

## Memorial Day Program



This year's program was a great success. With more than 130 people in attendance, Oak Resident, Sally Stevens provided a moving tribute to our fallen heroes. She was joined in the effort by pianist Joy Hadley, DeKalb Boy Scout Troop #33 and U.S. Marine representatives from the Marine Corp League Sycamore Post 99, Brad Davidson and



Brent Bacon. The Marines presented a flag to Oak Crest oldest male veteran, Cliff Johnson, who at 102 years of age remembered his time in the army.

## 100 Issues



Oak Crest resident Sally Stevens was honored at a surprise reception given in her honor in recognition of her many years as editor of the Oak Crest Campus paper. With sixteen years and 100 issues that inform and entertain resi-

dents, staff and families, the honor was well-deserved. Liz Hoppenworth, Resident Services Administrator read a poem highlighting her accomplishments and ended with, "One hundred issues put to rest, by an editor we call the best. You've earned a break, lay down your head, and remember there's a hundred more we haven't read."

## Pen Pal Day



This year marked the twelfth anniversary of Oak Crest's partnership with a local elementary school and their year-long writers program. Carolyn Vaughn, Brooks' 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher who developed the program a decade ago said, "This generational program



pairs up young emerging writers with residents of the retirement community. The goal is for

the second grade students to further develop their communication skills in the areas of reading and writing. An added benefit is that in

the process new friends are made." Oak Crest residents in turn have the opportunity to share



their life stories, assist Ms. Vaughn in resurrecting the lost art of letter writing and in the process give back something to their local elementary school. The students and their pen pals exchange letters and then join each other at the school for special programs and events. Each visit begins and ends

with smiles, hugs and plenty of laughter. This year's program culminated with a field trip to Oak Crest where the pen pals enjoyed lunch and an "Oak Crest Round-up."



## Deck The Walls

Visitors to Oak Crest often comment on the lovely decorations and wall art. Many of the items gracing our walls and community spaces have been given by Oak Crest family and friends. If you have artwork – paintings, prints or sculptures that you would like to donate, please contact Liz Hoppenworth at (815)756-8461.

## Art & Craft Fest

Mark your calendar for our annual Arts and Crafts Fest Saturday, September 22, 10:00 – 2:00 p.m. Vendor applications are available by stopping by or calling 815-756-8461. Volunteers to assist with the event are always appreciated. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joan Launer at [jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org)

## A Taste of The Islands Ice Cream Social

Mark your calendars, don your Hawaiian attire and join your friends at Oak Crest for a tropical Ice Cream Social. Thursday, July 12th, 7:00 p.m. in the Terrace View Dining Room. Enjoy homemade baked goods, creamy ice cream and music provided by the Wacky Keys.

### Board of Trustees

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### Ex Officio

Rev. Jonathan Crail  
 Rev. Young-Mee Park

### Executive Director

Stephen Cichy

# Calendar of Events

Thurs., July 12	7:00 pm	“A Taste of the Islands” Ice Cream Social
Sat., Aug 4	7:00 pm	Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser
Sat., Sept. 22	10 am — 2 pm	8th Annual Art and Craft Fest
Sat., Oct. 13	2:00 pm	Fall Volunteer Tea, “ABC’s of Volunteering”

### Trips & Excursions

June 27-29	Mississippi River Magic
July 12	Crime & Corruption in the “Windy City” Capone’s Chicago tour & lunch
August 1	“The Little Mermaid” — The Fireside
September 9-17	Treasures of Northern California
October 14-19	Lancaster Show & the Dutch Country
November 26-30	A Southwestern Christmas in San Antonio

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

### Mission Statement



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.



Return Service Requested

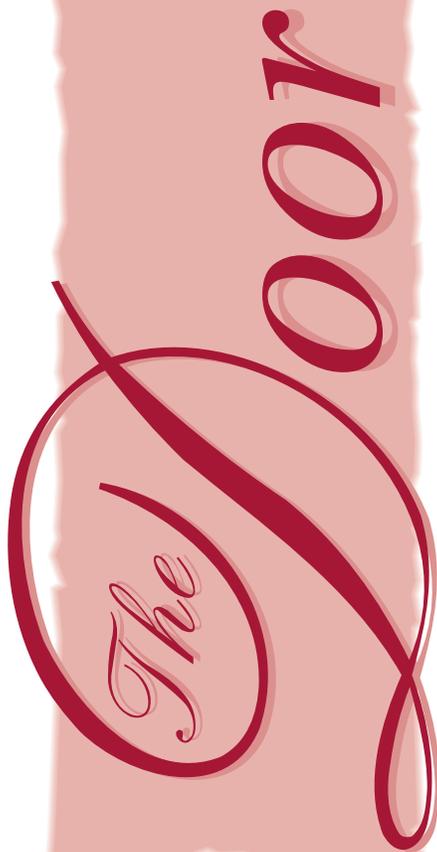
2944 Greenwood Acres Drive  
 DeKalb, Illinois 60115

