



FALL  
2009

# ST. LOUIS SPIRIT



## ST. LOUIS CENTER PATRONS "FALL FOR OUR KIDS"

Every year, the supporters of St. Louis Center are called upon to create an exciting fundraising event at Chelsea Community Hospital, and this year is no exception, as the 22nd Annual Dinner-Auction takes place on Saturday November 7, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. This year's gala will have a "Fall Season" flavor to it, and will be highlighted by many new auction items to be sold by auctioneer,

Joe Merkel, Jr., a local favorite from the Chelsea community.

This event is an annual sell out, so get your tickets soon. They are \$100 per person, \$150 per couple, and \$450 for a table of six. For ticket information, contact Cindy Lesser at 734-475-8430, or order online at [www.stlouiscenter.org](http://www.stlouiscenter.org), and follow the instructions on the "Events" page.



Stanley, Lisa, and Julian make their entrance at last year's auction.

## ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

As the winds return from the north, signaling fall and the return of cooler weather, we anticipate the political winds from our State Capital in Lansing, and the ominous messages that await us in the new fiscal year that begins on October 1st. The predictions are dire, as the State Legislature must close the gap on a budget that must somehow eliminate a \$2.8 billion shortfall. Where will those cuts come from, and how will they affect services to the most vulnerable? It won't be long before we know how severely we will be impacted here at St. Louis Center.



We have already felt the effects of a struggling Michigan, as one of

our providers has cut thousands of dollars from our budget, and charitable donations are down.

Another impact we have felt has been in the area of employment for our residents who have the ability to work. Several have suffered from layoffs in the community, and we have tried to pick up the slack by hiring two of them part-time to assist in our operations. We are looking for anyone in the community who might be interested in hiring one or more of our residents, and would ask that you contact Public Relations Director Joe Yekulis if you can help.

Finally, our mission, as Guanellians, continues to be to "Give Bread and the Lord" to our residents. We take responsibility for caring for the "whole" person, and that means looking out for their spiritual needs, as well as their physical needs. That

*"Each person is an extraordinarily rich reality: his value excels that of any other created reality, because he has the distinction of unity and uniqueness that confers an intrinsic dignity."*

*Blessed Guanella*

is what providing a good quality of life for our special needs residents is about. As Fr. Guanella said, "The poor reveal the true face of God...They are the most eloquent sign of Him, who being rich, became poor to enrich us."

*Fr. Eusebio Ashlari*

# A SUCCESSFUL SUMMER FULL OF GOLF AND FUN



Celebrity server Tim Patton collects from fellow board member Robert Gorse.



All-Star celebrities gather for a photograph.



1st Place- Team Starkey



Emcee Gene Fogel of WJR radio, with co-chairs Joe & Zoja Bojovic



Fr. Joe honors Dad & Lad Founders

**GOLF & GLORY** - The evening of Monday June 22, 2009 was a great night for St. Louis Center, as well as over 100 people gathered at Paesano's in Ann Arbor to open their hearts to support our residents. The event was a simple spaghetti dinner that became a community outpouring of friends and neighbors who showed just how much they care. At the end of the evening, the friends of St. Louis Center raised nearly \$10,000 to benefit our residents.

The next day, the 15th Annual Golf & Glory Outing took place at U of M Golf Course, and drew over 120 paid golfers and 15 celebrity athletes. The celebrities were introduced by former NFL great Tom Nowatzke, a St. Louis Center Board member, and after 18 holes of golf, golfers were treated to a steak dinner and a live auction of sports memorabilia.

**22ND MEMORIAL OUTING** - The St. Louis Center community comes together every year to remember special friends who have gone before us at our annual Memorial Golf Outing. This year's outing took place on July 18, 2009, and was held at Pierce Lake Golf Course in Chelsea. The outing was dedicated to the memory of Susan Starkey, a former Community Advisory Board member, who sadly passed away on December 24, 2007 after a long battle with pancreatic cancer.

**JOE'S TOP DOG** - What could be more fun than going to a golf outing run by the same people who run a Coney Island restaurant? The answer is, not much, as the Joe's Top Dog Golf Outing entered its 13th year in 2009. Founded by Joe and Zoja Bojovic to give back to the community, this year's event was emceed by special guest Gene Fogel, weekend anchor of WJR News/Talk radio in Detroit. St. Louis Center is grateful to the Bojovic family and all of their friends who took part in this special day.

