

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.

A Family Affair

Like a lot of sisters, Sandy Szopinski and Ellen Cook look forward to spending time together. In fact, they have a standing lunch date every Tuesday at St. Ann Center, and their mutual BFF (best furry friend) joins them.

Sandy, a client at the Stein Campus for the past four years, breezes from one activity to another in her power wheelchair. "She's involved in so many great programs at St. Ann Center," Ellen, a professional photographer, said. "I wanted to find a way my dog, Sofie, and I could help out here." Ellen registered her charismatic Bearded Collie as a St. Ann Center pet volunteer, and Sofie instantly became a shaggy celebrity.

In exchange for treats, she will speak, give high fives and snuggle. "One young client in a wheelchair was having a difficult day, so I lifted Sofie up so he could pet her," Ellen recalled. "He immediately relaxed."

Sandy is happy that her family has become such a fun part of her life at St. Ann Center. Although having cerebral palsy can make things difficult, she said, "I feel at home here." Living in a senior apartment complex just blocks from the Stein Campus, Sandy takes a van to the center five days a week. "I look forward to the whirlpool baths and massages," she said. She gets

haircuts and manicures at the center's beauty salon and enjoys making jewelry and ceramic pieces.

Recently, Sandy had her first appointment at the Gardetto Family Community Dental Clinic at St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus.

"The staff was nice and very respectful," she said. Ellen added, "There are few options for someone with CP and other disabilities to receive dental care."

St. Ann Center allows Sandy to live independently with dignity as she ages, Ellen said. "It's a place where she is well cared for—where she can socialize and do things she enjoys with people she likes.

I'm thrilled Sofie and I can be part of this experience."



Dear Friend,



With Thanksgiving approaching, I've been thinking about all the things for which St. Ann Center can be grateful. There are staff members who take time daily to do special things for the people we serve. There are our clients who are so warm and caring toward one another. And of course, there are our children—the bundles of energy that spark so much joy.

I'm also thankful for our supporters who have made so many dreams come true at St. Ann Center. Thanks to you, two new classrooms have been opened at our Bucyrus Campus, making room for more babies. And we'll soon have an amazing new unit where we'll serve people with profound stage dementia. **It will feature life skills stations, including a library, woodworking shop, kitchenette and baby doll nursery**, where people can access remote memories of things they've enjoyed in life like reading, carpentry, cooking and caring for children.

Thanks to our generous donors, we will soon be able to open a desperately needed Aquatic Center on the north side. What's more, you've helped us raise an endowment that will fund swimming lessons for children who are unable to afford them—a gift that could literally save lives. We hope you'll join us for an opportunity to see these and other exciting spaces on Nov. 8 at the

Bucyrus Campus Completion Celebration.
(Read about it on page 4.)

Your support allows us to keep dreaming. We are planning a new program tailored for young adults with physical and intellectual disabilities that will include computers and technology to help them strengthen their communication. We're also working with a local company that's designing an intergenerational playground for our Bucyrus Campus. It will have gliders where children and adults can sit together, a soft surface play area, fountain, fairy garden...even a dinosaur slide.

It's clear, we have enough to be grateful for well beyond Thanksgiving. On behalf of all of us at St. Ann Center, thank you from the bottom of our hearts for caring so much.

On Our Wish List

Stein Campus

Flooring for Adult Day Care	\$31k
Flooring nurse's office	\$5k
John Deere lawn tractor with attachments: snow blower, mower deck, tire chains	\$18k
Replacing/refurbishing playground equipment for 2 to 4-year-olds	\$40K

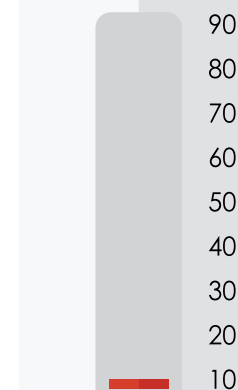
Bucyrus Campus

Fans for atrium	\$20k
Motorized Hoyer lift	\$3k
Motorized sit-to-stand lift	\$3k

Our wish list is updated online:
stanncenter.org/wishlist

GOAL

\$120,000*



***If you and each person who receives this newsletter donate \$60, we can get everything on this list!**



An Able Advocate

Tiffany Payne still laughs when she thinks of the day her younger cousin brought a friend home to play. After they were introduced, she overheard the visitor ask, "What's wrong with her?" Her cousin responded, "Nothing. She has cerebral palsy. The switch in her brain that tells her body to walk doesn't work. But everything else works really good!"

That's obvious in her accomplishments as a social worker and intake coordinator for the Bucyrus Campus. Tiffany meets with prospective clients for adult day care, gives tours to families and helps clients attain their goals. But one of her most important roles is not listed on her job description. "Working with a population that's considered vulnerable, we must be their advocates," she said.

Tiffany stresses the impact of words.

The words "disabled person" or "wheelchair bound" emphasize the disability, she explained, whereas "a person with a disability" and "people who use wheelchairs" put the person first.

