Senior Pen Pals
Sharing Memories and Wisdom at Vincentian Marian Manor

Who needs social media?
A group of students from Penn-Trafford High School recently set aside their computers and smartphones in favor of a more traditional “pen pal” program to allow them to get to know Vincentian Marian Manor residents through the exchange of written letters.

The residents were thrilled to receive the correspondences and wrote back, much to the students’ delight. The pen pals recently shared an afternoon tea at Vincentian Marian Manor. “We’ve been writing letters and now finally get to meet in person,” said Brady, a Penn-Trafford senior. “It’s awesome.”

“We have more in common than I thought,” added high school senior Kaitlyn. Her pen pal, Vincentian Marian Manor resident Josie, agreed. “It was wonderful meeting her. She’s just so outgoing and bubbly and a wonderful young lady.”

ABOVE: Pen pals Connie and Kenna

Simpler, Healthier and Happier
Harnessing the Power of Technology

Can you hear me now? For the past three months, a group of Vincentian Villa residents participated in a pilot program that brought smart technology into their homes. By using specially equipped tablets, the residents remotely controlled their thermostats, lights and other home devices.

Carolina. Patty Embree, Vincentian’s VP of Innovation and Decision Support, oversaw the project. “K4 is helping us to make our residents’ homes more intuitive,” Patty said. “The technology helps monitor health and well-being and keeps community and social engagement at our residents’ fingertips.”

Stay tuned for more technology like K4Connect to pop up across the Vincentian Ministries. After all, “It’s All About Living!”
It’s amazing how “social isolation” can bring people together. That’s exactly what happened when LaRoche College student Jennifer Velette chose the topic for her senior project. During her research, she spent time interviewing residents in depth - the old fashioned way: face to face.

In this age of increased online communications, Ms. Velette set out to see how it is causing us to drift apart - and how social isolation impacts the overall quality of life. Her conclusions? Regardless of age, we all want to establish strong connections with others and know that our lives have purpose.

Some say that interpersonal interaction skills are disappearing in the younger generations. Yet, here in Pittsburgh our population is made up of people of all ages and backgrounds - and we have much to learn from each other!

Social isolation can affect anyone at any age. Ms. Velette is working to alleviate the problem by doing something that came naturally to her grandparents’ generation: show up and speak up.

In March, the Golden Heart Gala, presented by Schneider Downs, transformed LeMont into the streets of Paris for a memorable evening of French cuisine, wine tasting and entertainment.

Ray and Kathy Buehler received the Golden Heart Award in recognition of their outstanding efforts to make Vincentian, and the Pittsburgh community, a better place.

More than 250 friends celebrated the Buehlers and the heart of the matter: generosity for the residents of Vincentian Home, Vincentian Marian Manor and Vincentian de Marillac.

ABOVE: The Buehlers with Vincentian Board Chairperson Rosemary Hanrahan and President and CEO Nick Vizzoca; Sr. LaVerne Sihelnik with her rose-colored glasses.

LEFT: A mime provides Paris-style street entertainment. CENTER: Vincentian Board Vice Chairperson Gretchen Jezerc, board member Fr. Larry DiNardo and Sue Kirsch from Schneider Downs. RIGHT: Guests receive caricatures as a memento of the evening.

Thank you to all who helped make the event a success. More than $140,000 was raised for Vincentian residents - a new record! A special thank you to our major sponsors: Presenting: Schneider Downs | Silver: Grane Rx | Bronze: The Glenmede Trust Company, PJ Dick and UPMC
Terrace Place at Vincentian
Ready for its Close-Up

Want to check out the construction progress for Terrace Place at Vincentian...from the comfort of your own home?

It's as easy as viewing Vincentian's live webcam, available at TerracePlace.org. While there, you can download a resident application, view a sample floor plan and learn more about Vincentian's newest independent living community that is set to open in early 2019.

Terrace Place at Vincentian will feature adaptive apartment homes in a parklike setting located in the heart of McCandless. To learn more, call Sandie at 412-548-4100 or visit the website.

THRIVE Wellness Center at Vincentian Home
Taking Care of the Whole You: Mind, Body and Spirit

Vincentian Home employees will soon have access to a state-of-the-art employee exercise room and wellness center, thanks in part to a grant from the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Ministry Fund.

The THRIVE Wellness Center, set to open this summer, will feature a variety of equipment for strength training, cardiovascular exercise and fitness, along with space for yoga and other group activities.

To bring the room to life, volunteers recently hand painted a mural along with the THRIVE logo and inspirational phrases such as “I Can — And I Will! Watch Me.”

It's all part of Vincentian's THRIVE for Wellness, a program providing education, resources and opportunities for all employees to improve their health and well-being in mind, body and spirit.

Wellness centers are planned throughout the Vincentian Ministries as the THRIVE program continues to grow. Want to help with THRIVE? Contact Wellness Leader Joy Regan at 412-548-4054.

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Our Mission

Compelled by the love of Christ, Vincentian Collaborative System nurtures and sustains a ministry of compassionate care that preserves the human dignity of persons within a diverse and changing society.

Welcome Home!
A Stately Affair at Vincentian de Marillac’s Grand Reopening

Vincentian de Marillac residents recently returned home to a bright and beautiful building following an impressive two-month renovation project that included installation of new flooring, lighting, ceilings, handrails and other improvements.

Residents temporarily relocated to Vincentian Home and Vincentian Marian Manor over the winter while crews replaced the building’s original 1965 elevator.

The extensive renovations were made possible by a $200,000 Allegheny County CITF Grant and are the latest in a series of improvements at Vincentian de Marillac.

The official celebration featured a blessing by Bishop David Zubik followed by residents, Vincentian staff and community leaders gathering for a ribbon cutting ceremony - pictured below.

ABOVE: