



Saint Mary's Home of Erie

The Mirror *IN THE WIND*

A Publication of Saint Mary's Home of Erie

June 2017



Service to Our Country



In This Issue...

Featuring Our Veterans • Around Our Home • Service Awards

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Services

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Therapies

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Services

Social Services Program/Pastoral Care

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Beauty and Barber Services



MISSION STATEMENT

Founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph and operated in the Catholic tradition, Saint Mary's Home of Erie is committed to an environment of loving to care where primarily seniors, their families, staff and volunteers participate in fostering an atmosphere of community.

VISION STATEMENT

Saint Mary's Home of Erie, through partnership, networking, and referrals will be a principal enabler to primarily seniors in the Erie Community aiding them in living their lives in a respectful, dignified and fulfilled manner.

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Pursuant to state regulations regarding charitable solicitations, we are required to include certain disclosure language on Development materials.

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President's Message

THE "PATIENT BOSS"

There is nothing like a first-hand experience to evaluate services and supports in healthcare.

Facilities pay for mystery shoppers and imbed them in their facilities to evaluate the care and services. Little did I know, that one day I would be in the position to do just that but in the role of the "Patient Boss"!

In May 2017, I had the opportunity to avail myself of the services of Saint Mary's East following a total hip replacement and although my experience was with Saint Mary's East, I am confident I would have had the same experience at Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge.

I can, unequivocally, say that this "Patient Boss" (some called me "undercover" and snickered) was proud of the quality of care afforded to me and the other Residents I encountered along the way. Whether soothing a Resident who was exhibiting sun downing symptoms or providing encouragement to me as I encountered the never before experienced short term rehab needs and services, I was duly impressed. Our Nurses know how to listen! Each member of our Team gave of themselves for the care and comfort of our Residents including myself. Was everything perfect – no – but that is life – there was one glitch that needed addressed and it was dealt with quickly and professionally.

In an effort to lessen any preconceived anxieties, my first words to my caregivers were, "You are in charge here, not me, so do as you would for anyone. You tell me what to do."

I can assure you, by my personal experience, that our Medical, Nursing, Therapy and all Departments lived up to our stated expectations. They were top notch and Therapy was even fun! I think I took the Therapists by surprise a few times by my attempt at humor with them. Who was that "torturer"?

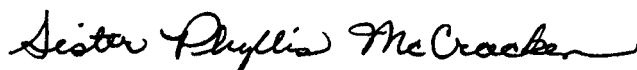
Other employees, not so directly involved in my care, were known to visit me and I considered that a privilege. How many CEOs can relate that they have such caring folks in their facilities?

At a recent meeting a colleague acted shocked that I sought care at our own facility and said they would not be able to do so. My unspoken question was "Why not?"

I, for one, believe in our Mission and Vision and I believe in all our employees and every Department. Each person is extremely valuable and I am grateful to each and every one of you and all the ways you contributed to helping me meet my rehabilitation goals.

For those of you who might need these services in the future – I hope the experience of the "Patient Boss" is helpful to you.

After all, we're Saint Mary's and we're all about YOU!



Phyllis McCracken, SSJ
President/CEO



Sister Phyllis McCracken, SSJ
President/CEO

"I, for one, believe in our Mission and Vision and I believe in all our employees and every Department. Each person is extremely valuable and I am grateful to each and every one of you and all the ways you contributed to helping me meet my rehabilitation goals."

Serving Our Country...

Ray Juniewicz



At 95 years of age, Ray Juniewicz remains an unassuming yet caring gentleman. He moved into Saint Mary's Residential Living ten years ago, along with his wife Bernadine, but has been an Erie native his entire life. Ray is a proud graduate of Saint Stanislaus Grade School and East High School. Ever the avid sports fan, Ray enthusiastically follows the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Philadelphia Eagles. His now relaxed and easy lifestyle speaks little to his past experiences.

During World War II, Ray was held as a Prisoner of War. It was soon after his high school graduation when Ray received the news that would inevitably lead to his capture. "My cousin had just helped me get work at Erie Crate and Manufacturing when I was drafted into the Army. I became a member of the 90th Infantry Division and I took part in the Normandy Invasion. I suffered injuries and was captured in a German tank attack on the troops. For more than eight months, I was held captive as a Prisoner of War," Ray stated. The conditions were harsh, with the barracks holding about 20 men each in a barn-like structure with no heat and skimpy meals that provided very little nourishment. "We were fed tiny servings of boiled rice that looked and tasted more like wallpaper paste than actual food," Ray recalls. Eventually, dysentery set in among Ray and some other men. As his body grew weaker and the conditions grew worse he remembers thinking, "Is this the beginning of the end?" The barrack Ray was imprisoned in luckily held an English Doctor, who provided him with medicine and ordered him not to eat for three days or else he would likely die.

