Iconic MIKE
The city’s history in 25 objects
Carter is determined to be a positive role model for her two daughters, Yolaisha and Mikayla. Her oldest enrolled in college before she could, but is one of her biggest supporters. “She encourages me,” Carter says. And now that Yolaisha has completed her own bachelor’s degree, “she’s my inspiration, too.”

As a Chase Bank employee for nearly 20 years, Carter sees opportunities to move up — if she has the degree. She is using the company’s tuition reimbursement program to earn her bachelor’s degree in business management at Concordia University Wisconsin. Carter takes night classes year-round at the Miller Park Way and Midtown centers, which are near her home and office. She expects to graduate in 2015.

“They’re on track to finish what I know I can do,” she says. “I’m going to accomplish something that is important to me and my family.” She might even keep the momentum going and earn a master’s degree.

“It’s my time to shine,” she says.

‘Life is too short to hold yourself back’

“I never believed age would keep me from pursuing a dream,” says Jennifer Winter, who proudly acknowledges her 48 years. An alumna of Mount Mary University, Winter is a purchasing account manager for the Aurora Health Care system. She has a “busy, challenging, fulfilling career,” but stills dreams of something more. “I want to lead and mentor, and help others grow in their careers.”

With the assistance of Aurora’s tuition reimbursement program, Winter re-enrolled at Mount Mary, this time for a Master of Business Administration degree. She was drawn to the real-life approach of the accelerated program, which is “geared toward the adult learner in the career world.”

“Learning is immediate, and you can apply it instantly to your life and career,” says Winter, who used new leadership skills to guide a team project at work. She is particularly proud that the marketing plan her team presented to the Waukesha Women’s Center as part of a managerial marketing class will be implemented by the executive director.

While there is “no trick or formula” to juggling a job, family and education, it does require dedication. Winter often does homework on the opposite side of the
kitchen table from her daughter, Missy. “I like knowing I’m inspir-
ing her,” she says.

In May 2016, Winter will be 50 years old, Missy will be 16, she and husband Bob will celebrate 25 years of marriage, and she will have earned another degree. She says, “Life is too short to hold yourself back.”

‘My mission is to complete my degree’

Taking classes while on military duty can be a challenge, as Gunnery Sgt. Chris Browning knows firsthand. He has served in the United States Marine Corps for 18 years and holds an associate degree in general studies, hard-earned after six years of work at colleges in France, Poland, Iraq and the United States.

Recently, he was selected for the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Degree Completion Program, which allows career Marines to devote their full attention to a four-year degree — although it has to be completed within 18 months. Participants are then placed on assignments that match their new skill sets.

Browning, his wife, Frederique, and their daughter, Mallory, have relocated to his hometown while he pursues a bachelor’s degree in training and workforce development at UW-Milwaukee. After he graduates in 2015, Browning will do a three-year tour as an enlisted professional military education instructor at Marine Corps University.

To ensure he finishes on time, Browning takes 18 to 21 credits per semester and 12 summer credits. “My military responsibility is to go to school,” he says. “Now my mission is to complete my degree, so I can improve myself, my Marine Corps leadership and my family.”

Browning relies on the support network of his family, relatives and friends. He also takes advantage of the campus Military and Veterans Resource Center, tutoring services and the Student Success Office. He says, “UWM is there for you. Don’t be afraid to use every available resource. Just apply yourself and you’ll be surprised. It’s not as hard as you think.”

Gunnery Sgt. Chris Browning is working on his bachelor's degree, which will advance his military career.

Mount Mary University
Creates

INNOVATIVE

COLLABORATIVE

EDUCATED LEADERS

WHO TRANSFORM THE WORKPLACE.

Mount Mary University

Take the next step in your career by completing your graduate degree at Mount Mary University.

- Master of Science in Art Therapy
- Master of Business Administration (MBA)
- Master of Science in Counseling
- Master of Science in Dietetics
- Master of Arts in Education
- Master of Arts in English
- Master of Science in Occupational Therapy
- Professional Doctorate of Art Therapy

Open to men and women.

mtmary.edu/graduate