**DAD & LAD** - At a special ceremony on August 5, 2009, Fr. Joseph Rinaldo, SdC, honored the founders of the 12th Annual Dad and Lad Golf Outing. This outing has been the top grossing fundraiser of all the events dedicated to St. Louis Center and its mission of caring for "God's Special Children" during the past 12 years. Those who received special honors included Michael Chirco, Salvatore Cottone, and Joe Maniaci.

## TOCCO FAMILY PICNIC



Mark and Cindy Lesser welcome the Tocco family (Jack and Jack Jr.) to St. Louis Center.

The residents of St. Louis Center have enjoyed a warm relationship with Jack and Toni Tocco and their family for many years. On August 23rd, they demonstrated their love for our residents once again by hosting a luncheon in the gym that included pizza and soft drinks. Known annually as the "Tocco Family Picnic", this year they brought a face painting clown, who made balloon animals, and brought many smiles to our children.



Albert Valear shows off his Batman mask.

## CHELSEA KNIGHTS COOK FOR KIDS



Knight Nick Haroney serves punch to Lee Booth.

Blessed Guanella K of C Council #3092 of Chelsea held their annual BBQ for SLC residents on August 27th. The kick ball game that followed, ended in a tie! Tom and Colleen Turek chaired the event, with 25 Knights and their families in attendance.

### WEBSITE UPDATE

Our online donor system is now active. While visiting our website at [www.stlouiscenter.org](http://www.stlouiscenter.org), you may now use a credit card to make donations with the touch of a button. St. Louis Center is a qualified 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Please consider helping us if you can. May God bless you.

[DONATE ONLINE](#)  
[CLICK HERE](#)

## THANKS DETROIT TIGERS

Through the generosity of the Detroit Tigers Foundation, SLC residents attended a baseball game at Comerica Park between the Tigers and the Tampa Bay Rays on Monday August 31st. Residents also attended a Tiger game on



Antoine and Julian enjoying the Tigers at Comerica Park.

Wednesday August 19th at the invitation of KofC District Deputy #83 Dan Waligora of Detroit, and Council #13318. Special thanks to the Tigers Foundation and Council #13318.

### RESIDENTS ENJOY SUMMER GAMES

The residents and staff of St. Louis Center held another day of "Summer Games" on Friday August 21, 2009. Everyone enjoyed throwing water balloons at one another, and it was a great day of entertainment for a hot "end of summer" day.



SLC staff and residents play ball.



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## IN MEMORY OF OUR FRIENDS

Helen Anulewicz  
Karen Beeman  
James Bonner  
William Brudon  
Mary Helen Buckley  
Thomas Byrne  
David Cercone - former St. Louis Center resident  
Monte Clark  
Clifford Collinsworth  
Teresa Crawford  
Frank Delatorre  
Luigi Destro  
Therese Doll  
Robert Gorse, Jr.  
Olivia Marie Grant  
Catherine Hitchcock  
Edwin Konopacki  
Dennis McGinn  
Judy Moore  
Joseph Ottoman  
Mary Pancertz  
Mary Jo Peters  
Harold Polzin  
Jack Redpath  
Ruth Sardo  
Ann Smith  
John Verneti  
Mary K. Weber

### REMEMBERING BOB GORSE

Bob Gorse, of Saline, was a tireless volunteer and CAC member, who loved the residents of St. Louis Center. A Past Faithful Navigator of Cardinal O'Hara Assembly #0489, and Past Grand Knight of Saline Council #6674, Bob was a devoted Knight and supporter of Catholic causes. He passed away suddenly at home on Sunday September 13, 2009. Our condolences go out to his wife Shirley and his children and grandchildren. He will be greatly missed by us all. Eternal rest grant unto him, and let perpetual light shine upon him.



*Bob Gorse enjoying the company of our residents.*

### ST. LOUIS CENTER COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Larry Doll, Chair  
Frank Grohnert, Vice Chair  
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Willard Johnson  
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Timothy Patton  
Kenneth Unterbrink  
John R. 'Bob' Moody,  
(MI State Deputy, KofC)