"That did the trick. I recovered fully. Every couple of months we would get supplies from the International Red Cross, including crackers and cigarettes. I didn't smoke so I traded the cigarettes for food," Ray explained. In the mornings roll call would be held. "We would line up outside. In the winter months, the air was freezing! But, time passed with card games and walks around the perimeter of the Stalag," Ray described. Once he was stateside again, Ray became a Staff Sergeant and was in charge of leading forty men. After serving the country, the Armed Forces awarded Ray with several medal citations, including a Purple Heart.



Ray returned to Erie Crate and Manufacturing after his time in the Army, performing a variety of jobs on both the assembly line and becoming a security guard. In his 41 years of plant tenure, Ray witnessed manufacturing transform from a wood-based to plastic industry and he worked hard to adjust to the change. He was rewarded and again called upon to lead, only this time as a Union Executive Officer. He went on to hold many positions and attended many conventions across the United States.

Sitting in the recliner in his room, Ray is humble as he speaks of his experiences. "I hardly mention my time in the service unless someone asks, and even then, I've got to trust them," Ray states. "I'm not one to brag."



Dolores Jones

A lifelong resident of Erie, Dolores Jones has seen the city change over the years. She lived and went to school in Millcreek and graduated high school during the middle of World War II. As a result of increasing male enlistment at the time, she and many other women across the country entered the industrial work force to help from home. Although she has spent the past year at Saint Mary's relaxing and enjoying word search puzzles, her "We Can Do It!" attitude is still apparent at age 91.

"During the war, the factories needed help everywhere they could get it. Places were hiring all over. I didn't even really think about it. I just went to work!" Dolores explained. Dolores was one of the main providers for her family, as she had lost her father as a young girl and her brother was serving overseas in the Army at the time. "It was my mother, my sister and me. We needed the money and I was able to help. I don't think I even made a dollar an hour, but everything I got I took home to my mother," she said. Dolores worked as part of the war effort at Erie City Iron Works, welding together parts and boilers that would be used for American ships and vessels. "These parts were huge, some of them took up the whole room!" she described. The Jones family did not have a car at the time, so every day she walked two miles to work and two miles back with her lunch pail in hand. "I would get there for the 7 o'clock shift, rain, snow or shine! There was a locker type room where we'd hang our stuff up on a hook and I'd change into my welding uniform. Then it was out on the floor to work. I worked ten hour shifts with a half-hour lunch break and two fifteen minute breaks throughout

the day," Dolores described. Because the hours were long and some days were more tiring than others, Dolores didn't do too much for fun at the time, but she worked hard supporting both her family and her country. She explained, "I had never done that type of work before, but I really enjoyed it. It was kind of fun to just have to give your head a shake and your helmet would drop down and you could start welding." Dolores was one of quite a few women working at Erie City Iron Works. "Coming right out of high school I may have been one of the younger ones, but there were plenty of women working. Some were married, some had boyfriends and husbands in the service, others were like me. We all did what we could."

She didn't know it at the time, but her husband-to-be was serving overseas while she was serving at home. They met upon his return to Erie and married not long after. Dolores never fully returned to work, but instead worked to raise her family. "You probably wouldn't find many people who would do that kind of work, but I would again," Dolores smiled as she looked at the picture of her younger self. "Those were some of the good old days."



Roy Bernardini

*Roy Bernardini passed away peacefully on May 26, 2017.
We are sharing his story in his memory at the
request of his family.*



“There were good and bad parts,” Roy Bernardini stated as he tells of his time in the military, “but mostly you try to brush away the bad parts.” Roy has been a Resident of Saint Mary’s for over three years now. Having been born and raised in Erie, Roy graduated from Erie Tech High School and returned to the city he called home after his time serving overseas. In 1943, at the age 17, Roy joined the Army and served along the Western Front in France. “Everybody was enlisting, we were young and crazy!” Roy said.

Roy served in General Patton’s Third Army in the 80th Infantry Division, called the “Blue Ridge Division.” During the Battle of Nancy in September of 1944, Roy and the 80th Division crossed the Moselle River to defeat the German Forces, resulting in the liberation of the city of Nancy. “Our engineers were working to get us across the Moselle River, but the Germans kept bombing what they would build. A bridge would go up and it would get bombed down, but the third time it was successful and we crossed,” Roy recalled. After crossing, Roy was injured diving into a foxhole to avoid artillery fire, but the Division succeeded in taking two areas of German high ground. Looking back Roy reflects, “One of my very first nights over there I remember climbing to the top of a mount and looking down around us. You could see for some distance where all of the trenches from the first World War had been



filled with dirt and were sunken in. We threw our raincoats on the ground in what was left of the trenches and tried to sleep.”

