

# HH Promises

A PUBLICATION OF THE HOLLAND HOME FOUNDATION



## No Regrets!

“Eleven years ago I made a big transition. I left my lovely home of 25 years and moved to Raybrook Homes,” said Rev. Harvey Kiecover. “I remember looking my sons in the eye and saying, ‘I am giving you a gift.’”

What Harvey meant was that he was moving into a community that offered a continuum of care that would provide for all his needs as he grew older. “They understood and concurred. Reflecting on that move, Harvey says, “When I’m asked how I like living here, I can respond with conviction, ‘I have no regrets; I feel blessed to be here!’”

Born and raised on a farm, Harvey’s life turned out to be radically different than he envisioned. He planned to take over the family farm near Drenthe, Michigan. He had no idea that the path the Lord had planned for him would include college, seminary, missionary service in Nigeria for the Christian Reformed Church, and ultimately 19 years as a chaplain for Holland Home.

Harvey’s life was also impacted by the care his beloved wife, Thelma, received as a patient in Raybrook skilled nursing for eight years. She had MS, and as her condition deteriorated, she needed nursing care. Harvey deeply appreciated the care she received. “She was on Medicaid for most of this period. Not once did Holland Home suggest that it was a financial burden. She passed away in 1996. Thelma was blessed to be cared for in a Christian home and our family was blessed in knowing her needs were met with loving care.”

Harvey further stated, “Not only did my wife receive good care, but in my years as chaplain I also saw how much quality Christian care meant to residents and families.” When asked why he gives to Holland Home, he responded, “I want this important ministry to continue for my generation and generations to come. My sons understand that the endowment fund I donate to and the planned gift commitment I have made are an investment in Holland Home’s caring ministry.”



## Troy Vugteveen assumes Presidential role

When President & CEO Mina Breuker announced her retirement, Holland Home's Board of Directors unanimously approved Troy Vugteveen as her successor. From the beginning of his career with Holland Home, Troy has embodied our mission and served our staff, residents, and families with compassionate, Christ-centered care. Troy couples extensive operational experience with a true servant's heart, making him the perfect fit for leading the next chapter for Holland Home and Christian Living Services (CLS). While Mina will be greatly missed, we know that we have a tremendous leader in Troy and are looking forward to seeing our organization continue to grow under his guidance.

"I am excited to begin my new role and to serve each of you in this new year. Holland Home will turn 130 in 2022! As we reflect on this incredible history, our theme for the year will be "Sovereign Over Us," reminding us that God is in control, and we can trust Him to work all things for our good and His glory, regardless of circumstances. The sovereignty of God is possibly one of the most comforting facts we can take from the Bible because it is a reminder that we serve a loving God who wants the best for us. The 130-year history of Holland Home is a reminder that God is forever faithful, perfect in love, and sovereign over us."

### **DID YOU HEAR?**

**Michael W. Smith will be performing at this year's Keeping the Promise Dinner!**

## Holland Home's mission comes full circle for Mary Regan McNeil

Raybrook resident Mary Regan McNeil believes in our mission. As an employee, having served as a registered nurse for 11 years, Mary "fulfilled" our mission. Now, as a resident of Holland Home, she is benefitting from that same mission!

Mary's life has been filled with happiness and tremendous loss. Her 18-year-old son, Tom, died in 1988 from a rare blood disease, and her husband, Ken, passed away from cancer in 2003. Eight years later God blessed her with Jim, who walked a similar journey, having lost his wife and a son. Married in 2011, Mary and Jim enjoyed a fulfilled life until his death in 2015.

Mary prayed about whether she should stay in her single-family home or move to Holland Home, but knowing the organization so well, it was an easy decision to move to Raybrook. She knows Holland

Home practices good stewardship and manages its funds well. She admires the "Promise of Care" and the confidentiality of never knowing who receives benevolence.

Mary was familiar with the social and spiritual life of the residents, but because she moved to Raybrook during the height of COVID, there was very little connection between residents. The Wellness staff became fast friends and helped her adjust to her new home, with an added bonus of weight loss and improved health! "Living at Holland Home has helped me learn how to age well, and my life has been rejuvenated," shares Mary. She loves volunteering and enjoys many activities. "I am grateful to God that I am healthy and cognitively intact enough to enjoy my family."

Mary and her family find comfort knowing that if a health crisis occurs,



**Mary and Ken**

or if she requires a higher level of care, or if her funds are depleted, she can depend on Holland Home to keep their Promise of Care through the Resident Assistance Fund. For now, Mary plans to keep giving back to others whenever and wherever she has an opportunity.



## Thanking with a sprinkle of gratitude

This past Thanksgiving season the monthly “Development Donuts” for the Raybrook and Breton campuses became a “donut-less” coffee time when the independent living residents chose to donate their treat to the direct care staff along with “thank you” canvases signed by residents. Although a small gesture, our hard-working frontline staff, like the Breton Rehabilitation & Living Centre staff pictured above, were truly appreciative.

**Thank you for brightening the frontline staff’s day.** *Allyse Whitman, BSW, Estates & Homes Director*

**THANK YOU!!!! This was so kind of you and your team, a very thoughtful surprise for the staff.** *Jillian England, Director of Resident Health Services - Breton Woods*

**Please send along our appreciation. It was such a nice gesture.** *Laurie Dow, LPN; Resident Services Manager - Raybrook, DeVos Unit 3*

**So awesome! Thank you so much!** *Konika VanDrie-Cidanli, Director of Hospitality - Breton Woods*

**Thank you for the token of appreciation. We enjoyed the donuts.** *Jennifer Cummings, LPN, Resident Services Manager - DeVos 2*

## Congratulations to Stan Ponstein, our Faith Hospice Super Bowl raffle winner!



**1892**  
HERITAGE SOCIETY  
OF HOLLAND HOME

This year’s annual “thank you” luncheon for 1892 Society members is planned for April 20, 2022 at Venue3Two with a Kentucky Derby theme. Invitations forthcoming.

The 1892 Society is a way to honor all who support Holland Home and Faith Hospice with a gift in their will or trust for the endowment fund which supports resident and patient assistance.

We gratefully welcome new members. Contact the Holland Home Foundation at 616-235-5118 or [foundation@hollandhome.org](mailto:foundation@hollandhome.org) to establish a planned gift — some that even provide donor income.

“I could have taken the money I spent on the raffle ticket and gone to a casino and in fifteen minutes the money would be gone and the casino would have been enriched. Supporting the Super Bowl Raffle insured me that if my name wasn’t drawn, my support would enrich Faith Hospice and our whole community. Thank you, Carl Pagenelli and everyone at Faith Hospice who made this trip to Super Bowl XLV one of a lifetime for me and my wife Melissa.”



Holland Home™  
FOUNDATION

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**Questions?** Call 616-235-5118.



**HOLLAND HOME  
33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**  
Monday, June 6  
Thornapple Pointe

**FAITH HOSPICE  
SUMMER CONCERT**  
Friday, August 12  
on the Grand River  
*featuring Holly Tucker*



**FAITH HOSPICE  
FALL LUNCHEON**  
Wednesday, September 14  
Cascade Country Club  
*featuring Terri DeBoer*

**HOLLAND HOME  
KEEPING THE PROMISE DINNER**  
Monday, November 21  
DeVos Place  
*featuring Michael W. Smith*