

St. Ann Center's SEASONS of Life

St. Ann Center's mission is to provide Franciscan-inspired, intergenerational, community-based health and educational services for children, adults, the elderly and people with disabilities.

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Warmth at the Door

You'd have to get up pretty early in the morning to get the jump on J.T. Johnson and Eddie Lake. They're wide awake and smiling by 7:30 a.m. weekdays, welcoming everyone to St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus.

The hospitable team has been greeting clients and visitors since October 2015, when the adult day program opened. The retirees volunteer through SER Jobs, a program that gives mature workers useful training opportunities in community service.

"I love meeting new people and making them feel comfortable," J.T. says, as he carefully pushes a client in a wheelchair to the adult day program unit where her morning cup of coffee is waiting. He greets clients who have dementia with a special gentleness that quickly puts them at ease. Others, he jokes with...like his special friend, "Molasses," who earned her nickname by taking her time.

J.T., a great-grandfather, and Eddie, the granddad of six, have even developed a routine with the childcare youngsters. "They make sure to stop for high fives before they head to their classrooms," Eddie says, as he slaps palm after tiny palm. J.T. thinks St. Ann Center's intergenerational programming makes a lot of sense. "As it says in the Bible, 'Your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.' The young and old are meant to be and grow together."

Both men remember when the Bucyrus Campus was an empty lot and are optimistic about how it has developed. They're looking forward to the completion of the dementia unit specially designed for those with Alzheimer's Disease. "Then, we'll really be busy," Eddie says, as he helps a silver-haired woman and matches his steps to hers.



"This job's pretty cool ... I like getting to know people by name."
- Eddie



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Letter from the President

Every morning, Nicole, one of our young adult clients, pops her head into our administrative offices to say hello. The endearing routine conversations include her saying, "I watched my movie last night" or "so and so is playing hooky" if a staff member is not in his or her office. One time, as Nicole was heading back downstairs, someone called after her, "Stay out of mischief!" Nicole grinned and echoed back, "Stay on the mission!" And the phrase has stuck.



In the coming year, St. Ann Center's theme for living our mission is a simple one: Building the kingdom of God. That kingdom shines like a beacon inside each one of us—from babies learning to crawl to adults using walkers. At St. Ann Center, we make every effort to turn no one away. Instead, we honor all ages and abilities by building up their kingdom and enriching their quality of life.

More and more, as we become involved in the neighborhoods around our two campuses, we're building the kingdom of God throughout our community. This fall, we'll remove contaminated ground on our Bucyrus Campus, left from an abandoned freeway project, and replace it with clean, fertile soil. Come spring, we'll build an environmentally healthy kingdom by planting fruit and nut trees and working with our neighbors to identify other areas of contamination around their homes and businesses. Another way we're building the kingdom is through the business incubator recently held at our Bucyrus Campus. (You'll find the story on page 4) By showcasing the creativity and gifts of the men and women from our near north side community, we're helping them realize their dreams and improving life for all of us.

You don't need a map to find the kingdom of God. You can feel it burning inside your heart. At St. Ann Center, that fire burns bright in people with severe disabilities, who reach out a hand to pat a toddler's head or share a day-changing smile with a busy staff member.

And if we ever lose sight of the kingdom, we have large-hearted people like Nicole to guide us back and remind us to "stay on the mission!"

"Create a legacy...that will last for generations through a planned gift to St. Ann Center for Intergenerational Care. By including the Center in your will, you'll provide vital health and educational services for children, the frail elderly and adults with disabilities. To make a life-changing difference, contact Casey Rozanski: 414-977-5062 or crozanski@stanncenter.org.

The Perfect Gift

Motherhood was a vocation for Lilly Skrobis. She was in her glory when her three sons, 10 grandkids, two great-grandchildren and relatives were gathered at the table around her. It was shortly after she and husband Dick celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary that she had a stroke and started coming to St. Ann Center twice a week.

“She really enjoyed the people and having a warm bath,” says Lilly’s niece Gail Ream. “That respite gave my uncle a break from caregiving and time to grocery shop, clean the house and go golfing with friends.” When Lilly passed away recently, her family wanted to do something special for St. Ann Center. Knowing her aunt’s nature, Gail knew that “something” had to be of help to others.

