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Lincoln Highway Coast to Coast

A special thanks to Kay Shelton, national vice president of the Lincoln Highway Association and a director of the Illinois chapter for making the latest Oak Crest travelogue series a roaring success. Kay has spent many Monday evenings here at Oak Crest sharing her interest and love of Lincoln Highway. Residents, family and friends are enjoying a nostalgic trip down memory lane that features the sights, sounds and flavors of a different state along the way.

Calendar of Events

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Sun. Dec 4 7pm 3rd Annual Candlelight Service
 Sun. Dec 11 1-4pm Christmas Tree Walk and Open House
 "A Christmas Homecoming"
 Sat. Dec 24 4pm Christmas Eve Church Service
 Tues. Jan 3 2pm Oak Crest Residents Service of Remembrance
 Sun. Jan 15 2pm Rayitos del Sol Dancers

Mon. Jan 16 - February 1
 Middle School Essay Entries Deadline
 "The Adult I Would Like to Be"

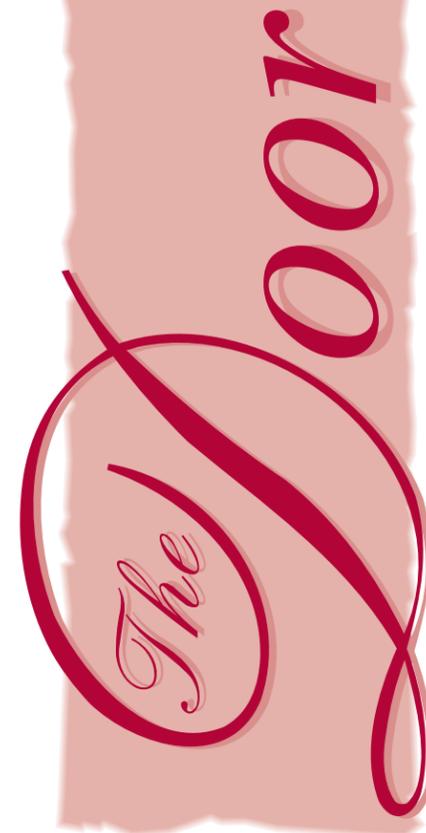
Return Service Requested

DeKalb, Illinois 60115
 2944 Greenwood Acres Drive

DEKALB AREA RETIREMENT CENTER



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 PERMIT NO. 2495



*The Door Opens
 In Welcome*

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Top to bottom:

Willard Dobbeck - DeKalb, IL
 Betty & Wil Reagan - Mt, Morris, IL
 Otta & Allyn Ritzman - DeKalb, IL
 Marilyn Thompson - DeKalb, IL

News of Interest to the Oak Crest Community and Friends

Winter 2011 • Volume 32 • Number 4

Annual Christmas Tree Walk & Open House

"Christmas Presence" is the theme for the 17th Annual Christmas Tree Walk and Open House planned for Sunday, December 11th, 1- 4:00 p.m. The public is invited to join Oak Crest residents, families and friends to usher in the Christmas season. Come and enjoy beautiful trees, sumptuous refreshments, apartment tours and seasonal entertainment featuring the DeKalb High School Madrigal Singers at 1:30 p.m. followed by the Westminster Presbyterian Church Men's Ensemble at 2:30 p.m. and at 3:00 p.m. Christmas Music with John Campen and Friends.

Christmas is the perfect time to celebrate the season. For many it also is a time for reconnecting with friends old and new alike. Again this year the Oak Crest campus will be the perfect place to gather, reminisce and reflect on the splendor of Christmas. Christmas carols will fill the air and everyone will gather around festive tables laden with holiday goodies and traditional Christmas fare.

Keeping to the theme, visitors strolling through the building will enjoy beautiful trees featuring the presence of Christmas. Guests entering the Main Entrance will experience a tree of sparkling stars reminding us of the starry, starry night when Jesus was born. A tree filled with Christmas cardinal's in the Atrium will be waiting to dazzle visitors in a

display of red and crystal. Sweet strains of Christmas music will fill the Chapel and visitors may pause to reflect on the true meaning of the season as they view a tree featuring symbols of Christmas. Visitors journeying through Oak Crest can enjoy these trees while taking in the other twenty-seven individually designed and decorated trees.

No Oak Crest Christmas would be complete without a trip to the North Pole and a visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus. Parents and grandparents will have the opportunity to listen in on whispered wishes and to capture the moment with a picture or two. The aroma of gingerbread and sugar cookies will waft through the air.

Our own Oak Crest bakers will have been busy baking Christmas goodies and sweets to tantalize visitors. Enjoy a snack reminiscent of childhood and home.

The Oak Crest King and Queen, Barry & Kay Schrader will be on hand to greet guests in the Vista Room where you are invited to enjoy a delicious holiday sweets buffet and a variety of entertainment.

No matter where you go or where you've been there really is no sweeter place than home. Welcome the presence of Christmas in your hearts and kick off the season here at Oak Crest.

Mark your calendar and join your family and friends and make a Christmas at Oak Crest one of your favorite holiday traditions.



Silver Acorns

Over the years you may have noticed that a few residents, staff and friends are sporting acorn lapel pins. These pins signify their participation in the Oak Crest Silver Acorn program. The program began in 2005 to recognize those individuals contributing \$2500 or more to the Annual Circle of Care Campaign. Each year, Silver Acorn members are acknowledged at a luncheon attended by staff and Board Committee members. This year's luncheon was a great success and provided an opportunity to thank donors for their continued support. For additional information concerning the Circle of Care Campaign or to become a member of the Silver Acorns please contact Liz Hoppenworth, Director of Resident Services at (815)756-8461.

2011 Silver Acorn Members: Beatrice Bue, Stephen & Evelina Cichy, Janice Docherty & Joyce Serafin, Harold Engh, Elizabeth & Joel Hoppenworth and Richard & Jeanne Tyska

From The Executive Director

For the past twenty-six years I have taken this opportunity to thank all of you who make this an organization of which to be proud. For your willingness to serve the organization and support our mission of service in the form of countless hours of volunteering and giving I say thank you. With your ongoing support Oak Crest continues to provide quality services and care that the community has come to expect. I also would like to take this opportunity to remind our many family and friends near and far of the important role charitable giving plays in the success of Oak Crest. Thorough the generosity of local organizations and individuals the Center continues to grow and is recognized as one of the top life care communities in the field of long-term care and services.

I am sure as we near the end of 2011 you will be inundated with appeals from a variety of charities. For many organizations, tax savings is a primary incentive and the theme of many of these appeals. As a not-for-profit organization we too recognize the tax saving advantages to the donor. However, besides these obvious advantages we find people give to Oak Crest because they support and believe in the

organization's mission, vision and values and in a very individual way wish to make a difference.

Gifts to the Center may be cash contributions, securities, tangible property, and real estate. Each offers a varying degree of tax advantages to the donor and at the same time provides important financial support to Oak Crest. We all know someone who has touched our lives whether a family member, friend or business associate Oak Crest offers a wonderful opportunity to pay tribute to those who continue to enrich our lives. Donations to the Center may be recognized with a plaque identifying the donor or may be inscribed with the name of a dear friend or family member. Gifts to the Center are always appreciated, but to take advantage of the tax savings for this year contributions must be made by December 31, 2011.

For more information on giving please feel free to contact me.



Stephen P. Cichy
Executive Director

Perspectives

Whether we like it or not winter will soon be upon us and each day I am reminded how much in life really is out of our control. Every morning I wake up



and check the weather to see what the day will bring. How often do you run into someone and you spend the first few minutes talking about the weather? Funny. Unlike the weather, where and when we retire is totally within our control and yet most of us don't spend time discussing or planning for it. This is where Oak Crest can assist you. Our knowledgeable staff is available to discuss retirement options and can provide you with the necessary information to assist you in

making the decision that is right for you. As a continuing care retirement community, we offer the most comprehensive range of accommodations, amenities and services. Our goal is to enhance independence, while providing the peace of mind that comes from knowing any future needs can be accommodated on site. Our apartment and duplex homes are spacious and comfortable. Just think, gone are the worries of home maintenance and our services and amenities are second to none. As a result, people who plan ahead and choose Oak Crest have more time and freedom to enjoy favorite activities, travel, visit family and friends, and experience all that the community has to offer. To learn more about retirement community living or to arrange a personal tour, please visit us at www.oakcrestdekalb.org or call (815)756-8461.

*Pictured upper left: Liz Hoppenworth
Director of Residence Services,*

A Resolution You Can Keep

It's that time of year to start making those New Year's resolutions. If you have been thinking about volunteering, why not think about experiencing volunteering the Oak Crest way? Whatever your interests, we have a program that is right for you. At Oak Crest your time and effort is always appreciated. We offer you the

opportunity to become involved, so you can feel the fulfillment that comes from giving to others. Come and experience rich and rewarding memories in the making. For more information on volunteering contact Joan Launer.

Phone:
(815)756-8461
Email:
jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org

Christmas Message

Christmas is a time to reflect and connect. What better time to gather together and rejoice in the wonderful gifts bestowed on each and every one of us. It is also the perfect time to gather together with our loved ones and rejoice in the miracle of Christ's birth. Of all those who are part of this season of joy, there is none more warmly thought of and remembered than you. From our home to yours we wish you a Merry Christmas and a New Year filled with God's love and blessings.

Veteran's Day Salute

Residents, staff and friends gathered this past Veterans' Day to recognize and honor fifty-five Oak Crest veterans. The morning started off with a Veterans Day continental breakfast and concluded with a Service honoring the many veterans who sacrificed so much for so many. Sally Stevens coordinated and conducted the program. She shared a collection of meaningful tributes and attendees enjoyed the musical talents of Robert Stroud and Oscar Haugland. DeKalb Boy Scout Troop 33 presented the colors and joined residents, friends, and family for the Pledge of Allegiance. The program concluded after each veteran was thanked for their years of service and presented with a red, white and blue flag pin.

Tea

The Oak Crest Fall Fashion Show & Tea was deemed a great success. Residents, family and friends enjoyed an afternoon of fall fashion, a sumptuous dessert and fellowship. A special thanks to the lovely Oak Crest models who walked the runway and featured a number of stylish outfits. After the show, attendees had the opportunity to browse and shop through a large selection of clothes and accessories in one convenient setting.



Excursions

"Tribute to Tuxedo Singers"
Starved Rock, Ottawa
Tuesday, Dec. 6th
(Cost \$56.00)

"The Sound of Music"
Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace
A Christmas Buffet Dinner
Wednesday, Dec. 21st
(Cost \$79.00)

Around the World Travelogue Series

European Adventure
Monday, January 2, 7:00 p.m.

Rio de Janeiro to Santiago
Monday, January 16, 7:00p.m.

Island Adventure
Monday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.

Norway
Monday, February 20, 7:00p.m.

Castles, Palaces and Wines of Europe:

Monday, March 5, 7:00 p.m.
Monday, March 19, 7:00 p.m.