

Annual Board of Trustees Dinner



During a dinner attended by residents, guests and staff, Joe Gastiger, Board Vice President recognized and thanked members for their willingness to serve the Oak Crest community. He also acknowledged the efforts of Karen Grush who has completed a five-year term of service. He said, "The Oak Crest community benefitted from Karen's extensive knowledge and experience in the areas of nursing and public health. Her commitment and leadership on both the Finance and Health Care committees proved invaluable. It has been a pleasure to serve with you. This spring an oak tree will be planted in your honor as a reminder that the trees we plant today are for the benefit of the generations to follow."



Following the presentation, Joe Gastiger introduced and inducted new member, Michelle Bringas. Michelle is a resident of DeKalb and since 2004

has served as the Director of the Asian American Resource Center at Northern Illinois University. Michelle brings to the Board twenty-six years of experience in higher education and is a tireless advocate for Asian American students at NIU. She actively serves in a number of university-wide initiatives that support diversity, equity, and inclusion. Michelle develops and implements assessment tools for evaluating and improving departmental programs, services, and facility needs. Michelle will be serving on both the Community Relations and Building Committees.



Joe Gastiger said, "You have agreed to serve as a member of the Board of Trustees and on behalf of the Board of Trustees, residents, families and staff I welcome you and look forward to serving with you. I enjoy my experience here at Oak Crest and am confident you too will find your leadership role here not only very interesting but also very fulfilling. I have found that there are many elements necessary in creating and maintaining a community like Oak Crest. Leadership is number one. Everything else is number two."



2019 Board of Trustees

Members pictured back row- l-r: Dick Stokke, Paul Stromborg, Rev. Jonathan Crail & Dave VanBuren

Front row- l-r: Michelle Bringas, Rev. Joe Gastiger, Bette Chilton, Jack Goodrich & Carol Larson

Not pictured: Michael Borden, Richard Katz, Dave Louis, Linda Mason, Mary Jo McAdams, Rev. Young-Mee Park, Brian Scholle, Kathy Spears, Ann Tucker & Wendy West

Truck



Oak Crest is looking for a full-sized pick-up truck for donation or purchase. Please contact Steve Cichy at (815)756-8461 or scichy@oakcrestdekalb.org

Wish List



Artwork

Oak Crest residents and visitors alike enjoy the large variety of artwork that graces the many corridors and common areas. Many of these items are donated by family and friends and we are currently accepting new donations. If you have artwork, paintings, sculptures or prints, please contact Liz Hoppenworth at (815)756-8461 or lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org

Safe Driver Course



In conjunction with AARP, Oak Crest is offering the nation's largest driver safety course for drivers over the age of 50. The course covers driving techniques and helpful information for adjusting to changes that occur over time. Class participants will also receive information that will help them successfully complete the Illinois DMV written and road tests. Participants 55 and older also qualify for a mandatory insurance discount in Illinois. The course is May 14-15. There is a fee of \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members and includes a student manual. Seating is limited and registration is required. Contact Joan Launer at (815)756-8461 or jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org

Board of Trustees

Michelle Bringas	Rev. Young-Mee Park
Mike Borden	Brian Scholle
Bette Chilton	Kathy Spears
Rev. Jonathan Crail	Dick Stokke
Rev. Joseph Gastiger	Dr. Paul Stromborg
Jack Goodrich	Ann Tucker
Richard Katz	Dave VanBuren
Carol Larson	Wendy West
Dave Louis	
Linda Mason	<i>Executive Director</i>
Mary Jo McAdams	Stephen Cichy

Calendar of Events

Fri., April 12	7:00 pm	Volunteer Recognition, "Volunteers Make a Difference Every Day"
Thurs., April 18	7:00 pm	Birthday Entertainment "Kishwaukee Brass" with John Smith
Thurs., April 25	7:00 pm	Filipino Youth Program
May 14-15	1-5 pm	AARP Safe Driver Course
Sat., May 18	7:00 pm	Annual Spring Dance

Our Mission

Oak Crest 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.

Our Vision

To be an innovative leader in senior adult services.

Trips & Excursions

April 17	"Menopause The Musical — The Fireside
April 25-May 3	Great Parks, Ghost Towns and Sedona's Red Rocks
May 21-25	Amish Country Traditions with 3 Shows
May 21	"Rock Around the Clock" — Starved Rock
Sept. 19-28	Rome and the Amalfi Coast

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

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



The Door

*The Door Opens
In Welcome*



Top to bottom:

Bev Waite – DeKalb, IL

*Mary Lou & Dick Cochrane –
DeKalb, IL*

Circle Of Care



Oak Crest's Annual Giving Campaign to benefit the Good Samaritan Fund begins May 1, 2019. We are again looking to our friends in the community for support. This fund benefits those who outlive their financial resources. In past years Oak Crest residents have used more than \$200,000 from this fund. This rate of utilization continues to increase to accommodate the growing number of residents requiring assistance. The Good Samaritan Fund is supported solely through contributions and donations. All proceeds generated by the Circle of Care Campaign directly benefit the Good Samaritan Fund.

