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.

More special moments!
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Pumpkin Palooza!

Inside...

Plus,
New K3
Program

Dear Friend,

What a blessing it is to have another holiday season upon us.

There's a palpable shift in the air, a sense of joy and anticipation that seems to touch most everyone, from busy city streets to cozy homes and, yes, throughout St. Ann Center's two campuses. This time of year offers each of us a unique opportunity to pause and reflect on the warmth and magic that the holidays bring – magic that has little to do with presents and shopping and how many lights and decorations adorn your home.

Rather, this is a season of togetherness, generosity and gratitude. Whether you celebrate with family, friends or in quiet reflection, there's something undeniably special about these moments. Moments that begin with Thanksgiving and its multitude of opportunities – in our homes, our workplaces, our places of worship, and however we choose to celebrate – to express how thankful we are for the blessings in our lives.

Beyond the lights and food and football and festivities, the holidays also offer the chance to look back on the year we've had and the lessons we've learned. It's a time for appreciation: for the people who have supported us, the experiences that have shaped us, and the hope that guides us into a new year and all that it may hold.

This season, I encourage you to embrace the joy in the small things – Mom's homemade stuffing, a warm cup of cocoa, laughter shared with loved ones, a simple act of kindness or the chance to offer one (or many!) of your own.

On behalf of the St. Ann Center team, I wish you a holiday season filled with peace, gratitude, love and joy. May it be a time of renewal and connection. And may the spirit of the season stay with you and inspire you throughout the year ahead.

ISO: A Car in Good Working Order

If you have an automatic transmission car in good working order, one you no longer need, we could put it to good use and give you a tax deduction at the same time!

More Sisters are coming from Africa to work here, and we'd love to provide them with a car for commuting, grocery shopping and other needs. Because St. Ann Center is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, you could claim a tax deduction, if you itemize, for donating the car to us. We'll issue the IRS tax receipt for your records, and you'll have the satisfaction of knowing your car is helping St. Ann Center.

Interested? Call Lori Grzybowski at (414) 977-5064.

A Dooze of a Palooza

Plump, painted pumpkins and happy children, some in their Halloween costumes, were the order of the day as the Bucyrus Campus and Indaba Band Shell hosted the fourth annual **"Pumpkin Palooza"** on Saturday, Oct. 19.

An assortment of pumpkins, generously supplied by **Pete's Fruit Market**, and Halloween-centered decorations were scattered across the campus hill, offering a true "pumpkin-patch" feel. Parents looked on as their children scampered among the pumpkins, searching for the perfect one. Then everyone headed back to the band shell where the kids could customize their pumpkins with paint, stickers, and more.

After the pumpkins were decorated, everyone enjoyed festival style games, warm apple cider, fun fall photo opportunities and fellowship with their neighbors before heading home with their artful pumpkins and goodie bags for the kids.

"We are so pleased to help children safely enjoy the excitement of Halloween right here in their neighborhood," said Gloria Miller, special events director at St. Ann Center.

"Thanks to our generous sponsors, Pumpkin Palooza is rapidly becoming a tradition in the neighborhood. Families get to enjoy the fun of the season and make lasting memories. And the kids are so proud to go home with their very own one-of-a kind jack-o-lantern."

New K3 Program Launched

The K3 program at the Bucyrus Campus is now open and enrolling children.

The program runs from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and is staffed by Sr. Anne Theresa Anyiro, who earned a Master of Arts in Education from Mount Mary University. Valarie Turner, who has more than 18 years of child care experience, serves as assistant teacher.

The program is focused on learning through play, preparing young children for success in K4 and beyond by empowering them to guide their own learning experience, to work and learn together with their peers, encouraging imagination and experimentation, and helping them manage emotions.

The campus also offers parents the opportunity to build a childcare schedule that works best for their family, adding wraparound morning or afternoon childcare to the K3 programming. The Bucyrus Campus is open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays. St. Ann Center accepts the Wisconsin Shares child care subsidy to families who qualify. A few spaces remain.

