

Happy Fall!

In the last issue of the St. Louis Spirit newsletter I mentioned that we were moving forward. Since then the former children's houses have been licensed as Adult Foster Care (AFC). They are fully functional and offer opportunities for more independent living arrangements. Some of the residents, after shopping, cook their own meals, and, under the supervision of the direct care professionals, clean their house.



SLC is still committed to offering benevolent care to those individuals who don't have the financial resources for their stay at the Center due to family financial constraints or who don't qualify for public assistance. The Center is able to provide benevolent care because of your generosity in helping us carry out the daily activities and services needed to proclaim the dignity of the lives of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD).

I want to thank some specific groups and individuals who have recently gone the extra mile in raising funds for the Center; Mike Chirco, Sam Cottone and Joe Maniaci for organizing the Lad and Dad Golf Outing; Nino and Sonny Randazzo of Randazzo Fresh Market, the Fall Harvest Fest committee; the KofC State Council for contributing funds to offset the cost of a new well; the many donors who pledged their support for the security cameras; also some politicians who were able to facilitate substantial financial support from the State government for SLC.

After months of on-going work to prepare the proper documentation, agreements and marketing, on November 1, 2021 the first occupant of a family home in St. Louis Guanella Village will be moving in. This event brings the vision of an integrated village which we had planned some time ago to fruition; people with I/DD and those without living next to each other.

Still moving forward in up-grading the infrastructure of the Center, we are planning to upgrade St. Joseph Hall, which was built in 1984 and is showing signs of aging. Also, the original kitchen built in 1960 needs to be brought up to today's standards. Please follow us for more news in this regard in the future.

May God's blessing be upon all of you.

Fr. Enzo Achilari

Summer Interns Depart

SLC was blessed again this summer to have two Notre Dame students as interns, thanks to the Notre Dame Alumni Club of Jackson for sponsoring their 8 week stays. Lauren and Sebastian

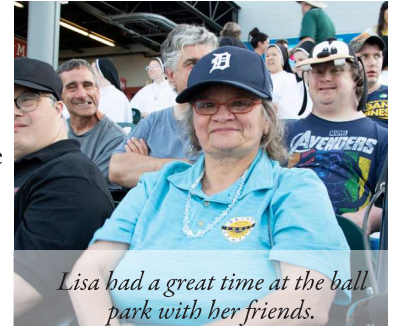


Lauren enjoyed assisting the residents.

took on shifts, learned many new things and made some friends along the way. It is a sad day when it is time for the students to depart, but a small celebration, which usually includes cake, makes it a day to congratulate each student for the good work they completed.

Out at the Ball Game

On Friday, August 13th, 27 residents and staff members boarded a bus to go to a minor league baseball game. Each year the Diocese of Lansing and the Knights of Columbus sponsor a 'vocations night' at one of the Lansing Lugnuts ball games. It is an opportunity for families to come out and mingle with



Lisa had a great time at the ball park with her friends.

priests and religious in the fun atmosphere of one of America's favorite pastimes. The Knights provide the bus transportation, tickets to the game and dinner from the concession stand at the ball park. The residents enjoyed the game and seeing some old friends who were also at the game.

Residents Attend the Fair



Residents of St. Joseph Hall had a great time watching the Demolition Derby.

Several of the St. Louis Center residents went to the Chelsea Fair with staff members on Wednesday, August 18th. They purchased dinner from the fair concession stands and ate under the pavillion.

They were also able to enjoy the Demolition Derby.

Surprise for Linda

Last year as the pandemic was spreading around the world, it shut down businesses, churches, schools and universities. This impacted so many people including residents at St. Louis Center. One of those residents is Linda Alber who had worked for over 20 years at the University of Michigan. Her most recent assignment was as a dishwasher at Mary Markley Hall, a residence dormitory.

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