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Carol Larson	<i>Executive Director</i>
Bill Lenschow	Stephen Cichy
Bernie Looney	
Dave Louis	
Karen Manning	

Calendar of Events

Upcoming Events

Thurs., Oct. 3, 1 pm: "Behind the Lyons" an Art Insights program presented by volunteers of the Chicago Art Institute.
Sat., Oct. 12, 10 am - 2 pm: 3rd Annual Art and Craft Fest at Oak Crest
Tues., Nov. 5, 10 am - 2 pm: Mini Bazaar
Sun., Dec. 1, 7 pm: Candlelight Worship Service
Sun., Dec. 8, 1 - 4:30 pm: "A Musical Christmas", 19th Annual Christmas Tree walk and Open House

Excursions

Wed., Oct. 2: Brew-Up Some Fun, Milwaukee, WI
Fri., Oct. 4: Door County Autumn Foliage
Sun., Oct. 13: OTELLO, Lyric Opera
Sun.-Fri., Nov. 3-8: Biltmore Estate & Ashville, NC
Thurs., Nov. 14-18: Branson Holiday Shows
Wed., Nov. 13: WICKED, Oriental Theater
Sat., Dec. 7-10: Christmas at the Galt House & Opryland
February 6-16, 2014: Hawaiian Island Cruise & Tour
April 29-May 11, 2014: D-Day 70th Anniversary Cruise

Please contact Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator at (815)756-8461 or jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org

Save The Date

Saturday, October 12th
Arts & Crafts Fest at Oak Crest
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Return Service Requested

2944 Greenwood Acres Drive
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115

DEKALB AREA RETIREMENT CENTER



Non Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage PAID
 Rockford, Illinois
 PERMIT NO. 2495



The Door Opens In Welcome



Top to bottom:

Alice Keasler – Geneva, IL
 Lou Ann Benson – Shabbona, IL
 Dee Roach – DeKalb, IL
 Carol & James Shawl – DeKalb, IL

News of Interest to the Oak Crest Community and Friends

Fall 2013 • Volume 34 • Number 3

Good Samaritan Named

Since 1977 it has been a tradition for the DeKalb Area Retirement Center- Oak Crest to name a community Good Samaritan. A Good Samaritan is a person who cares for others beyond the normal compassion of most people; a person who actively participates in various community organizations and combines community service with personal caring; a person who works quietly to better the lives of others. Over the year's outstanding individuals have been selected for this very special award. This year Oak Crest residents, Trustees, and friends met for a very special dinner in the Oak Crest Terrace Dining room for this year's special award presentation.



Jack Goodrich pictured with Executive Director Stephen Cichy and Board President Tim Dunlop

Following the Opening Comments made by Stephen Cichy, Oak Crest's Executive Director, a very meaningful Keynote Address was given by Pastor Joe Gastiger of the First Congregational United Church of Christ in DeKalb. Oak Crest Board President Tim Dunlop made the presentation of the 2013 Good Samaritan award to Jack Goodrich.

Having spent most of his adult life in service to this community, Jack Goodrich personifies the Good Samaritan. Many organizations have benefited from his time and talents. Our very own Oak Crest community benefitted from Jack's involvement when he served as a member of the Oak Crest Board of Trustees and later as the Oak Crest Board President. Today, he continues to volunteer during special events and programs

and most recently accepted the role of chair of the Leadership Initiative during this year's accreditation renewal. Always one to recognize a need and then work to see that the need is met, Jack is an active member of the DeKalb United Methodist Church where he participates in council, choir and serves on a variety of committees. He embraces his faith and lives a life of service to others by planning and participating in mission trips at the Red Bird Mission Work Camp in KY.

After a long career in the agriculture, Jack remains active with the local 4-H chapter and works with young people interested in the field. Additionally, he uses his time and talents in support of many civic organizations and agencies. As an active member and participant, Jack continues to serve the community through his work with the Kishwaukee Kiwanis Club. The preceding are just some of the many ways Jack has contributed to his community. His energy, enthusiasm and interest in the world and his community seem boundless. He is an invaluable asset to the many organizations benefitting from his support. Those who have had the privilege to work with Jack in his many volunteer roles would describe him as unassuming, generous, and supportive. Those of us you who know him well and who call him friend would also tell you that his love for his wonderful wife, Marcia, their three children, numerous grandchildren and his friends and neighbors is genuine. Jack Goodrich truly is a Good Samaritan and is most deserving of this honor.