To enroll your child in the St. Ann Center Bucyrus Campus K3 program, or for more information about the program,contact Marcia Ware at mware@stanncenter.org or (414) 210-2468.

A Heartfelt Homecoming

On Oct. 5, friends, donors, supporters, clients and their families gathered at a decked out the Stein Campus to celebrate the building's 25th year, plus a quarter-century of progress for St. Ann Center's award-winning brand of intergenerational care.

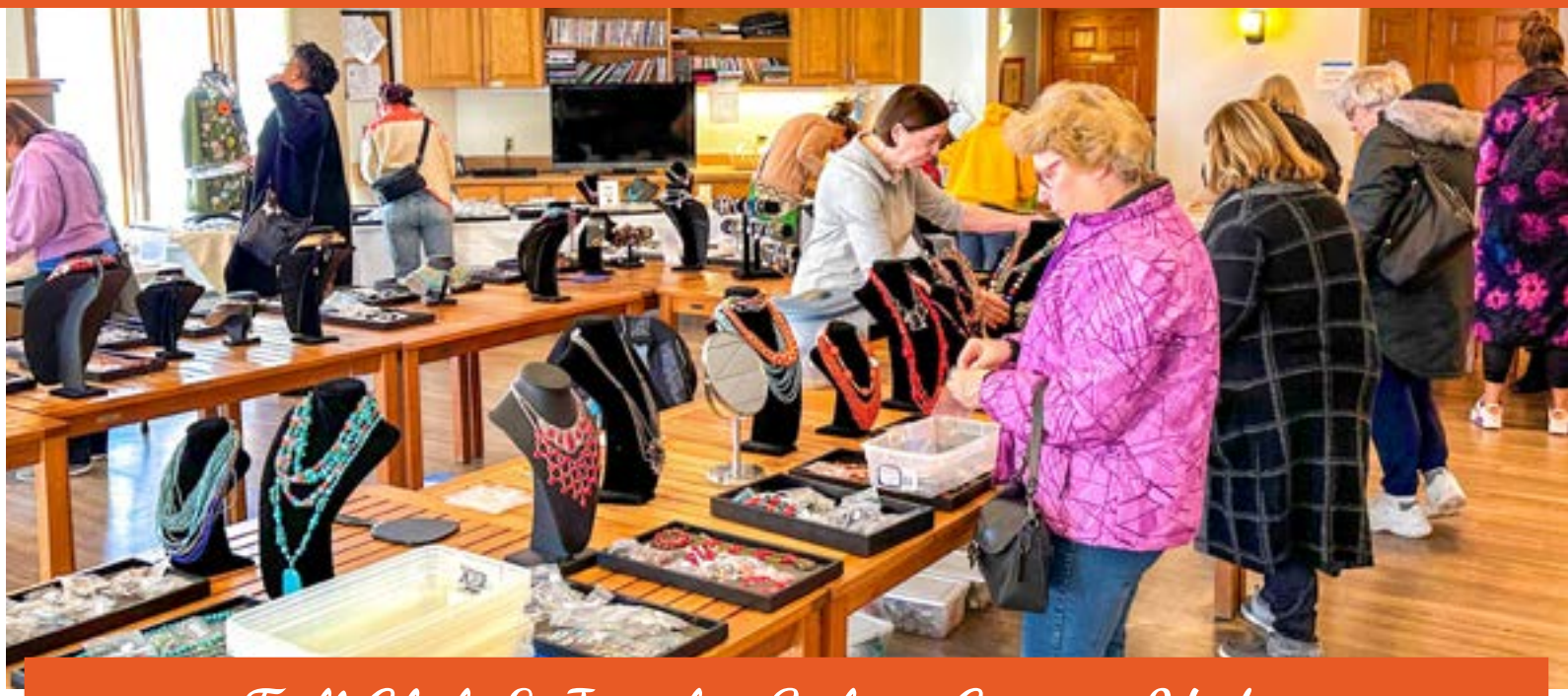
Per the gala's "sneaker ball" dress code, staff and attendees accessorized their finery with comfy footwear. Once inside the Stein Campus, guests perused exciting auction items from Packers and Brewers adventures to personalized cocktail and dining experiences to health and beauty packages, shopped **Sr. Edna's one-of-a-kind jewelry creations**, and enjoyed tours of the campus. Attendees also dined on heavy appetizers and delightful desserts for all tastes, and sipped delicious cocktails and mocktails, all provided by Milwaukee's popular **Brazen Standard Hospitality**.

