

# St. Ann Center's SEASONS OF LIFE

People of all ages and abilities spend the day at St. Ann Center because of your support. You made these stories of our joyful intergenerational community possible.



## Heroes with Heart

**It's a bird. It's a plane. No. It's St. Ann Center's Righteous League!**

An enthusiastic group of Stein Campus clients have found their inner superheroes as participants in TimeSlips, a program that uses creative storytelling to enhance people's lives. Meeting weekly with facilitator Elaine Maly, **"They've come up with names for their characters, unique super powers, costumes, archenemies...and the most amazing adventures,"** Elaine explained.

There's **Super Jake** (Jacob Lukowski), a brilliant billionaire with lightning speed who can predict the future, **Energy Man** (Marcus Semenske), who uses his supercharged personality to help others get work done and **Party Animal** (Christine Biersack), who instantly turns a boring day into a fun one. **Super Jesus** (John Krall) uses his power of prayer to lead people to make good choices, **Super Reader** (Diane Gundlach) reads from large-print books to keep people calm and **G-Man** (Gabriel Rodriguez) protects the city from evil using his powers of invisibility and healing.

"From the start, they decided they needed to be a team," Elaine said. **"They figured they would be stronger as the Righteous League."** In the past few months, they've saved the world from Lazy Man (Energy Man's nemesis), who saps people's strength and opened a training school that teaches children how to become superheroes.

Milwaukee artist **Emma Daisy Gertel** has joined Elaine and the League in several TimeSlips sessions and hopes to create an art installation or comic book based on St. Ann Center's superhero stories. According to Elaine, **"We're thinking about all the possible ways we can share this awesome project with the public."** Now, that's super exciting!

**Donors make this creative fun possible!**

# Dear Friend,

Recently, musician Jon Batiste was nominated for a Grammy Award, and lost. When asked how he felt about it, he said, "My value is not defined by awards." That's my kind of spirit! We all have value beyond our accomplishments.

This year, St. Ann Center is focusing on a value that we do hope defines us...compassion. You—our donors, volunteers and supporters—are very familiar with this. You practice it so generously when you give of your time, money and energy to help our children, elders and adults with disabilities thrive in our joyful intergenerational community.

My focus this year will be on compassionate leadership. As I get older, I see the importance of encouraging and nurturing the people who will carry St. Ann Center's mission into the future. For me, that means recognizing the gifts all around me—in our staff, volunteer leaders and our community—and helping bring those talents forward. Compassion is also about listening with the heart. I learn so much when I wholeheartedly listen to our parents, caregivers and all of you who have so much insight. I also learn from the wisdom of our children. And of course, our older adults have the brilliance of experience. That's the beauty of our intergenerational model—we can learn from all ages.

In this year of compassion, thank you so much for putting yourself in the shoes of a grandmother with dementia, a child who is hungry to learn and a caregiver who needs a day of respite. Your compassion is changing lives.



**"This year, we are focusing on the value of compassion."**

## Our New Special Events Director

When St. Ann Center's Indaba Band Shell debuts this spring, nobody will be more excited than Gloria Miller.



The center's brand-new Special Events Director, Gloria has an ear for music, an eye for entertainment and plenty of ideas about what will make the venue a success.

Gloria envisions the band shell being populated by family-friendly bands, puppeteers, the Milwaukee ballet and even a live Nativity at Christmas. "My goal is to find community entertainers and artists of all ages who can share their talents on this wonderful stage," she said. Her experience as the former executive director of African World Festival will give her a head start on preparing an engaging lineup for the band shell's opening season.

**Performers are welcome to contact Gloria at 414-210-2428 or email [gmler@stanncenter.org](mailto:gmler@stanncenter.org).**

## ON OUR WISH LIST

- New sheets, blankets, pillowcases (all sizes)
- Waterproof mattress covers
- New washcloths and towels
- Adult bibs
- Hand weights (1-2 lb.)
- Puzzle of the U.S.
- Glitter/sequins
- Connect Four game
- Costume or vintage jewelry

**Our wish list is updated online:** [stanncenter.org/wishlist](http://stanncenter.org/wishlist)

**Childcare wish list is on Amazon:** [stanncenter.org/amazon](http://stanncenter.org/amazon)

## Turning Grief into Hope

Trinika Walker has heard her son's original rap songs countless times. But it wasn't until after he died that the lyrics hit home. "He wrote, **'Moving through your hood, looking like we're trying to stop the violence,'**" Trinika said. "Those words were the push I needed."