Tiffany is working to build a world of inclusion, starting with intergenerational programs like St. Ann Center's. "When we expose children to people of various ages and abilities, they're able to think outside their own experiences," she said. **"They learn to appreciate differences, not fear them."**

A Ministry of Caring

2018 has been a milestone year for Sr. Marianne Muscott, OSF. Besides celebrating her 60th year as a Sister, she retired in July after 15 years of working at St. Ann Center as a pastoral psychotherapist.

Pastoral psychotherapy is like cognitive therapy, only with a spiritual dimension. "I invite my clients to ask God to be a part of our work," Sr. Marianne explained. **Over the years, she's counseled adults, children, couples and families, dealing with addiction, grieving, marriage, depression, growing up and aging.** She's worked with clients across Milwaukee and at both the Stein and Bucyrus Campuses.

"There's an environment of faith, hope and love at St. Ann Center more powerful than any one religion," Sr. Marianne said. As she looks forward to retirement, "I'm grateful for my flexibility, and I'm open to new opportunities."



Gala Donors Set Record

The 14th annual Dream Together Gala was an historic one for St. Ann Center. A record-breaking \$282,851 was raised on Aug. 10 at Discovery World Museum. Our thanks to our generous sponsors, donors, volunteers and friends who made our event so successful!



Gifts That Rocks

The Bucyrus Campus is ready to rock! Thanks to donations from Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Berean Family Worship Center, seven rocking chairs are gracing the campus' front porch. "In nice weather, we take clients out and do activities in the rockers," said Joyce Davis, vice president of Adult Day Services. They might play trivia, chat or watch the traffic on North Avenue.



Two for the Road

Carl and Karen Kitzinger have done so much for St. Ann Center, we decided it was time to put them on the map. The Bucyrus Campus entrance, off 24th Street, has been named in their honor—as Kitzinger Lane.

"Carl and Karen have supported St. Ann Center from the very beginning, allowing our programs to grow," Sr. Edna said. The Kitzingers were also among the earliest supporters of the replication project that led to the construction of the Bucyrus Campus.



← You're Invited

Join us in celebrating a transformational community project- **the completion of St. Ann Center's Bucyrus Campus**. Take a guided tour of our new spaces and discover how they'll serve people of all ages throughout Milwaukee.

Call 414-977-5062 or email crozanski@stanncenter.org for more information.

You're invited to tour these exciting, newly complete spaces, and learn what they'll mean for Milwaukee's north side community:



AND

Multi-fiber Arts Room
Outdoor walking paths
Childcare Classrooms
Recreatory Salon

A Day at the Museum

Field trips with an intergenerational twist highlighted St. Ann Center's summer camp program this year. The kids from the Stein Campus joined the adult clients for some fun-filled outings, ranging from a visit to the Milwaukee Public Museum to a tour of Miller Park.



Veranda client Barry was right at home at the museum. He volunteers there every Saturday, making 65 million-year-old dinosaurs come alive for visitors. "The skull on this big guy is nine feet long," he pointed out, as wide-eyed kids gathered around the Torosaurus exhibit. "I was a history and science nut when I was their age," he explained.

Summer camper Elodie, age 8, is a field trip veteran. "But I've never been on one with adults," she said. "It's like having a bunch of extra teachers!"



St. Ann Center's Got Talent

Stars of all ages shone at the Bucyrus Campus' annual talent show. The kids and adults spent weeks warming up their vocal cords and polishing their dance moves. Talent ran the gamut from toddlers rapping the alphabet to adult care staff belting out gospel favorites.

The rules: 1) no booing, 2) clap for every act and 3) everybody's a winner!



Dynamic Duo

Barbara and Dennis Benjamin have been making beautiful music together for 53 years. And they're happy to share their talents with their fans at the Stein Campus. Clients in Senior Wellness, the Benjamins make time in their schedules for regular practice sessions. While Dennis plays the trumpet, Barbara accompanies him on keyboard or sings in her clear, strong alto.

"We've helped provide music for the Christmas service," Dennis said. They also enjoy weekly intergenerational music with the kids from childcare. "Music is an interest they'll be able to enjoy their entire lives," he added.





Urban Kids Flourish on Farm

City kids in St. Ann Center's summer camp program have found farm life to be fertile ground for fun and learning.

Dozens of youngsters from the Bucyrus and Stein Campuses paid weekly visits to Creating Pathways Farm in Sussex. "Our goal is to immerse the children in nature," said the farm's owner, Rose Koremenos.

On their lush 20 acres, Rose and her husband, Gus, have created a living classroom. Campers tramped through the woods, stopping to identify trees or listen to the song the creek sings. With help from farm volunteers and staff, they learned how to read a compass and name the different kinds of fish swimming in the crystal-clear farm pond.

The kids got a healthy dose of horse sense, too. With each visit, they found out more about Rose's friendly herd. One young cowboy asked Rose if he could be her overnight barn guest. "He even picked out the hay bale where he planned on sleeping," she said.

