

# THE CHILDREN'S CENTER NEWS

www.alchildrenscenter.org

"A Place To Learn & Grow"

WINTER 2019

## THE CHILDREN'S CENTER IS 50!



The Children's Center is celebrating their 50th Anniversary. In the fall of 1969 The Albert Lea Community Child Care Center, Inc. opened its doors

for 20 children. A concerned group of volunteers noted the need for child care. In response to a survey conducted at the Skyline Mall in February 1969, 62% interviewed stated they would use a child care center. The community based Board of Directors then founded the Center. The Albert Lea Community Child Care Center opened its doors at Christ Episcopal Church on September 2, 1969.

The Albert Lea Community Child Care Center, now called The Children's Center has 2 separate locations in Albert Lea. An idea sparked five decades ago, is now a successful and very unique reality for nearly 200 children in our community every year. Dedicated staff, Board members and volunteers are *responsible*

for the Center's on-going viability. Children are our *reason*.

*\*\*taken from Parent Handbook for The Children's Center, page 1\*\**

We will be having a special celebration later this year. Be watching for details.

### LOOKING AHEAD



**Days The Children's Center is Closed**

**The Summer of 2019**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

MAY 27 (MON) Memorial Day

JUL 4 (THU) Independence Day

SEP 2 (MON) Labor Day

We will also be closed an additional day this summer for a staff preparation day.

That day will be determined based on the Albert Lea Area Schools 2019-2020 start date. We will let you know once we have that information.

### 2018 YEAR END TOTALS

The 2018 year end totals were emailed to everyone on January 9th. If you did not receive them or need a hard copy, please contact Brenda at 373-7979 or [bleed@alchildrenscenter.org](mailto:bleed@alchildrenscenter.org).

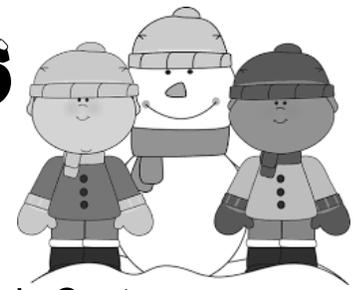
*Thank you.*



**WISHING TREES:** Thank you to all of our families that donated items to put under our special wishing trees this past Christmas. The children always have such a fun time opening the gifts for their classrooms. We are overwhelmed by your generosity and continued support of our program. **THANK YOU!**



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- February 14 Happy Valentine's Day
- February 18 President's Day
- February 25 - March 11 Butter Braid Sales
- March 28 Butter Braid Delivery Day
- April 8 - 18 Spring Conferences for The Children's Center

## PREVENTING THE FLU: GOOD HEALTH HABITS CAN HELP

The single best way to prevent seasonal flu is to get vaccinated each year, but good health habits like covering your cough and washing your hands often can help stop the spread of germs and prevent respiratory illnesses like the flu. There also are flu antiviral drugs that can be used to treat and prevent flu. The tips and resources below will help you learn about steps you can take to protect yourself and others from flu and help stop the spread of germs.

- 1. Avoid close contact.**  
Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- 2. Stay home when you are sick.**  
If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. This will help prevent spreading your illness to others.
- 3. Cover your mouth and nose.**  
Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick. Flu and other serious respiratory illnesses, like respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), whooping cough, and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), are spread by cough, sneezing, or unclean hands.
- 4. Clean your hands.**  
Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand rub.
- 5. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.**  
Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- 6. Practice other good health habits.**  
Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at home, work or school, especially

when someone is ill. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

*\*\*information taken from [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)\*\**

**\*\*NOTE\*\*** If a child returns to The Children's Center before they are well enough to participate in our normal daily activities, they may be sent home.

Also, when a child has had fever, diarrhea or vomiting, they need to be symptom free for 24 hours before they can return.

For more information regarding the health policies of The Children's Center, check out our Parent Handbook (p. 13-15).

The Parent Handbook is available on our website ([www.alchildrenscenter.org](http://www.alchildrenscenter.org)) or you may request a copy at anytime.

Just call 507-373-7979.

*May you all enjoy a happy and healthy winter.*

## BUTTER BRAID FUNDRAISER

**Start Selling** - Monday, February 25th

**Order Deadline** - Monday March 11th

**Delivery Day** - Thursday, March 28th



The proceeds from this fundraiser will go toward programming expenses.  
Thank you for your support.