DEKALB AREA RETIREMENT CENTER



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

*Volunteers Make The World a Better Place*



*The Door Opens  
In Welcome*



**Top to bottom:**

Robert & Linda Daniel – Waterman, IL  
 Robert Meissner – DeKalb, IL  
 Joe & Jean Vaughn – DeKalb, IL

Some people make the world a better place simply by being here. Oak Crest residents are so blessed to be the recipients of the time and talents of so many people who every day devote themselves for the benefit of others. This year’s recognition program was attended by more than one hundred volunteers who enjoyed piano music and a sumptuous dessert. 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.



*Joan Launer and Oak Leaf recipients DiAnne Schmitt and Ken Dargatz.*

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.

This year the Resident Volunteer Oak Leaf Award was presented to DiAnne Schmitt. Dianne describes herself as a life-long volunteer and over the years Oak Crest has benefitted from her tireless energy and enthusiasm. DiAnne’s experience with Oak Crest began years ago when her father-in-law was a resident. She said even then that she was impressed with the care and services and the dedication of the voluntary Board of Trustees and many other volunteers that made Oak Crest such a positive environment. She felt so strongly, that in 1994 when asked to join the Board she did and went on to serve as President. DiAnne moved into Oak Crest in July of 2015 and quickly immersed herself in the Oak Crest community and the many opportunities afforded here. She serves as a mail room volunteer, receptionist, door

checker, grace leader, and new resident tour guide. DiAnne will tell you the last thing she planned on doing when moving to Oak Crest was retiring from her life’s passion of volunteering. Joan Launer said, “We are so grateful for all that she has done for her community and continues to do to make the world a better place.”

This year’s Community Volunteer Oak Leaf Award was presented to Ken Dargatz. Ken has been a volunteer for many years at Oak Crest and began his experience when his mom was a resident. He can be counted on in innumerable

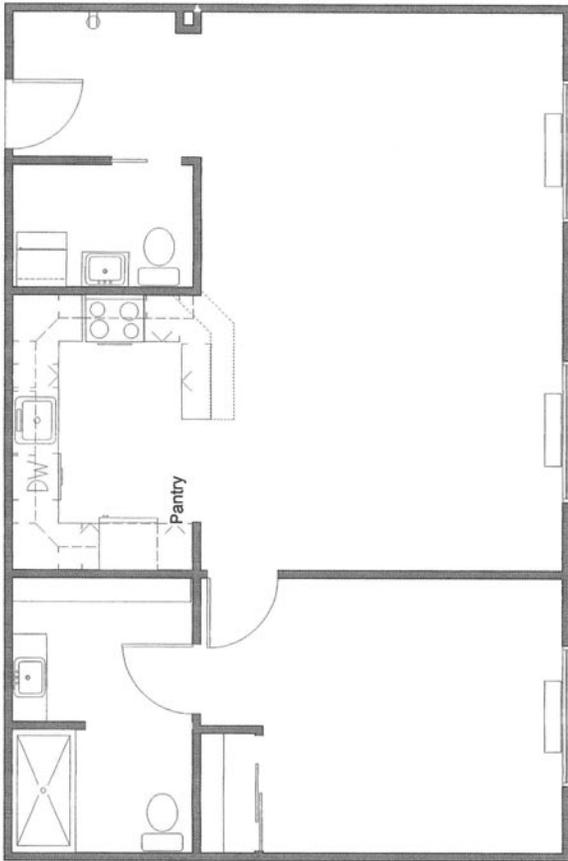
ways from assisting with day trips and excursions, to tending bar at last year’s Stag Party. Ken is the kind of person that makes things happen. Most notably he shares his talent and lends his height to the annual Christmas decorating. Much of his time between November and January is spent decking the Oak Crest halls. Thirty individual trees are assembled, lights are lit and carols sung. At the end of the Christmas season, Ken is here to take it all down, box it up and store it until the next year. He does all of this with boundless energy, a giant smile and lots of hugs. Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator said, “Ken is truly a wonderful man and an exceptional volunteer. We are so glad he is a part of the Oak Crest family.”

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 e-mail [jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org).

