event sponsors: Donley’s, and Eva and David Wilmot. Other major sponsors included Congregation of the Blessed Sacrament, Cavanagh Hoyt & Associates, Yanke Bionics, Dominican Sisters of Peace, Drs. Elizabeth P. Macintyre and Joseph A. Sopko, Karen and George Daverio, Buckeye Corrugated Inc., Lakehurst Foundation, Bruce Wright and Tom Orr, Absolute Pharmacy, Therapy in Motion LLC, KeyBank, Maurer & Associates Inc., Catholic Charities, Maloney + Novotny, Zenith Systems and Cascade Auto Group.

Join us at next year’s event on Monday, June 18, 2018. See you then!

Pebble Beach® Raffle Proves Popular Again

For the past eight years (going on nine), Lynn and Mark Yanke of Yanke Bionics, Inc., have been the Pebble Beach® Sponsor for the Holy-In-One Golf Outing. The raffle was the brainchild of the Yankes when they identified an innovative way to help raise more money for the RHC ministry. Since its inception, the raffle has raised nearly $90,000. Lynn and Mark will again sponsor the raffle for the 2018 Holy-In-One Golf Outing June 18 at Firestone Country Club. Tickets are available for purchase at $100 each and only 200 tickets will be sold. Call Cheryl at 330.659.5142 to purchase your tickets today.

David and Judith Gauntner of Broadview Heights were the 2017 winners of the Pebble Beach® vacation. The trip for two included: airfare, rental car, 3-night stay in an ocean view room at The Lodge at Pebble Beach®, two rounds of golf for two and a gift card.

RHC Donates to Hurricane Harvey Relief

A large THANK YOU goes out to all RHC residents, staff and volunteers who donated to the hurricane relief effort. Seven boxes of assorted supplies, water and necessities were shipped to Texas to help those who suffered great loss. In addition, $321 was collected and will be forwarded to the Diocese of Cleveland as part of the Hurricane Relief Assistance Collection. RHC employee Chris Mis initiated and managed the collection. Great job Chris and all who helped!
“Cruise-In” Brings Classic Cars to RHC

An exciting assortment of polished classic and muscle cars cruised in to RHC on August 9 for the annual Car Cruise-In. The popular event again drew hundreds of people from throughout the community, donors who enjoyed a complimentary private picnic, and residents who love the show. This year, there were two categories of judging, including the addition of the “residents’ choice.” Through raffle tickets and refreshment sales, the event raised $1,600, which will enhance the RHC Resident Activities Fund for special resident trips and projects.

Men’s Club Welcomes Sportscaster Dan Coughlin

The Men’s Club of Regina Health Center had a special guest speaker at its monthly meeting and luncheon in September—Dan Coughlin, longtime Cleveland sports reporter and anchor. During his “Half a Century of Cleveland Sports” talk, Dan shared personal stories of his high school days at St. Eds and Saint Ignatius and his time in the U.S. Army, before becoming a reporter. For more than 18 years, he traveled around the country covering the Indians and Browns for The Plain Dealer. He covered the U.S. Olympic Hockey team that beat the Soviet Union in 1980. In 1983, he switched to television sports reporting for WJW TV in Cleveland, where he remains on Friday nights. Dan shared many Cleveland sports memories and laughs with the audience. The Men’s Club meets the 3rd Monday of each month at noon.

Regina Health Center in Top 1% for Family Satisfaction

Regina Health Center (RHC) scored in the top 1 percent of all Ohio nursing homes in the recently released Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) family satisfaction survey. With a score of 93.2 of 100, RHC placed fifth statewide among 541 nursing homes for which data were available and was the highest scoring nursing home in Northeast Ohio.

The high marks aren’t just for skilled nursing. RHC was also in the top 1% in the counterpart ODA survey for residential care facilities (assisted living). With a score of 95.4 of 100, RHC placed fifth among 451 assisted living facilities for which data were available.

ODA’s biannual family satisfaction surveys are conducted by an independent research group. The surveys ask family members and friends of nursing home and assisted living residents about their perception of the facilities’ activities, administration, meals and dining, direct care, nursing and other factors that affect their family members’ lives.

“One of the most telling questions is whether you would recommend the facility to family and friends. Every respondent for Regina Health Center said ‘yes.’ One hundred percent,” said Mark Yantek, RHC executive director. “We couldn’t be more proud.”

Regina Health Center also has the highest Five-Star Quality Rating from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS). The CMS quality rating system gives each nursing home a rating of between 1 and 5 stars. Nursing homes with 5 stars are considered to have much-above average quality. The overall 5-star rating includes three sources of information: health inspections, staffing and quality measures.

“Only a small percent of all nursing homes and assisted living facilities in Ohio achieve what Regina Health Center does in service to their residents and the community,” said Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA, congregational leader of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, which founded RHC in 1993. “Recognitions like these are a moment to lift up our excellent staff and ongoing commitment to quality and compassionate care.”
WISH list

Thank you to the donors who gave either cash or other items in response to wish list items in our last newsletter. Several items were purchased to enhance the lives of the residents. Listed below are new items that have been requested from the residents or caregivers for resident use. We appreciate monetary gifts for use of the item designated. If an excess of gifts is received for a particular item, your gift will be directed to the annual fund to further our mission. Thank you for your support.

RESIDENT NEEDS

— Restaurant gift cards to take residents out and/or order carryout food
— Gift certificates for resident outings, such as to local museums (Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Great Lakes Science Center, Cleveland Museum of Art special exhibits)
— Baskets and gift bags for resident gifts

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are always needed in various areas. Please call Jackie Clancy, volunteer coordinator, at 330.659.5128