A lead teacher at the Stein Campus, Trinika lost her son, Will, 17, to gun violence last August. Mixed with the initial shock and the crushing grief, she felt a need to do all she could to keep this from happening again. The result is **Stop the Violence 53206**, a Milwaukee youth program she founded in memory of her son.

The group includes about 50 young people, ages 7 to 26. "They're my own family, Will's friends



Trinika Walker (behind podium) introduces Stop the Violence 53206 members.

and kids I don't even know who heard about the group and supported our message," Trinika said. Many of them took part in the MKE Teen Summit she recently organized at St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus.

The summit included representatives from the Milwaukee Police Department, youth activists, Krause Funeral Home and guest speaker Sr. Edna Lonergan, who reminded the teens not to

let negative labels associated with their ZIP Code define them.

"This is a wonderful neighborhood, and St. Ann Center is privileged to be here," Sr. Edna said of the 3-1/2-year-old Bucyrus Campus.

"We have to make this community as strong

as we can, and that takes all of us—including our youth. We want safe, beautiful streets with successful businesses. Don't settle for less."

## Serving the Tech Generation

**Millennials are an important part of St. Ann Center's intergenerational family, and they're about to get their own unit to prove it.**

"We have many clients who are young adults in the 18 to 30 age range," said Joyce Davis, Vice President of Adult Day Services at the Bucyrus Campus. "Since they grew up with technology, we want to incorporate it into special activities that will keep them interested and excited."



Danielle tries out newly donated laptop and headphones.

Thanks to the generosity of **Northwestern Mutual**, the **Wisconsin Bike Fed** and **Bader Philanthropies**, tablets, laptops and headphones have been donated to help get the unit up and running. The pilot for the young adult program will begin with 20 clients, and could eventually expand to two units.

**Donations are still needed for the new unit. If you have a laptop, iPad, iPod, desktop computer or headphones you'd like to donate, contact Joyce Davis at 414-210-2457 or [JDavis@stanncenter.org](mailto:JDavis@stanncenter.org).**

## A Teacher's Legacy: Peg Mirenda



Sr. Edna catches up with her former teacher Peg Mirenda.

Peg Mirenda still remembers the day a young sister enrolled in the Occupational Therapy program at Mount Mary University some 47 years ago. As chair of the OT Department, Peg wondered how this nontraditional student would fit in. It didn't take her long to find out.

At that time, Sr. Edna Lonergan was seeking an OT degree in hopes of broadening the health care services offered to the aging Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi. "She told me, **"These are my own sisters, my family—and I want the very best for them!"**" Peg said.

Through the years, Peg, 95, has watched that vision grow as Sr. Edna went on to open one of Wisconsin's first adult day cares and one of the nation's first intergenerational care centers. Peg wasn't surprised. From that first college interview, she said, "I saw Edna as a woman on a mission."

Peg's belief in St. Ann Center led her to include the organization in her will. "I want to invest in the future...in something worthwhile that's going to last," Peg said, adding she hopes others will follow her lead. **For information about including St. Ann Center in your will,** contact Casey Rozanski: (414) 977-5062 or [crozanski@stanncenter.org](mailto:crozanski@stanncenter.org).

## Families Matter Here

**After 30 years of marriage, James McKinley and his wife, Ella Mays-McKinley, are accustomed to doing most everything together. And coping with the challenges of Alzheimer's disease is no exception.**

James spends two days a week as a client at St. Ann Center's Stein Campus. On one of those days, Ella comes along. While he settles into the Senior Wellness Unit, she heads downstairs to volunteer in Shepherd House, where she works with people dealing with many of the same issues her husband faces.

"My mother tried taking care of him by herself,



Ella and James McKinley team up at St. Ann Center.

but things were getting overwhelming," said Ella's daughter Janet about what sparked her to start researching adult day care. "Mom and I are retired educators, and we know kids can be amazing with seniors," she added. "We agreed your intergenerational program would be perfect for our family."