After the liberation of Nancy, the officers left to celebrate and Roy remembers walking through the city. Roy described, “Some officers were excellent, some didn’t know what they were doing, but everyone was happy when the fighting stopped! I found a bakery and bought a loaf of bread. I sat down to eat it outside and a young French boy sat next to me. I split the loaf with him and we both ate it hungrily.” He continued, “the next day I went back and bought two loaves. The boy was there again and I gave him the second loaf. He took me back to his home where his mother was and she offered me wine. We didn’t speak the same language, but after all that happened we could relate.” Roy returned home in 1945, but remembers some of the effects that battle had on him and his friends. “I was in New York with some other G.I.s and a car backfired on the street. Every single one of us hit the pavement,” stated Roy.

After coming back to Erie, Roy found a job as a Union Iron Worker and helped to build what is now the Erie VA Medical Center. He would also travel around the area, salvaging tanks and other materials to be used for projects elsewhere. For fun he enjoyed baseball and playing golf. Now 93 years old, Roy says it was his youth that really got him through. Roy concluded, “A lot of men went through worse than I did and we didn’t have the help mentally at that time. Luckily I was young, resilient and could recover. But as with everything, I always try to make the best of what I have.”



Dick McLaughlin

Dick and his wife moved into Saint Mary's four years ago. Dick has called Erie his hometown his entire life. He graduated from Academy High School in June of 1944 and the following October, at 18 years old, was drafted into the Navy. He took his physical and entrance tests at the Erie Armory, which has since been bought out by Erie Insurance. Although he had never originally planned on joining the military, Dick recalls his service with a positive attitude.

"I was very fortunate to never have seen any serious action. When I eventually got transferred to Guam, they had just declared the Armistice so things were settling down," Dick explained. At basic training, Dick found a fellow friend from Erie and working together they got pulled at times to help with post office work. "I got out of most of the drilling, which probably would have done me good! It really was survival of the fittest." He continued, "There was always mail coming and going, but you couldn't write much detail for fear it could get intercepted." The Navy sent Dick to Sonar School in Key West, Florida before heading to San Diego, California to be shipped out. At Sonar School, he learned about sonar techniques and equipment, as well as anti-submarine warfare. After training, he was on his way across the country and across the ocean to Guam. Although his father had served in the Army in World War I, his parents, like most, were a combination of proud and worried.

Dick served on the USS Otterstetter, which was built primarily for use as a destroyer escort providing protection against submarine and air attacks for Navy vessels and

convoys. "There were certain things you had to get used to including getting seasick. But the only time that ever really happened to me was on the smaller transfer boats. The waves would come and the boat would sway pretty badly," Dick said. Guam was also hot and humid, a much different climate than where he and some of the other men had come from. The other

adjustment Dick found hard was being alone. "It was very lonesome at times, everybody felt that way. I remember during the holidays the song *"I'll Be Home For Christmas"* played and it was the first Christmas I didn't spend at home with my family. That got me sad," Dick recalled. Two years later in 1946, Dick was discharged from the Navy and travelled back to South Carolina and then to Maryland. "At 18 you don't appreciate it because you're young, but we did get to see a lot of new places, even if it was just a quick stop."

Once he returned to Erie, Dick was eligible for the G.I. Bill, which provides educational assistance to service members and veterans. He took advantage of it and attended Gannon University, where he graduated with his Bachelor's Degree. Looking back Dick observes, "It was definitely a life experience. Like I said, a lot of people saw a lot more than I did. I think I'm lucky."



AROUND OUR HOME...

Saint Mary's East Bonnet Parade

The Residents at Saint Mary's East kicked off Easter celebrations with a campus wide Easter Bonnet Parade on April 5th. Employees and Residents designed and decorated Easter themed bonnets and hats for the parade. There were even some vintage costumes provided through the Erie Playhouse. The parade was featured in the April McKnight Senior Living News Digital Briefing.



Afternoon at the Movies

Residents and volunteers from Asbury Ridge recently went to Tinseltown to enjoy "Beauty and the Beast." Saint Mary's Residents are able to enjoy many of the Erie areas amenities thanks to a great Activity Department and dedicated volunteers, the Friends of Saint Mary's.



Cinco de Mayo

Adult Day Services held a fiesta to celebrate Cinco de Mayo on May 5th. They feasted on Mexican themed foods such as Chicken Tortilla Soup while listening to festive music and wearing straw hats in celebration.