Thanks to the generosity of Lilly’s family, two new portable over-chair tables are now in use in the Stein Campus’ adult day program. “The tables are wonderful for me at lunchtime,” says client Patsy Schinner, who finds her large power wheelchair hard to fit at

a group table. “It goes right over my chair and can be raised or lowered to just the height I need it.” Other clients use the tables to hold reading materials or puzzles.



“We’re happy that Aunt Lilly’s memory will go on in this nurturing way,” says Gail. “She’d love it!”

Wishlist

Karaoke machine
Ring-a-Links
teether sets
Munchkin
animal toys
Crayola
Model Magic
Electric pencil
sharpener
Gently used jewelry
Toddler music CDs
Large bibs w/ snaps
Magnet/science kit
Science learning toys
Puzzles with handles
Chess & board games
Toddler bath tub
Small blankets
Large floor pillow
Dress-up clothes
Sensory balls
Shaking cups
Kinetic sand
Playing cards

Donate securely online:
stanncenter.org/donate

Volunteer View

A Feast of Love

Thanksgiving came early for 12 special volunteers at St. Ann Center’s Stein Campus.

CNA Sandy Bonnier treated them to a luncheon, recognizing the gift they give to each client they spoon-feed. Feeding one of these clients, who are affected by anything from cerebral palsy or a traumatic brain injury to early onset dementia, can take anywhere from 45 to 90 minutes. “My volunteers are infinitely patient,” Sandy says. “They get to know each client and form a connection that’s amazing.”

John Hrin has been volunteering for more than seven years. He’s earned the nickname “Blackjack” John from the friendly card games he starts up right after lunch. “My goal



is to get people laughing and having fun,” he says. “I’ve heard some wonderful life stories while we’re playing. And, nobody ever loses.”

At age 83, Mary Romano attributes her knack for feeding clients to her years in the restaurant business. “I try to figure out exactly how people like their food,” she explains. “Some like their bananas or their cake sliced a certain way. Little things are important.”

Sue Pfohl has helped out at lunchtime, volunteering at least three days a week for the past 9 years. The former LPN’s practiced hands move in sync with each client’s eating speed. “When I look at them, I see the face of Christ,” Sue says softly.

Incubator Means Business

It was the anti-shark tank. Taking an untraditional approach, a Milwaukee business incubator workshop, held June 29 at the Bucyrus Campus, gave north side entrepreneurs advice on how to realize their business dreams while nurturing their neighborhood.



Sharon and Larry Adams founders of Walnut Way share their next inspirational venture - a perennial nursery.

“We saw business hopefuls getting together and discussing possibilities for collaboration and how they could succeed together,” says Sister Edna Lonergan about the collaboration with Ald. Russell W. Stamper II and the Marketplace Business Improvement District 32. “All walked away with practical information to help them grow a successful business. There wasn’t one winner...there were many.”

Twenty-two entrepreneurs from Aldermanic District 15 gathered for an opportunity to pitch their ideas to a panel of investors, lawyers and business coaches. With the theme “Building the Neighborhood from Within,” the aim of the incubator was to promote homegrown commerce by tapping the talents and creativity of residents who live and work in the district. Entrepreneur Maurice Sharpe hopes to find a building

where he can host e-sports tournaments, where video game fans can watch professionals compete or try their hand at the latest virtual sensation. For Jack Pickett, the incubator offered a way to expand his home improvement business. He envisions having an office space and a program for training youth in the building trades. “I want to pass the torch to a new generation by teaching these important skills,” Jack adds.

Husband and wife Sharon and Larry Adams, founders and recently retired from Walnut Way, were excited by the number of business mentors interested in their idea for a perennial nursery right in the neighborhood.

“Our goal is to be in a startup operation in 2017...maybe a launch with lilies,” Sharon says. “It would be a wonderful symbol of resurrection.”

According to John Jansen, Vice President of Grants, Community & Capital Development, 29 entrepreneurs are already on the waiting list for the next business incubator workshop. He says, “We are 100% committed to economic growth in the neighborhood around the Bucyrus Campus.”

“It’s an extension of what St. Ann Center always does—



which is helping individuals in whatever ways they need it, and making sure all can find their purpose in the community.”

One-Stop Caring

Ask Maggie Cary for a great place to get a meal, a massage or a new hairdo, and she'll answer—St. Ann Center has it all, and then some.

