
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

July 17, 2008

Ald. Robert J. Bauman
(414) 286-3774

Inaugural Frank P. Zeidler Award Winners Announced

Jack and Lucia Murtaugh Honored As Examples of Mayor Zeidler's Legacy

The Frank P. Zeidler Public Service Award committee has selected the first to be recognized by the award, meant to honor former Milwaukee Mayor Frank Zeidler. Jack and Lucia Murtaugh, nominated by former Interfaith Conference executive director Marcus White, "reflect the values of Frank Zeidler and carry on his work in many ways."

"Originally titled the Frank P. Zeidler Community Service Award, the honor will be awarded annually recognizing up to two city residents who best exemplify Frank P. Zeidler's legacy of social justice and civic accomplishment," said Ald. Robert J. Bauman, the primary sponsor of the legislation that established the public service award. Ald. Bauman said, "The Murtaughs are stellar examples of what the award is meant to honor and they clearly embody the legacy Mayor Zeidler left."

Chaired by former alderman and Acting Mayor Marvin Pratt, the selection committee includes Ald. Bauman, two community members appointed by Mayor Tom Barrett and Common Council President Willie L. Hines, Jr., and a representative of the Frank P. Zeidler Center for Public Discussion. The committee determined the nomination procedures and criteria, selection process, award criteria, and the Common Council approved the process earlier this year.

The Murtaughs have been dedicated to the Community Meal at St. Benedict the Moor Church where they regularly serve as greeters for guests and have been actively involved in the United Nations Association of Milwaukee, a cause very close to Mayor Zeidler's heart. The couple has also been active in global peace efforts and according to Mr. White, Jack would often say that Lucia "wanted to model their retirement on the way that Frank and Agnes Zeidler stayed so active in civic affairs and in their commitment to peace and justice efforts."

-More-

Zeidler Award Winners/ADD ONE

Lucia Murtaugh's lifelong dedication to teaching and education and Jack's former leadership in the Interfaith Conference of Greater Milwaukee also influenced the pair's commitment to serving the Milwaukee community.

Jack and Lucia, who worked closely with Frank Zeidler as friends and as community partners, are, according to White, "dedicated to carrying out his efforts to make the world and our community a better, more humane place" and for that reason, the award committee has recognized them as the inaugural honorees and the ideal candidates to set the standard for the award in the future. The award will be presented to the Murtaughs in September.

Former Acting Mayor Marvin Pratt, chair of the committee said, "Jack and Lucia embody Mayor Zeidler's work and their nomination was a tribute not only to them, but to the kind of energy Frank inspired in this city. The Murtaughs are sustaining the dedication to social justice, peace and providing basic needs to all that Zeidler was committed to and they are the perfect example of excellence in public service."

Frank Zeidler, the city's last socialist mayor, died July 7, 2006 at age 93. He served as mayor from 1948 to 1960, and continued to be a voice for social justice and public service until his death.