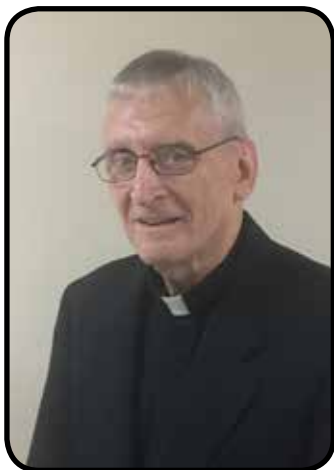


Friends of Saint Mary's

Pictured, back row, left to right, are Audrey Urban, Asbury Ridge Administrator; Cheryl Truett, East Administrator; and Diane Lutz, East Activities Director. Pictured, front row, left to right, are Hon Ying Li Fung, Volunteer; Nancy Lacey, Volunteer; and Patricia Cooney, Volunteer.

Thank you to the 102 volunteers, the Friends of Saint Mary's, who gave of themselves for a total of 5,433 hours throughout 2016!!! Their dedication and commitment helped provide the Residents at Saint Mary's more activities, socialization and companionship. Receiving special recognition this year were the following "Friends" who reached 100 hours of volunteer service: Patricia Cooney, Hon Ying Li Fung, Kathy Hagedorn, Nancy Lacey, Joann Rupp and Mary Ann Tempestini.

Happy Anniversaries



Monsignor Joseph Wardanski, who recently retired as the Chaplin at Saint Mary's East, celebrated his 50th Jubilee on May 27th! Congratulations Monsignor Wardanski and thank you for your years of service at Saint Mary's.



Pictured above, left, Monsignor Henry Schauerman, Saint Mary's East Resident, who celebrated 66 years of priesthood on Wednesday, May 3rd. He was the celebrant of morning Mass at Saint Mary's East along side of Father Bill Sutherland, Saint Mary's East Chaplin. Another big anniversary came a few weeks later. On Saturday, May 20th, Father Bill Sutherland, celebrated 34 years of priesthood. Congratulations to both Monsignor Schauerman and Father Sutherland!



Couple Renews Wedding Vows

Donald and Virginia Waltz renewed their wedding vows at Saint Mary's East in celebration of their 48th wedding anniversary on May 16th. They enjoyed coffee and donuts afterwards as they celebrated with their friends. Congratulations Mr. and Mrs. Waltz!

Birthday Celebrations!



Lillie Herberlein, Saint Mary's East, celebrated her 100th Birthday on April 9th with family and friends. Congratulations Lillie!

Pictured, left to right, are Lillie Heberlein, Karen Balallo, Jeffrey Kuhn, Dana Heberlein and Janet Heberlein.



Marian Eisert, Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge, turned 105 on May 15th. A celebration was held with family, friends and music. Congratulations Marian!

Pictured center is Marian Eisert. Pictured standing, left to right, are M.L. Laird, Mary and Richard Eisert and Kathy Sechrist.



Maria Henry, Saint Mary's East, celebrated her 100th Birthday on April 14th with many family members and friends in the Gallagher Center. Congratulations Maria!

Pictured standing, left to right, are Elizabeth Colfelt, Dianne McClure, Theresa Carneval and Sheirre Reaver. Pictured front row, left to right, are Maria Henry, Bobby Carneval and Virginia Carneval.

I hope everyone who reads this issue of the Mirror enjoys our Red, White and Blue service theme. Our residents shared some really amazing stories about their service, both overseas and through their work at home. Most of the Residents at Saint Mary's were all influenced one way or another by many of the conflicts and wars throughout our history. It is now our privilege at Saint Mary's to serve and honor them.

The service theme also continues into the celebration of those employees who received Saint Mary's Service Awards. This year's group represents those celebrating 5 years of service all the way up to 40 years of service! And speaking of service, we had an amazing 102 volunteers, the Friends of Saint Mary's, this year. Thank you for your commitment to our Mission of "Loving to Care!"

Our service continues at Saint Mary's as we look ahead to the Saint Mary's Follies which is being held at the Bayfront Convention Center on Thursday, September 14, 2017. This important, yet fun and inspiring event, raises money for Saint Mary's Benevolent Care Program. Please call 814-451-1316 if you would like more information on the event or if you would like to consider sponsoring it. A donation of any size makes a big difference for the Saint Mary's Residents who qualify for Benevolent Care. I want to thank all of our major Sponsors listed below for their support this year. We could not do this without you.