In recent months, both of the McKinleys have tried out additional St. Ann Center services. Ella enrolled in warm-water aerobics. James has been a guest in the overnight respite and is a big fan of the music therapy program. He, Ella and Janet are all members of the **Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute Amazing Grace Chorus**. "We'd like to perform at St. Ann Center one day," Ella said.

James and Ella's goal is to stay in their home and keep functioning well in the community. "St. Ann Center helps make that possible," Janet said. **"Everyone is so welcoming. It's like we have a new family!"**



## Hall of Friends

**Friday, May 17th, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Stein Campus: 2801 E. Morgan Ave.**

We're honoring three special friends for sharing their time, talent and passion with St. Ann Center. Our awardees include:

### John McCarthy

John, a veteran financial planner, is a member of St. Ann Center's Capital Campaign Committee and helped design the center's successful planned giving program. His daughter Maggie is an occasional guest at our overnight respite. "John has done great work building St. Ann Center's endowment," Sr. Edna said. "His love, caring and respect for people living with disabilities is an inspiration."

### Stephanie Sue Stein

Stephanie, retired director of the Milwaukee County Department on Aging, has served on St. Ann Center's Board of Directors and Finance Committee. "Stephanie is a faithful friend and a very smart and strong advocate for older adults," Sr. Edna said. "She's never afraid to speak out for justice."

### Russell W. Stamper II

Since the Bucyrus Campus was built in his aldermanic district, Russell Stamper has collaborated with St. Ann Center on many important initiatives. "Ald. Stamper works hard, he cares about his constituents, and he's an enthusiastic supporter of our mission," Sr. Edna said. Ald. Stamper helped develop the North Side Business Incubator in collaboration with the Bucyrus Campus—designed to jumpstart locally owned businesses that can generate income for the 15th District.



## MEET US @THE MARKET!

### Sister Edna's Creations

Cathedral Square Market,  
 825 N. Jefferson St.  
 Saturdays, June 15-Oct. 12, 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.



### Dream Together Gala

**Friday, August 16, 5:30pm** | Discovery World  
**\$120** | Sponsor opportunities available

Enjoy dinner, silent and live auctions, plus stories of how you change the lives of people of all ages and abilities.

**Call (414) 977-5062** to RSVP or visit:  
[stanncenter.org/gala](http://stanncenter.org/gala)



### Stu's Benefit Golf Outing

**Saturday, September 14**  
 at Western Lakes Golf Club  
**\$125** includes cart, 18 holes & dinner  
**Call (414) 977-5062** to register or visit:  
[stanncenter.org/golfouting](http://stanncenter.org/golfouting)

# Tour Our New Bucyrus Campus Spaces

You can be among the first to see a transformational community project—the completion of St. Ann Center’s Bucyrus Campus at 2450 W. North Ave. Join us on **Friday, June 7, 1 to 3 p.m. for our Completion Celebration**, tour these exciting spaces and find out how they’ll serve people of all ages throughout Milwaukee.

Call 414-977-5062 or email [crozanski@stanncenter.org](mailto:crozanski@stanncenter.org) for more information.

Here’s a sneak peek at what you’ll see:

## **OVERNIGHT RESPITE CARE (2nd Floor)**



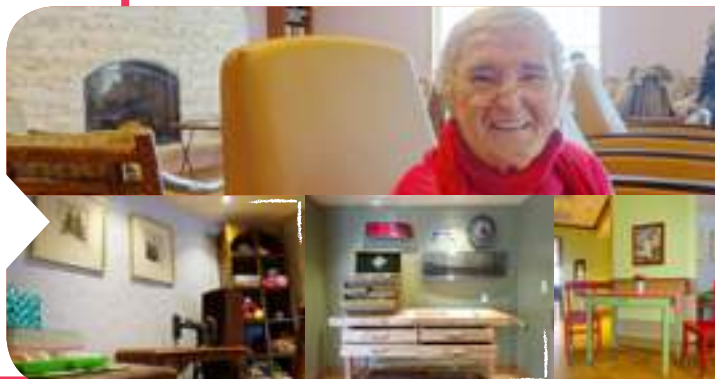
- Décor reflects states of the Southern U.S.
- 9 private bed-and-breakfast-style guest rooms with queen bed, TV and more
- Respite intake office
- Whirlpool tub room with attached bath and shower
- Laundry area
- Nurses room
- Medication/storage room
- Commercial kitchen
- Dining room
- Great room with fireplace

