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Mary Jo McAdams	Stephen Cichy

# Calendar of Events

## Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 12, 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Toby Comfort Shoes  
 Tuesday, September 12, 2:00 p.m. "Heart Health" Class with Ann Lehan  
 Saturday, September 23, 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 7th Annual Arts and Craft Fest  
 Saturday, October 21, 2:00 p.m. "Volunteers Wear Many Hats" Fall Tea  
 Tuesday, October 24, 2:00 p.m. "Celebrations" — Chicago Art Institute  
 Tuesday, November 7, 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Holiday Shopping Day  
 Sunday, December 10, 23rd Annual Christmas Tree Walk & Open House

## Trips and Excursions

Wednesday, September 27 ELVIS LIVES - Fireside  
 Tuesday, October 17 Chicago History Tour Featuring: Chicago Pedway  
 November 6-11 Smoky Mountain Holiday Shows  
 December 7-9 Amish Country Christmas & Blue Gate Theater  
 February 15 – 26 Panama Canal Cruise – Tour

*For information Contact Joan Launer at (815)756-8461 or  
 jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org.*

### Our Mission

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 The DeKalb Area Retirement Center is a faith based not-for-profit community serving people 62 years and older through a continuum of services enhancing an individual's quality of life.

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

DEKALB AREA RETIREMENT CENTER  
 2944 Greenwood Acres Drive  
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115  
 Return Service Requested



## News of Interest to the Oak Crest Community and Friends

Fall 2017 • Volume 38 • Number 3

### Oak Crest Volunteers Recognized

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"Volunteers Are Stars" was the theme of this year's Volunteer Recognition Program. More than one hundred volunteers enjoyed the vocal stylings of Larry Breidenbach who serenaded attendees with the music of Sinatra, Bennett, Como and Martin. The evening was a perfect opportunity to thank the many volunteers whose bright stars are a shining beacon to those they serve. The program began with a welcome by Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator. Liz Hoppenworth, Resident Services Administrator, expressed appreciation to all the volunteers for their service and acknowledged their 12,000 hours of volunteer time provided this past year.

assist them with their purchases. She always has a smile and a warm greeting. Her can-do attitude and her willingness to take on any new task makes her a true asset to the community. She is well-deserving of this recognition. Unaccustomed to the lime-light and overwhelmed by the attention, Reva simply said, "I would like to say thank you. I am the one truly blessed, because I am happiest when I am able to be helpful."

This year's Community Volunteer Oak



Leaf Award was presented to Bob and Joy Hadley. Bob and Joy both share their time and talents selflessly with the many people making their homes at Oak Crest. They both volunteer weekly in the Oak Crest Shoppe and are active members of the Oak Crest Kitchen Band, where Joy accompanies at the piano. Always willing to lend a hand, they approach any new responsibility with smiles and lots of laughter. Joan Lauer said, "Bob and Joy Hadley have a gift for spreading happiness. They are kind, considerate and caring. They are truly shining stars."

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the resident and community Oak Leaf Awards. These awards are presented on the basis of number of hours and the impact of service.

### The Door Opens In Welcome

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**Top to bottom:**  
 Elizabeth George – Waterman, IL  
 Beverly Ester – Kirkland, IL  
 Nita Challgren – DeKalb, IL  
 Don & Marge Timmermann – Hampshire, IL  
 Jane Ovitiz – Sycamore, IL



This year the Resident Volunteer Oak Leaf Award was presented to Reva Jungst. Reva has been a resident since May 2015 and has spent countless hours in a variety of volunteer roles. She serves as a volunteer grace leader and receptionist, a job in which she greets the public and performs a host of secretarial duties. Perhaps, most notably are the countless hours she spends working in the Oak Crest Shoppe. Visitors can count on Reva to welcome them and

Volunteers at Oak Crest assist with many activities, programs and special events. New volunteers are welcome to become involved and to feel the sense of fulfillment that comes from giving to others. Flexible and personalized volunteer opportunities are available; call Joan Launer at 815-756-8461 or jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org.

Dear Friends,

As chairperson of the Community Relations Committee of the Board of Trustees, I 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 \$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,  
Ann Tucker  
Vice President

*From The Executive Director*



This fall will mark one year since the opening of the Oaks Apartment Homes and the Fitness-Aquatics Center, and what a year it has been! We welcomed new neighbors, opened our Bistro, kicked off our new aquatics program and expanded our fitness center and its many offerings. Community response to the new addition and amenities has been overwhelming. It is such a pleasure to be part of an organization that continually strives for excellence and looks for opportunities to grow and develop. Our mission of service continues to propel us forward and with the continued commitment and support of a dedicated Board of Trustees, qualified staff, residents, volunteers and families we are confident of our success.