A volunteer for more than 16 years, Maggie is such a fixture at St. Ann Center's Stein Campus, many people think she works there. In reality, when she isn't helping in one of the departments, she's using their services herself.

Her most recent appointments have been in the Ageless Beauty Salon to get her hair done, along with a pedicure and facial from beautician Joy Plewa. "It's so convenient," Maggie says of one of the many services the Center offers to the general public, "And everyone is so friendly."

Every other week, Maggie visits massage therapist Joe Ralston, who helps her work out the kinks. "He finds exactly where the problem is," Maggie describes how Joe's magic touch remedied a troublesome knee.

When Maggie's doctor detected mild hypertension, help was again close at hand. Nurse Practitioner Kathy Schumacher monitors

"When you get a haircut, massage, or cup of coffee from St. Ann Center, you're also buying one for a client."

- Maggie



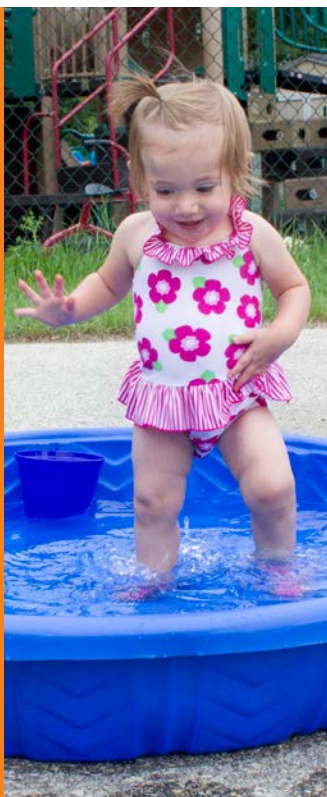
Maggie's blood pressure in the clinic. Nutritious meals were also easy to come by thanks to Kitchen Director Lynn Plevak. "She is so creative with food," Maggie says. "I often buy a lunch or take it home for supper."

"I'll always recommend St. Ann Center," Maggie says. "There are so many services all in one place. Plus, your spirits are lifted the minute you walk in the door." Money raised through these services supports the care of people with the most need at the Center.



The ballots have been counted...

And St. Ann Center's Childcare is a winner in the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's 2016 Top Choice Awards.



Supporter Spotlight

Banking on Youth

Instead of opening presents on her birthday, Marie Britt decided the best gift was giving.

"I'm on the Board of Directors of the Brewery Credit Union and wanted to help open savings accounts for as many youngsters in our childcare program as I could," says Marie, a receptionist at St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus. Marie donated the seed money for each account, to which the Brewery Credit Union (with offices in Milwaukee and Bay View) added an additional \$25. "My hope is that if our children start saving at a young age, something wonderful will happen in their lives," she adds.

Computers, Kids and Seniors Click

Recently, a group of Milwaukee Public School students guided our seniors through the world of cyberspace, while learning some important lessons along the way.

“Our culture is segregated by age—and one thing that reinforces that gap is technology,” says Jenny Urbanek, an instructor in the brand-new pilot program that pairs up high school students with Bucyrus Campus clients. “This service-learning experience introduces kids who grew up in the digital age to older adults who may not be tech savvy but have rich life experiences to share.”

The program began with students introducing the adults to basic computer skills like turning on a PC or surfing the Internet. Next, the kids recorded interviews with the clients. “This helps students practice face-to-face communication with people of different cultures and generations—a skill that’s been falling by the wayside,” Jenny says.

One popular assignment had the students creating Photoshopped collages featuring portraits of each client surrounded by images of things they love. These digital artworks were presented to the clients at the end of the

program, along with memoir books.

Milesis, a freshman at the Milwaukee High School of the Arts, remembers advice a client named Australia gave him during an interview, “He told me young people should listen to their parents,

take advantage of opportunities for education, and go to college if they can.”



“The kids went from being shy to developing deep relationships with the older adults.”

- Jenny

Rashaun, a 10th grader at Riverside University High School, says, “I helped out Alice, showing her how to use YouTube. I told her it’s like an encyclopedia, only with videos explaining everything. She caught on quickly, too.”

A Little Bird Told Me

If you've heard the cheerful chirping in the Stein Campus, you may have also met Shirley.