## **DEMENTIA CARE WING (2nd Floor)**

- Capacity: 75
- Senior Wellness Unit for frail elders and clients with mild dementia, includes fireplace, serving kitchen and game alcove
- Lois S. Chase walkway
- Interactive Life Stations (furnished by Leigh Peterson & Patt Krejci), with a kitchenette, workbench, nursery, sewing nook
- Spacious unit with fireplace for clients with more severe dementia
- Calming room with soft furniture and floor used to create a relaxing, safe environment removed from outside distractions
- Laundry room
- Two whirlpool tub rooms
- Two offices: Pastoral Minister and Activities/ Intergenerational Development

## **OFFICE SUITE (2nd Floor)**

- Offices of :  
The President  
Chief Operating Officer  
Vice President of Education & Childcare Services





**ART & MULTI-FIBER STUDIO**  
 (Designed by MATC Early Childhood Education Class) **(1st Floor)**

- Eastern exposure
- Wall of storage cabinets
- Sink

**BEAUTY SALON**  
**(1st Floor)**

- 2 styling stations with accessible sinks
- 2 salon dryers



**AQUATIC CENTER (1st Floor)**

- Warm-water (88°) swimming pool with wheelchair ramp (deep end: 4 feet)
- 2 mini lap lanes
- Hot tub with lift
- Men's and women's accessible locker rooms with bathrooms and private changing stalls
- Communal shower
- Pool lifeguard office
- Cathedral ceiling, windows on all sides
- Mosaic wall art made from mirrors



**THREE CHILDCARE ROOMS**  
**(1st Floor)**

- 2 rooms for infants with bathrooms, kitchenette and changing tables
- 1 room for toddlers



**INDABA COMMUNITY BAND SHELL & GROUNDS**

- Accessible stage with wheelchair ramp
- Stainless steel roof with extended awning for shade
- Covered audience area in front of stage with room for wheelchairs
- 2 public restrooms
- 2 dressing rooms with bathroom
- Prop storage space
- Audience seating for 250 on hillside
- Super Slide on back of hill
- Children's splash pad
- Refreshment stand
- Lighted walkways



**2018  
Annual Report**  
*Inside...*

**Plus,**  
read about the  
exciting completion  
of our Bucyrus  
Campus!



**STEIN CAMPUS**

2801 E. Morgan Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53207  
(414) 977-5000

**BUCYRUS CAMPUS**

2450 W. North Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI 53205  
(414) 210-2450

To update your mailing preferences: (414) 977-5064  
or [sselz@stanncenter.org](mailto:sselz@stanncenter.org)

- April 3 & 17** Caregiver Support Group
- April 5** First Fridays 4Business (Bucyrus)
- April 16** Parkinson's Support Group
- April 26** Family Fun Night @ the Pool
- April 27** Charity Cash Raffle
- May 1 & 15** Caregiver Support Group
- May 3** First Fridays 4Business
- May 21** Parkinson's Support Group
- May 24** Family Fun Night @ the Pool
- May 27** Both campuses CLOSED
- June 5 & 19** Caregiver Support Group
- June 7** First Fridays 4Business (Bucyrus)
- June 7** Bucyrus Campus  
Completion Celebration
- June 18** Parkinson's Support Group
- June 21** Family Fun Night @ the Pool

**CALENDAR UPDATES**

*Rx for  
Fun*

It was a carnival atmosphere at St. Ann Center when the students from the

Columbia School of Nursing hosted an intergenerational activity day at our Stein and Bucyrus Campuses. The event is the culmination of 16 weeks of training the students put in working with the center's adult clients and children.

Jacklyn Vanderhyden was struck by how naturally the adults and kids interacted, exchanging high fives and fist bumps. **"When we bring children and seniors together, you can see right away that good things are happening here,"** she added. "It's fun being a part of it."



Nursing students lead carnival games.