# Featured Apartments

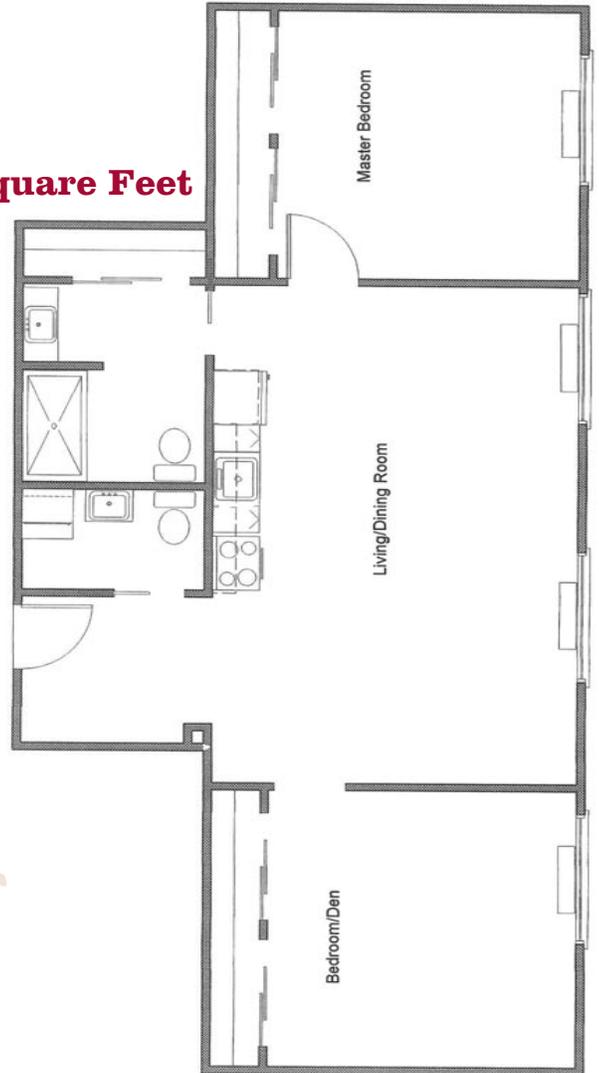
With a large inventory of lovely apartment homes and a variety of floor plans, there really is something for everyone. Apartments feature spacious rooms, well-appointed kitchens, laundry, garage parking, and access to our onsite dining venues, fitness center and pool. More importantly we are building friendships and memories. We offer the guarantee of future care and peace of mind.

Come visit one of our featured apartments and see what all the excitement is about. Oak Crest is located at 2944 Greenwood Acres Drive, DeKalb. Individuals interested in hearing more about this next chapter in Oak Crest history should contact Liz Hoppenworth at (815)756-8461 or e-mail her at [lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org)



**900 Square Feet**

**1,100 Square Feet**



## Oak Crest Rotary Club

Oak Crest's newest club was launched in April, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sycamore. Initially established as a satellite club, it can become independent after both groups agree on its readiness. Chair of the new chapter is Sally Stevens from Oak Crest, John Peterson of Resource Bank as vice chair, and Oak Crest resident Barry Schrader as secretary. With a growing membership, we invite other interested individuals to join us. The club meets the second and fourth Thursdays at noon at Oak Crest. Rotarians from any other club can always attend. Each meeting includes a 30-minute program of educational or entertaining nature and adjourns at 1:00 p.m.



*Charter members seated around the table took part in the initial orientation in April.*

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.

So far this year, in support of those individuals who have outlived their financial resources, the Circle of Care Campaign has generated \$44,000 in contributions and pledges! Our goal is \$60,000. 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,

**Joe Gastiger**

Community Relations Chair

## A Routin' Tootin' Trivia Night Fundraiser

The Annual Trivia Night Fundraiser to benefit the Oak Crest Good Samaritan Fund will be held Saturday, August 4 at 7:00 p.m. You don't want to miss this western themed evening where you can match wits with some of the best Trivia teams in town. Cost is \$10.00 per person with a maximum of six players to a team. Join your friends and compete for prizes for best table scape, costumes and trivia bragging rights. Register your team by calling 815-756-8461 or [jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org)

## From The Executive Director



In spring I celebrated a birthday that did not go unnoticed by staff and residents. As a kid I couldn't wait for my birthday and the festivities and the freedom that another year would bring. First walk to school on my own, first driver's license and first day of college. Now as I grow older the birthdays seem to come along a little too frequently and I greet them with a lot less enthusiasm. This year, I was treated to a celebration planned by residents and staff. We celebrated my 66<sup>th</sup> birthday with a Route 66 themed party and as expected there was cake, cards and well wishes. There was also some good old fash-

ioned ribbing about being more like an old jalopy than a shiny new Corvette. Needless to say the entire day was a great success and it got me thinking.