Shirley is an adult client, who’s made fast friends with the parakeets. Unfortunately, this summer, both birds passed away within days of each other. Jen Fischer, a caregiver who brings in her daughter, Grace, was sad to see the empty cage. “Grace and I would stop to see the parakeets every morning,” Jen says, adding they struck up a friendship



with Shirley. “I was worried about how she was coping without them.” Determined to help, Jen found a pair of parakeets at the Waukesha Humane Society. Now two colorful bundles of fluff, who Shirley named Jane and Sally, are chattering away in the atrium.



Volunteer View

Volunteers worth their weight in gold

The women at the heart of St. Ann Center's vintage jewelry sales are genuine 24 karat.

Every Wednesday, Katie Brzenk, Betty Glisch, Marguerite Woodfill, Mary Roth and Jan Rach (above) meet at the Stein Campus to clean, sort, repair, card and price donated heirloom and costume jewelry. Their labor of love prepares St. Ann Center's Vintage Jewelry Collection for twelve monthly jewelry sales—three at St. Ann Center and the others at Milwaukee City Hall, the Milwaukee County Courthouse and the Marcia P. Cogs Human Service Center.

“Volunteering has turned into a hobby for us,” Marguerite explains. “We pair up earrings and polish tarnished pieces while at home watching TV!” And on sales days spent on their feet, displaying and selling jewelry, they celebrate the proceeds over wine and pizza. Last year, their rejuvenated gems netted \$32,578 supporting St. Ann Center.

Holiday Jewelry Parties

We will help you plan a benefit jewelry party in your own home, church or business. Sister Edna will be your personal jewelry consultant, helping you choose from close to 100 of her creations. And as a host, you're in store for special gifts and discounts on purchasing beautiful pieces yourself! Contact Ross Veitch to plan your party: (414) 977-5040 or rveitch@stanncenter.org.

Summer Recap...

Fulfilling the Dream Gala

Because of caring friends like you, our gala: An Uplifting Experience, on July 22, raised \$218,000.



Gospel Showcase

The July 29 Indaba Band Shell event raised \$3,493.



Stu's Golf Outing

On July 30, our generous golfers raised \$13,867. Thank you for swinging into action to benefit adults at the Center.

& Fall Events

Indoor Market

*Saturdays, Nov. 12-Apr. 29
9am-1pm, Stein Campus
2801 East Morgan Ave.
facebook.com/sacfm*



Chili & Jewelry Sale

*Saturday, Nov. 19th
at the Indoor Market*



Center Stage

*Talent Show Auditions:
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31
Event: Wed. March 1st
stanncenter.org/centerstage*

HAPPY
Holidays...

**People & gifts
we are so
thankful for
inside.**

*Plus, stories from
both campuses!*



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Calendar Updates

Oct. 1	Darby's Dash Run/Walk
Oct. 5	Caregiver Support Group
Oct. 18	Parkinson's Support Group
Oct. 20	Jewelry Sale <i>Marcia P. Coggs</i>
Oct. 29	Cash Raffle Drawing
Nov. 1	Registration <i>Aquatic Session 7</i>
Nov. 1-Dec. 31	Center Stage Auditions
Nov. 2	Caregiver Support Group
Nov. 11	Family Fun Night at the Pool
Nov. 12	Parkinson's Support Group
Nov. 14	Aquatic Session 7 Begins
Nov. 19	Chili & Jewelry Sale
Dec. 7	Caregiver Support Group
Dec. 16	Family Fun Night at the Pool
Dec. 20	Parkinson's Support Group

More at: stanncenter.org/calendar

A Place of Mercy

At the close of Pope Francis' Year of Mercy, we reflect on how mercy shows up not in grand gestures, but in simple everyday moments at St. Ann Center.

Mercy fills hundreds of trays with food, massages stiff muscles, and bends down to tie tiny shoes. Mercy gets drenched if it means a child learns to swim, and gladly sings a song over and over until a 4-year-old knows it by heart. Mercy puts a hand on a husband's shoulder as he grieves losing his wife to dementia. Mercy smiles up from a wheelchair at a busy CNA. Staff from every department met to discuss what mercy means to them, making this year eye- and heart-opening for our family. You are a part of that St. Ann Center family, and our Center will continue to be a place of mercy long after 2016 is over.