Today, I invite you to be a part of our vision and join us in this exciting time in Oak Crest history. We all know those special people who currently play an active role in our lives or those whose memory we wish to honor. Whether a family member, a friend, or a business associate, a gift to

Oak Crest can be a wonderful way to salute those individuals. To this end, the "Oaks Building and Gifts Program" has been developed by the Board of Trustees as a way to enable individuals to give a gift that says, "I remember." General memorial gifts range from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and will be honored with a plaque recognizing the selected individuals. Memorial gifts in amounts of \$5,000 or more will be recognized at specific sites throughout the addition. For example, a gift of \$10,000 may be recognized at a new elevator; a \$25,000 gift may be recognized in the new massage therapy area, while a gift of \$100,000 or more may be recognized in the new Bistro or as part of our new pool and fitness center.

Charitable giving is important to Oak Crest and this giving program is an excellent way to salute those whose actions continue to influence our lives today. Gifts to the Center are tax deductible and are always appreciated. For more information on giving, please feel free to contact me personally.

*Stephen P Cichy*  
Stephen P. Cichy  
Executive Director

*\$20,000 In Scholarships Awarded*

In 2006 the Oak Crest Employee Scholarship Program began with a generous gift from the estate of former Oak Crest resident Jack Boyle. Later, former resident Guyla Winebrener added to the fund through a generous gift from her estate. Both Jack and Guyla saw the scholarship as 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 accredited undergraduate degree or equivalent program of study.



(pictured l-r: Board President Brian Scholle, Gabby Martinez, Luke Hoppenworth, Nicole Hebel, Patrick Aves and Stephen Cichy, Executive Director); not pictured Alexandra Treadwell.

The scholarship is a fitting tribute to a man and woman who while they lived at Oak Crest experienced the compassion and care of a truly dedicated group of people. 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 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 this year, seven deserving candidates were selected. They are as follows:

- **Gabby Martinez** received a scholarship in the amount of \$3000. Gabby has been employed as a Dietary Aid since May of 2011. Gabby is a student at NIU and is majoring in Spanish trans-

lation. In her application Gabby said, "This scholarship will greatly impact my future and allow me to focus on my studies. My career goal is to work in the field of marketing and utilize my skills as a translator in promoting the business and its brand."

- **Luke Hoppenworth** is the recipient of a scholarship in the amount of \$3500. Luke is the son of Joel and Liz Hoppenworth, both of whom are employed at Oak Crest. Luke is continuing his studies in Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois in Champaign. Where, according to his proud mother, he not only made the Dean's list but last

semester had all A+. Luke wrote in his scholarship essay, "For me, education is the door to opportunity, and I am looking forward to what the future holds."

- **Nicole Hebel** is the recipient of a \$3500 scholarship. Nicole is the daughter of Resident Services employee Queeny Hebel and will continue her studies at Beloit College where she is majoring in English and pursuing her dream to be a writer. In addition to her studies, Nicole is also a member of the Beloit Soccer team. Nicole is a past scholarship recipient and during her scholarship interview she said, "As an aspiring author, I have come to the conclusion that my writing should focus on a topic that is personally meaningful and am very interested in environmental sustainability, preservation and environmental issues."

*Christmas Tree Walk*

Oak Crest's 23rd Annual Christmas Tree Walk and Open House, "Holly Jolly Christmas" is scheduled for Sunday, December 10, 1-4:30 p.m. This year's Walk will again feature beautiful trees, decorations, music and festivities. Mark your calendar, invite your family and friends and join us for an Oak Crest Christmas celebration.

Volunteers are encouraged to join us as we prepare for the upcoming Christmas season. Work on outdoor lights and displays will begin the first week in November with inside decorating beginning the second week. This is a great opportunity for individuals or clubs seeking service hours. Please contact Joan Launer at (815)756-8461.



- **Alexandra Treadwell** received a scholarship in the amount of \$5000. Ali has been employed at Oak Crest as a Certified Nursing Assistant since January of 2013 and recently completed her RN and will be pursuing a bachelor's degree at SIU. Ali wrote in her scholarship essay, "I have always been interested in the medical field and look forward to contributing to the health and well-being of those in my care."

- **Patrick Aves** received a scholarship in the amount of \$5000. Patrick is the son of Certified Nursing Assistant, Dawn Aves. The scholarship will continue to support Patrick's education at NIU where he is majoring in business and finance. In his scholarship essay, Patrick said, "This scholarship has a huge impact on my college education for which I am extremely grateful."

The Board of Trustees, residents and staff congratulate 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 a Legacy of Giving, contact Liz Hoppenworth, Resident Services Administrator at (815)756-8461 or e-mail lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org

*Arts & Craft Fest*

Mark your calendars and join your friends for the 7th Annual Oak Crest Arts & Craft Fest planned for Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. 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 offer a wide variety of jewelry, glass sculptures, baby items, Christmas ornaments, and handmade cards, raffles, a "Kit n Kaboodle" table, "Grandma's Attic" and much more. To satisfy their sweet cravings, Fest attendees won't want to miss out on the Bake Sale featuring homemade goodies, snacks and applesauce donuts.

After spending a morning browsing the craft offerings, stop by our very own café and enjoy a delicious bowl of chili and homemade corn bread.

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