Life really is like a road. Some of us set out with a destination in mind, a clear road map, plenty of provisions and all the plans in place to make the trip a pleasant one. Others set out on the journey not knowing where they're going, with no clear plan in mind and figure everything will work out when they arrive. Either way, it doesn't seem to matter what the plan is or how clear the directions, there always seems to be unseen delays, fender benders, bumps in the road and plenty of construction. For those who planned ahead, they usually get where they're going in plenty of time, well-rested and ready for the next adventure. For those who don't plan, they may end up stranded by the side of the road dependent on the kindness of strangers.

When it comes to retirement living, Oak Crest provides everything you need for a successful trip. From the minute you walk through our doors, staff is available to answer questions, provide complete and concise information and assist you

through the retirement decision-making process. Oak Crest takes the uncertainty out of your journey while still providing great opportunities and experiences along the way. From our state-of-the-art Fitness and Aquatics Center to our flexible dining experience there really is something for everyone.

If you ask Oak Crest residents what advice they have for the people just setting out on the journey, you hear things like "Don't wait too long, Come while you can enjoy all that Oak Crest has to offer, and I wish I would have done this sooner." Pretty good advice from people who have been down the road you're travelling, are still enjoying the scenery along the way and made it safe and sound.

*Stephen P Cichy*

Stephen P. Cichy  
Executive Director

## Truck



Oak Crest is looking for a full-sized pick-up truck for donation or purchase. Please contact Stephen Cichy at (815)756-8461 or e-mail [scichy@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:scichy@oakcrestdekalb.org)

## *"Fly Me To The Moon..."*



Residents, family and friends enjoyed our 38<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dance complete with music provided by "Jazz in Progress." For many years the dance has been the highlight of the spring season and made possible thanks to the planning and effort of the Sycamore High School Key and Interact Clubs.

## Upcoming Programs and Presentations:

The community is invited to join us for these exciting and informative programs. They feature knowledgeable guest speakers on topics that educate and entertain.

### **Around the World "Chair Travel"**

Mondays at 7:00 p.m.  
June 18 - North & South Korea  
July 2 - Galapagos Islands  
August 20 - Argentina & Antarctica  
September 17 - Paris, France

### **Summer School Classes**

**Tuesday, July 24, 2:00 p.m.** "Cooking for One or Two" with Jo Cessna, Kish-Health Systems Culinary Instructor. Reservations need to be made for this class as space is limited. Call 1-815-756-8461.

**Tuesday, August 28, 2:00 p.m.** "Activity for Brain Health" with Dr. Pommy Macfarlane  
Register for classes by calling 815-756-8461. Limited seating.

## *King & Queen Crowned*



2017-2018 reigning King and Queen David and Barbara Samulowitz passed along their crowns and scepters to residents Larry and Judy Sill with their warmest

wishes for the coming year. Larry and Judy moved to Oak Crest in May of 2016 from their home in DeKalb and are enjoying all that Oak Crest has to offer. Both are active in the community and are willingly to share their time and talents with their neighbors and friends. Both Larry and Judy look forward to their new roles, including "taking to the road" with appearances at community events and programs. Oak Crest extends heartfelt congratulations to the 2018-2019 King and Queen.

## *Good Samaritan Nominations*

Each year Oak Crest presents the Good Samaritan Award to an individual who provides outstanding ministry to human need, who cares for others beyond normal compassion, and is the quiet unseen Good Samaritan. Currently, nominations are being accepted. You are encouraged to nominate someone who exemplifies the high standards of the Good Samaritan. To request an application form contact Oak Crest by calling (815)756-8461 or e-mail [cbuehler@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:cbuehler@oakcrestdekalb.org). The deadline for nominations is Friday, June 29. The award will be presented at a dinner on Friday, August 3, 2018.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - YOUTH, TEEN AND ADULT**

Providing volunteer opportunities for people of all ages is one way Oak Crest encourages sharing new talents and a feeling of being part of something larger. Volunteering is a great way to teach and reinforce values, morals and encourage empathy toward others. Recent studies have shown that children and teens exposed to volunteering are more likely to perform better in school and even pursue higher education. The benefits of volunteering also apply to children who volunteer with their parents. Taking part in family volunteering opportunities is a great way for parents to spend time with their children doing something positive for their community. Oak Crest looks forward to working with volunteers of all ages. The skills, experiences and sense of fulfillment that children, teens and adults develop from volunteering can be life-changing. You may want to consider enrolling your child in a volunteer activity this summer and begin a pattern of generosity and caring that will last a lifetime. Call today and learn more about sharing your time and talents. The possibilities are endless. Contact Joan Launer at (815) 756-8461 or e-mail [jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org)