Guests of the St. Ann Center overnight respite program who wished to join in the festivities were dressed to the nines and mingled with the crowd.

The highlights of the evening were the gracious hosting and emcee skills of **PBS Wisconsin's "10thirtysix" host Portia Young**, and a lively auction and paddle raise helmed by **auctioneer Steve "The Homer" True**, longtime Milwaukee and Marquette sports personality.

The night concluded with dancing to the South Shore Band and s'mores on the Stein Campus back patio to celebrate raising about **$70,000** for the non-profit.

Gala attendees toured the building before heading to the tent for live auctions and a paddle raise. Guests also had the opportunity to pose for pictures and even star in a TikTok. View it at the QR Code below.



Fall Chili & Jewelry Sale is Coming Up!

There's no better way to launch the holiday gift-buying season than to indulge yourself in the spice and sparkle of St. Ann Center's twice-yearly Chili & Jewelry Sale! The 2024 fall sale will take place Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Stein Campus, 2801 E. Morgan Avenue, St. Francis.

The sale will feature hundreds of pieces of vintage, heirloom, retro and costume jewelry, all polished up and priced to sell. You'll find everything from necklaces and earrings (both clip and pierced!), to cuffs and bracelets, to watches and brooches – to buy for yourself or as a special, one-of-a-kind gift for someone special. This year's sale also features gorgeous vintage perfume bottles and decanters from around the world to add an elegant touch to your vanity or curio shelves.

As always, St. Ann Center founder Sr. Edna Lonergan's shop will feature her stunning, handmade jewelry creations, featuring everything from Swarovski crystals and genuine pearls.

When you're done searching for jewelry treasures, peruse the vendor market for handcrafted gift items, including body care, delicious baked treats, textiles, home décor and more. And finally, refuel with your choice of chilies donated by favorite Milwaukee restaurants, served with all the fixings and sold by the bowl or the flight. Dine upstairs on the veranda, while listening to the relaxing tunes of Milwaukee's own Rohn Larson.

Proceeds from sales of the chili and jewelry go directly to supporting St. Ann Center award-winning day programming for children and adults.

Stein Campus summer carnival.

Mini farmers market

Furry friends at kissing booth and blessing of the animals on St. Francis Feast Day.

Pumpkin farm field trip!

STU's Golf Outing raised about $13,000 for St. Ann Center.

Carnival fun at the Bucyrus Campus.

Oompa Loompa!

Magic show brings the hocus pocus to the Bucyrus Campus.

We celebrated when we hit 100,000 followers on TikTok. Check out our account at tiktok.com/@stanncenter

Scooby-Dooby-Doo!

Go Pack Go!

Say "Ndio!" to the 2025 Indaba African Ball!

Planning is underway for the sixth annual Indaba African Ball, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 1, at the Bucyrus Campus!

Celebrating all things Africa and African culture, the Ball also honors notable Black Milwaukee residents and institutions who have made their mark on the city and its residents in a variety of ways. Past honorees include Elizabeth Coggs, Linda Jackson Co-Croft, WNOV radio, MacArthur "Mac" Weddle and LaMarr Franklin and Dr. Lia Knox.

The evening features authentic African and Caribbean-inspired cuisine, live music and dancing, an African marketplace, handmade jewelry creations (including a new Indaba collection), a fashion show and photo booth, a chance to win a fabulous prize package and so much more.

Proceeds from the 2025 Indaba African Ball support the Indaba Band Shell and its popular weekly summer concert series "Indaba Nights," which frequently draws more than 300 music lovers to the hillside band shell.

Registration is available online at StAnncenter.org/IndabaBall.
Plan now to say "ndio" - yes - and save your spot
at this new Black History Month tradition.

St Ann CENTER

To update your mailing preferences:
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