Dear Friends,

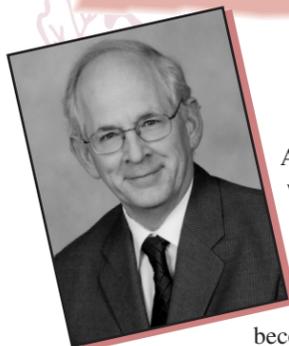
As chairperson of the Community Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who graciously continue to support the Good Samaritan Fund.

This year, in support of those individuals who have outlived their financial resources, the Circle of Care Campaign has generated nearly \$58,000 in cash contributions and pledges! If you have not already made your contribution, please consider it now. We look forward to hearing from you.

Truly, it is through your continued generosity and support that Oak Crest's commitment of quality care and services continues

Many thanks,
Mary Jo McAdams
Community Relations

From The Executive Director



As I write this my wife and I are awaiting the birth of our first grandchild. To say we are thrilled at the prospect of becoming grandparents would be an understatement. After all many of our friends have grandchildren and after raising two active boys, seeing them through the ups and downs of childhood, college tuition and first jobs grandchildren seem like a great reward. Our car will be the one with the bumper sticker that reads, "If we knew grandkids were this much fun, we would have had them first."

These milestones in our lives are cause for great celebration and reflection. It really does seem like just yesterday we were starting out our lives with college tuitions, first jobs and a new family. Before long we'll be grandparents and starting a new chapter in our lives. All of this got me thinking about my own life and the rewards that come with maturity.

I have often heard people refer to Oak Crest as the greatest gift they ever gave themselves and their families. One resident said when she and her husband made the decision to move to Oak Crest they called their children and shared the good news saying, "We just got you a great gift. We're moving to Oak Crest." To which her son replied, "Thank you. This is the best gift ever." Other people still think Oak Crest is out of their reach. A couple

of years ago I heard a daughter say to her mother, "Mom, Oak Crest is what you and Dad worked for and you deserve this." For both of these individuals and for the many people who call Oak Crest home this is a shared sentiment. Oak Crest is a reward for a job well done. It means that all your hard work, planning and saving for tomorrow is realized when you move into an environment that encourages independence and offers all the opportunities for a better quality of life.

The beauty of Oak Crest is that everything you need is under one roof. Our full continuum of services allows people to live independently with the assurance that assistance and care will be available and provided in an environment and community they call home. All too often in long-term care, we see the unexpected put someone in a position where their life choices are limited by their health.

With wonderful accommodations, great amenities and caring staff Oak Crest takes the worry out of retirement and provides peace of mind. When all is said and done what greater reward could there be?

If you have any questions or would like to know more about choices to fit your lifestyle call today (815)756-8461

Stephen P. Cichy

Stephen P. Cichy
Executive Director

\$10,500 In Employee Scholarships Awarded

In 2006 the Oak Crest Employee scholarship program began with a generous gift from the estate of Jack Boyle. Jack Boyle, a former Oak Crest resident and supporter of the Oak Crest community saw an opportunity to create a legacy for future generations. The legacy took the form of an employee scholarship that would assist recipients in defraying the costs of tuition, fees, and textbooks. The scholarship was established to encourage and assist employees and their dependents in the pursuit of an undergraduate degree or equivalent program of study. To be eligible, employees must work a minimum of two years and have worked a minimum of 1,000 hours each of the last two years. Applicants must demonstrate acceptance into an accredited undergraduate college or program of study prior to final approval. The scholarship program is overseen by the Community Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees. They are charged with the review and selection of candidates and four deserving candidates were selected;



Kenny McNamara was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. Kenny is the daughter of Food Service Employee Lorli McNamara and began her journey at Oak Crest by volunteering her time in a variety of roles in the Resident Services Department. She is currently employed as a Resident Services Assistant. Kenny is a student at Kishwaukee College majoring in business and is also a full-time student at Debutantes school of cosmetology. Kenny said in her scholarship application, "The support received from this scholarship will enable me to be the best I can be."

