



William J. Fiocchetta
President and CEO
The Mercy Community



"Holistic wellness and hospitality are the cornerstones of The McAuley," Bill says. "We offer popular tai chi and yoga classes, healthy and delicious dining options, one Trinity College course a semester, and lectures and performances from the University of Saint Joseph, University of Hartford and UConn's Adult Learning Program. We want our residents to feel fulfilled: mind, body and spirit."

As residents age, their needs may evolve beyond preventive care — and The McAuley is ready. Bill explains, "Residents may arrange with our Assisted Living Service Agency for private duty aides who provide a variety of personal care services."

The Mercy Community also has a full complement of physical, occupational and speech therapists at Saint Mary Home; residents of The McAuley can book outpatient appointments in a rehabilitation suite within the Bellbrook building. If residents need the more extensive, round-the-clock care of a skilled nursing facility, the proximity of Saint Mary Home — and shared mission of responding to the needs of the human body and spirit and inspiring hope and confidence — provide comfort and compassion after a surgery or medical event.

Resident Barbara Letscher and her husband, Martin, found this out firsthand. In April, Barbara fell while running errands in town. She sustained a broken kneecap and fractured bones in her neck. After a short stay at nearby Saint Francis Hospital & Medical Center, Barbara spent a month at Saint Mary Home.

"I cannot say enough good things about the therapists there," Barbara affirms. "That group of young, vibrant, bright-eyed people took me from the wheelchair I came in with and got me walking quickly. They were professional and so supportive."

Each day, therapists would guide her on walks. At first, they would do short jaunts within Saint Mary Home, and then visit its outdoor gardens and courtyards. One day, a therapist asked Barbara if she might like to do a "test run" to The McAuley.

"You should have seen the look on Marty's face when he answered the knock on the apartment door and it was me!" Barbara says with a laugh.

Over the summer, Barbara was not only able to come home to The McAuley, but she also traveled to Colorado to attend her granddaughter's wedding. Barbara and Marty have been married for 59 years and have five children and 13 grandchildren, and this was the first grandchild to be married.

"While I was recovering, I wasn't sure that I would be able to be there. But Marty, my doctor and those therapists were sure," Barbara says. "Everyone was so encouraging and positive, and then I became determined."

Since then, Barbara has been able to take several walks around The McAuley each the day, and she hopes to return to driving soon.

"It'll happen," she says. "I've worked very hard, and I've gotten the help and the care I needed."

Christine Looby is Director of Community Relations for The Mercy Community / The McAuley / Saint Mary Home, 2021 Albany Ave., West Hartford, CT 06117. Phone: 860-570-8305. Email: clooby@mchct.org. Website: www.themercycommunity.org

The McAuley: Serving Many Needs with One Community

BY CHRISTINE LOOBY

The McAuley, located between Elizabeth Park and the University of Saint Joseph, is West Hartford's only Life Plan Community. It offers seniors an independent lifestyle that is as active — or peaceful — as they demand. The McAuley's Steele Road neighborhood is convenient to Blue Back Square, downtown Hartford and the allure of the Farmington Valley.

William J. Fiocchetta of Granby is president and CEO of The Mercy Community, the corporate parent of The McAuley and Saint Mary Home.

Landscape Design
 Custom Walkways
 Patios / Walls
 Water Features
 Streams
 Waterfalls
 NEARLY
NATURE
 LANDSCAPING
 WEST GRANBY, CT
860.764.9009

WE CREATE STRESS-FREE OUTDOOR LIVING

www.NearlyNatureLandscaping.net