Anthony Allegretto

Anthony Allegretto

Director of Marketing and Development



2017 Major Sponsors



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Employee Service Awards

The Saint Mary's Home of Erie Employee Service Award Recognition Dinner was held at the Erie Maennerchor Club on May 17th. This annual event is a way that Saint Mary's honors their employees who are celebrating milestone years of service at Saint Mary's East and Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge. Below and on the pages that follow are this year's honorees:

40 and 35 Years of Service



Left to right: Linda Barnes (40) and Carol Mills (40)
Not pictured: Sherry Pursell (35)

30 Years of Service



Left to right: Sandra Guerrein, Cheryl Truett and
Lisa DiGello.
Not pictured: Karen Shrum

25 Years of Service



Back row, left to right: Maura Pelinsky, Amy Erdely and
Sharon Furiesz.
Front row, left to right: Carrie Argeny and Barbara Chaney.
Not pictured: Shelley McKane.

20 Years of Service



Left to right: Jon Spellman, Marian Husted, Maxine Hubbard
and Margaret Moore.
Not pictured: Nancy Boyer.

15 Years of Service

Back row, left to right: Mandy Mabie, Barbara Elliott, Diane Lutz and Matthew Tighe.

Front row, left to right: Debra Saltsman and Debra Greenwald.

Not pictured: Mirjana Lazerevic, Alison Halter, Mary Yetter, Leroy Kehm and Cynthia Stone.



10 Years of Service



Back row, left to right: Margaret Lombardi, Tiernea Hillard, Kimberley Perschka, Bruce Meyer, Steven Bernhardt and Robert Miles.

Front row: Marcia Lindner and Sister M. Helen Forney, SSJ.

Not pictured: Donna Letto, Felecia Orteza, Gina Cassarino-Hill, Yolanda Jefferson, John Pursell, Galina Gidenko, Shelley Weber, Dave Brainard and Dawn Giglio.

5 Years of Service



Back row, left to right: Ellen Bissell, Gina Brown, Lisa Donikowski, Roberta Kalata, Joseph Moorhouse and Jessica Kremer.

Middle row: Kenya Morgan, Delvonna Manus, Samantha Dunar, Frank Albrecht, Casey Evans and David Godoy.

Frontrow: left to right: Abbey Mihalak and Deyna Kohler.

Not pictured: Elayne Morphy, Kayla Brooks, Daniel Farley, Christy Mann, Melissa Thayer, Theresa Misterovich, Walter Love, Heather Shauberger, Patricia Preston, Philomena Rogers, Danielle Thomas, Pamela Crane, Leemar Jones and Dora Manson.



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- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
 - o Qualified sign language interpreters
 - o Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - o Qualified interpreters
 - o Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact the Social Services Department by calling Saint Mary's East at 814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge at 814-836-5300. If the Social Services Department is not available (after hours, weekends, holidays), the Nursing Supervisor on call will assist.

If you believe that Saint Mary's Home of Erie has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with the Corporate Compliance / HIPAA Officer, Risk Manager; by mail: 607 East 26th Street, Erie, PA 16504; by calling 814-459-0621; by faxing to 814-454-0909 or by e-mail at compliance@stmaryshome.org. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax or e-mail. If you need help filing a grievance, the Corporate Compliance / HIPAA Officer, Risk Manager, is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf> or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
Washington, D.C. 20201
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)
Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

ATTENTION: If you speak a language other than English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you.

Call Saint Mary's East at 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge at 1-814-836-5300.

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Deutsch (German) - **ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: Saint Mary's East 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge 1-814-836-5300.

ગુજરાતી (Gujarati) - **સુચના:** જો તમે ગુજરાતી બોલતા હો, તો નિ:શુલ્ક ભાષા સહાય સેવાઓ તમારા માટે ઉપલબ્ધ છે. ફોન કરો Saint Mary's East 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge 1-814-836-5300.

Polski (Polish) - **UWAGA:** Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer Saint Mary's East 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge 1-814-836-5300.

Kreyòl Ayisyen (French Creole) - **ATANSYON:** Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sèvis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele Saint Mary's East 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge 1-814-836-5300.

ខ្មែរ (Mon-Khmer, Cambodian) - **ព្រះជន្ម:** បើសិនជាអ្នកនិយាយ ភាសាខ្មែរ, មានជំនួយភាសា ដោយឥតគិតថ្លៃ ដែលអាចជួយអ្នកបាន។ ទូរស័ព្ទ Saint Mary's East 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge 1-814-836-5300.

Português (Portuguese) - **ATENÇÃO:** Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para Saint Mary's East 1-814-459-0621 or Saint Mary's at Asbury Ridge 1-814-836-5300.



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