"We are fortunate to be stewards of this land," Rose added. "It's a blessing to be able to share it with the children and watch the little buds of curiosity open."



Fired Up to Learn

Where's the pole? That was the burning question St. Ann Center's 4- and 5-year-olds had during a visit to the St. Francis Fire Department. Their tour guide, Lt. Mike Corso, explained that a pole isn't necessary at their single-story building. But he happily showed them dozens of other cool things that make a firehouse such a fascinating place.

The kids took an up-close look at an ambulance, sat behind the wheel of a fire truck and ate lunch at the firehouse. Fire safety tips were sprinkled throughout the visit. "We like to show the kids what we look like in and out of our gear," Lt. Mike said. "The more exposure kids have to firemen and what they look like, the less likely they will be fearful should they ever have to meet one of us in their home during a rescue."





ALL ARE INVITED

CELEBRATING THE FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Blessing of the pets AT 11:00 AM

STEIN CAMPUS OCTOBER 4TH 10:00 AM

Mass with Bishop James Schuerman

Please RSVP to David Kenny at 414-977-5075
dkenny@stanncenter.org

Hoop Dreams Realized

Matt Majszak and Giannis Antetokounmpo have a lot in common. Both of them fell in love with basketball as kids, both have a killer swish shot and both sport number 34 on their jerseys. The big difference...Matt's fan club cheers a lot louder.

"When we put Matt in and he hits his shot, everybody goes nuts, including the guys on the other team," said Carlos Mireles, coach of the Milwaukee Bucks Wheelchair Basketball Club's Division III men's team, which Matt captains. A client in our Stein Campus' young adult unit, Matt plays guard for his team, which is part of the Wisconsin Adaptive Sports Association.

Born with cerebral palsy, Matt was introduced to the sport when he was in kindergarten. "My mom and dad took me to see a game," he said. He started playing in fourth grade and joined a competitive team in high school. Now at age 33, he's just hitting his stride, competing with teams from across the Midwest and as far away as Colorado.

Sports wheelchairs are lightweight and streamlined to allow for speed and agility. "My chair is kind of special," Matt added with a smile. "It has wheels that glow in the dark."



FALL FEATURED EVENTS

**Doors Open @Bucyrus Campus
Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 22-23rd
10am - 5pm | 2450 W. North Avenue**

Self-guided and guided tours of our newest campus will be available.

**Charity Cash Raffle Drawing
Saturday, Oct. 27th | 2pm**
Stein Campus: 2801 E. Morgan Ave.

Grand Prize - \$200,000 CASH

50 prizes given away!

Tickets: \$50/each or \$100 for 3

Purchase: 1 (800) 272-1938 or **visit**
Stein Campus, 6am-6pm | Mon-Fri.

**Chili & Jewelry Sale
Saturday, Nov. 17 | 9am-1pm**
Stein Campus: 2801 E. Morgan Ave.

Featuring restaurant & home chef chili! Enjoy a bowl or a flight of 4 tasting portions while you shop our Vintage Jewelry Collection and local vendors.**
Visit: stanncenter.org/chilisale

**The Chili & Jewelry Sale is the only market. St. Ann Center is no longer holding the weekly Indoor Market.

Host a Sister Edna's Creations Jewelry Party

We'll help you plan a benefit jewelry party in your own home, church or business.

As a party 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 | rveitch@stanncenter.org.**

**Field trips
 for all ages**
Inside...

Plus,
 Come to our
 Bucyrus
 Open House!



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

CALENDAR UPDATES

- Oct. 3 Caregiver Support Group
- Oct. 4 St. Francis of Assisi Mass, Pet Blessing
- Oct. 11 Benevolent Touch (BT) Workshop
- Oct. 12 BT Instructor Training
- Oct. 16 Parkinson's Support Group
- Oct. 18 Jewelry Sale Marcia P. Coggs
- Nov. 7 Caregiver Support Group
- Nov. 8 Bucyrus Campus Completion Celebration
- Nov. 9 Family Fun Night at the Pool
- Nov. 17 Chili & Jewelry Sale
- Nov. 20 Parkinson's Support Group
- Nov. 22 & 23 Holiday Closure
- Nov. 26 Aquatics Session 9 Begins
- Dec. 5 Caregiver Support Group
- Dec. 13 Jewelry Sale County Courthouse
- Dec. 18 Parkinson's Support Group
- Dec. 21 Caroling on North Avenue
- Dec. 24 & 25 Holiday Closure

More info at: stanncenter.org/events

A Delicious Legacy

After **16 years of volunteering** as St. Ann Center's official baker, **Sr. Lenore Steilen**, 95, has decided it's time to hang up her apron. Luckily, she's leaving her fans with more than mouthwatering memories.



She's passing on her recipes to Felicia Webster of our Stein Campus kitchen staff. "She made a perfect batch of brownies on her first try," Sr. Lenore reported, adding she'll be sharing the secret to her scones and Rice Krispies treats, as well. "I've enjoyed my years of baking and the chance to be creative... I'm so happy to help St. Ann Center."