Paige Lehman received a scholarship in the amount of \$2,000. Paige is attending NIU and will be a senior this fall. She intends to graduate as a Textiles, Apparel and Merchandising major. Paige worked for the Center for more than four years before she moved on to complete an internship in Chicago. During the scholarship application process, Paige said,

"These resources will make continuing my college experience possible."



Karly Zucker was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$2,500. Karly is the daughter of Resident Services Assistant Jean Zucker. Karly is a student at Augustana College where she is majoring in Sociology and Communication studies with a minor in Psychology. Karly's dream is to attain a Master's degree and work with young children. While attending school, Karly works part-time, volunteers and recently completed an internship with the Quad Cities Child Abuse Council. Karly stated in her application, "If awarded this scholarship I will be able to fulfill my lifelong dream of helping children through the ups and downs of their lives."



Nicole O'Donnell is the recipient of a \$5,000 scholarship. Nicole has been employed in the dietary department here at Oak Crest since June of 2007. She is currently enrolled at Kishwaukee College and will complete the Radiological Technology program in May of 2014. She hopes to pursue a Bachelor's degree while working as a radiological technician. Nicole stated in her application, "With my education I will be able to give back to those who have given to me."

The Board of Trustees, residents and staff congratulates these individuals on their achievements and wish them well in their future endeavors. Donations to the Center are tax deductible and more importantly provide the donor an opportunity to truly impact the lives of others. For additional information about creating Legacy of Giving contact the Center at (815)756-8461 or e-mail lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekab.org

Christmas Tree Walk

The Christmas Tree Walk and Open House is scheduled for Sunday, December 8, 1-4:30 p.m. The Christmas Season is a very special time at Oak Crest as we decorate and prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ. Decorating begins the week of November 10th and volunteer help is welcome anytime during the weeks following. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator at (815)756-8461.

OSHA Recognition

The field of long-term care and services is one of the highest regulated fields in the nation. Ten years ago Oak Crest explored the possibility of entering a voluntary program offered through OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration). The SHARP (Safety Health Awareness and Recognition Program) encourages communication and cooperation between businesses and the state. The purpose is to improve the overall safety policies, procedures and practices in an industry often plagued with health related accidents and injuries. A multi-faceted process, the program when successfully completed would result in certification as a SHARP community.

To retain OSHA/SHARP certification a renewal process must be completed every three years. OSHA representatives again visited the Center and through the efforts of a dedicated staff Oak Crest has once again received OSHA/SHARP recognition. This makes Oak Crest one of twenty-four businesses in the state and the first and only continuing care retirement community to receive this recognition.

The Director of the Illinois OSHA Program explained during the presentation ceremony,

Arts & Crafts Fest

Mark your calendars and join your friends for the 3rd annual Oak Crest Arts & Crafts Fest and lunch planned for Saturday, October 12th. This fest ushers in the activities of autumn and serves as a fund raiser to benefit the Oak Crest Good Samaritan Fund. This fund assists residents who have outlived their financial resources. Each week residents and volunteers have been busy creating various crafts for this special event. Local community crafters and artists will also be featured and this is the perfect time to do some early holiday shopping or pick up that one of a kind gift. The Fest will feature original artwork, quilts, jewelry, wood crafts, seasonal decorations, and much more. To satisfy your sweet tooth Fest attendees won't want to miss out on the Bake Sale featuring homemade goodies of every type.

After spending a morning browsing the craft offerings and touring the lovely apartment homes purchase a ticket and enjoy an all you can eat buffet in the lovely Terrace Dining Room or enjoy a more casual fare in Oak Crest's own Café de Feuille de Chene.

Volunteers, crafters and artists are encouraged to contact Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator at (815)756-8461 or jlaurer@oakcrestdekab.org

OSHA continued...

"Oak Crest received SHARP certification due to the dedication and commitment of the company in providing a safe workplace, as well as the participation of the employees who make it happen. I want to commend Oak Crest leadership and staff in going the extra mile in making this one of the safest places to work." Oak Crest Executive Director, Stephen Cichy said, "Oak Crest is known for many things. Perhaps, most importantly we are best known for our commitment to the people who live and work here. OSHA/SHARP certification confirms and supports this. Here at Oak Crest we put people's safety and well-being above all else."