

The Beacon

NEWS FROM THE DANISH HOME



HRH Princess Marie Makes Historic Visit to The Danish Home

"It was a day we'll remember for a lifetime."

That is how Linda Steffensen, development manager of The Danish Home Foundation, described the historic visit from Her Royal Highness Princess Marie of Denmark to The Danish Home of Chicago on a blustery September 6, 2025.

Before residents, staff, board members, volunteers, and friends of The Danish Home, the Princess was the honored guest in a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the completion of The Danish Home's new building expansion. Joining her were Deputy Chief of Mission, Ambassador Stig Paolo Piras from the Royal Danish Embassy in Washington, D.C., and Consul General Jesper Køks Andersen of the Consulate General of Denmark in Chicago.

"I've heard so much about this wonderful place...its residents, the dedicated staff, and the strong sense of community that lives here. Today, I'm delighted to see it for myself," said the Princess, who was also visiting Chicago for the first time.

Princess Marie didn't go on hearsay alone; she made sure to take time with residents and their families before the ceremony. According to The Danish Home president and CEO Scott Swanson, "More than anything, the Princess wanted to sit with residents and visit with them one-on-one."

"I have spoken with families and friends of The Danish Home who have been connected to this place since childhood, with those whose parents lived here and with others who plan to make this their future home," Princess Marie told the audience gathered on the ample new patio lined with Danish and American flags.

For resident Esther Sorensen, who, along with resident Karen Frink, presented the Princess with a bouquet of red and white flowers upon her arrival, meeting Princess Marie was an "honor" brimming with excitement. "They called us when she was five minutes away, then a block away."

Added Esther, who has been following the Danish royal family since Princess Marie's marriage to Prince Joachim in 2008, "She was charming, sweet and smiling. We were very happy to see her!"

In addition to words from the Princess, the ceremony featured speeches from other key figures in the life of The Danish Home. Among them was

Christa Ørum-Keller, to whose late parents, Peter and Irma, the new legacy building known as the Garden Suites is dedicated.

"Peter would be very proud of the accomplishments today," said Christa.

Indeed, all can take pride in this labor of love, an enduring testament to the vision, hard work and devotion that is our legacy and will carry us far into the future.

Her Royal Highness said it best: "Today, with this expansion, the next chapter of The Danish Home begins."

"I've heard so much about this wonderful place..."



Her Royal Highness Princess Marie of Denmark



FALL 2025

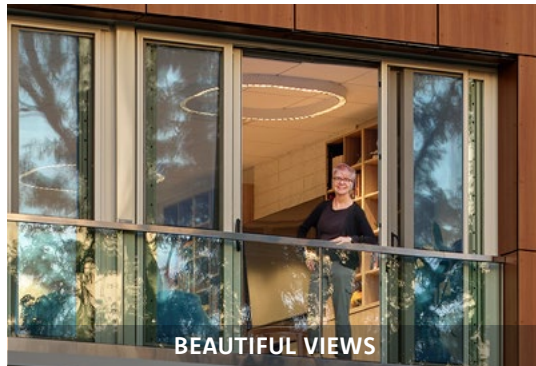
 **The Danish Home**
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A Boutique Senior Community

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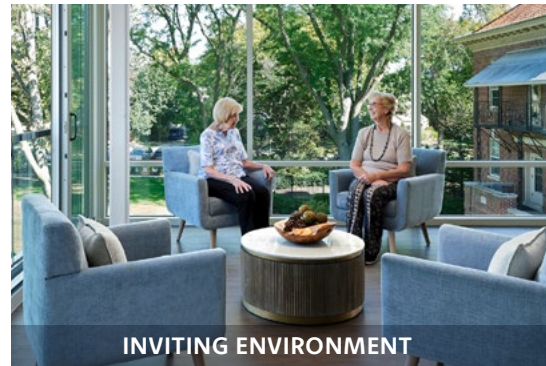
Gardens and Community Flourish in Danish Home Expansion



COZY CAMARADERIE



BEAUTIFUL VIEWS



INVITING ENVIRONMENT

The Danish Home of Chicago, a boutique senior living community in the heart of Norwood Park, has completed a major building expansion that blends over 130 years of history and heritage with next-generation innovation.

Alongside The Danish Home's iconic mansion, the spacious new Garden Suites feature five independent living one-bedroom apartments and nine private healthcare suites, providing the utmost in personalized care from our loving, long-standing staff.

New common areas encourage the cozy camaraderie and cultural connections that have defined The Danish Home for well over a century. They include a stylish dining room in which to enjoy outstanding cuisine; friendly living areas;

modernized bathrooms; and a bistro and private dining room, all crafted with comfort and community in mind.

Floor-to-ceiling windows bring the outdoors in, showcasing beautiful views in every season. Whether for social gatherings or quiet reflection, our newly landscaped gardens, gentle fountain, serene walking paths, and sweeping patio create an inviting environment for all to enjoy.

"With our new expansion, we can offer the community even more of what makes us so special," said Scott Swanson, president and CEO of The Danish Home. "Danish or not, all are welcome to discover who we are and why we're truly unique."

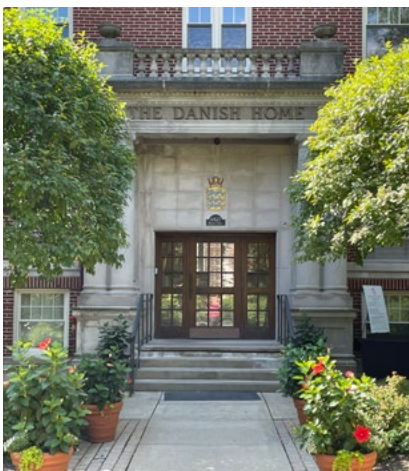
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