At the time of our 25th Anniversary we established the Silver Acorn Donor Program. Supporters of this program have made a donation or pledge to the Circle of Care Campaign in the amount of \$2,500 or more. A number of people are already participating and we wish to

thank them again for their continued support and invite you to join them. Of course, each and every donation is welcomed and appreciated.

Letters will be sent to previous and prospective donors. These letters will tell you more about the Circle of Care Campaign. Please consider making a donation. Your generosity will ensure that the Good Samaritan Fund continues.

If you should have any questions, or would like additional information on the Circle of Care Campaign, the Good Samaritan Fund, or Oak Crest itself, please call Stephen Cichy at (815)756-8461. We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your support.

Joe Gastiger
Community Relations

Come see for yourself....

Since opening in 1980 Oak Crest has enjoyed a wonderful history of providing quality services to the community. Each duplex home features a well-appointed kitchen, laundry, two bedrooms, garage, full basement and access to our facilities and amenities including our new onsite Bistro, 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 1300' duplex homes 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 email her at lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org

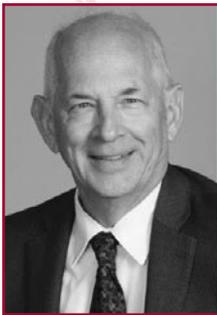


Oak Crest DeKalb Area Retirement Center
Roberts Lane & Centennial Drive Duplex Floor Plan - 1300 Sq ft.
Not to Scale

Good Samaritan Nominations

Annually the Board of Trustees of the DeKalb Area Retirement Center-Oak Crest recognizes and honors an individual in the community as a modern day Good Samaritan. This award is presented to someone who has demonstrated his/her commitment to the community and to its people – in any number of ways. A modern Good Samaritan is a person who cares for others beyond the normal compassion of most people; or a person who actively participates in various community organizations and combines community service with personal caring; or a person who works quietly to better the lives of others. Currently, nominations are being accepted. This year the honor will be bestowed on a deserving individual on Friday, August 2, 2019. You are encouraged to nominate someone who exemplifies the high standards of the Good Samaritan. Application forms are available by contacting Oak Crest reception desk (815)756-8461 or e-mail cbuehler@oakcrestdekalb.org

From The Executive Director



Recently, Oak Crest received notification that a resident years ago had made arrangements to include Oak Crest in her will. Of course,

Oak Crest was touched by her generosity but we also know what an important role Oak Crest played in her life. Many times she shared that her life at Oak Crest had brought her new friendships, purpose and the peace of mind that comes from living in a community that always puts people first. She confided in close friends that after living at Oak Crest for nearly four decades, she wanted to contribute to the success of the organization by leaving something behind for those who follow. I have thought about her and this legacy and recognize the selflessness that comes from giving to others without receiving anything in return.

Undoubtedly, you receive countless 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-like the woman who remembered Oak Crest in her will-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 might include cash contributions, securities, tangible property, or 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 it be 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.

Annual Spring Dance

You and your guests are cordially invited to join us

"Dancing Under The Stars"

Saturday, May 18, 2019
Dance to the Music of
"Jazz in Progress"
7:00 p.m.

Planned in cooperation
with Sycamore High School
Interact & Key Club

For more information please feel free to contact me.

Stephen P. Cichy

Stephen P. Cichy
Executive Director

Centenarian Celebration

This year Oak Crest staff, families and friends recognized six resident centenarians at a special celebration featuring the musical stylings of vocalist Craig Mathey. Standing Don Mosher & Cliff Johnson
Seated Phyllis McCormick, Mary Smith, Violet Challand, & Donna Marsh





“Opportunity is knocking...”

I’ll be honest with you I have always been a planner and my best decisions have always been after careful

consideration and a great deal of thought. So, when it came time to think about retirement I used this same approach. I knew all about Oak Crest and even had some experience when seventeen years ago my husband Bill spent his last days in the capable and caring hands of the Oak Crest nursing staff. I was so impressed that I knew then and there that when the time came I would make my own home at Oak Crest. So, I had the easy part done. I knew where I wanted to be, I just had to decide the when. Keep in mind that in my planning the big move was still a couple of years in the distance. Well, as fate would have it I decided to take some time while my children were home to stop in for a visit. Call it fate or divine intervention but on that day the perfect apartment, in the best location with the loveliest view had just become available. It was at that moment I just knew that opportunity was knocking and I didn’t want to miss out. My advice to you is that if you already know the where; then the when could be right now! There really is no better time than today to

see all that Oak Crest has to offer.
Margie Moulton
Resident since May 2013



Serving the Oak Crest community for twenty-nine years has afforded me a wealth of experience and perspective. As I meet new people

and assist them in their retirement decisions, I have noted that people tend to ask very similar questions as it relates to Oak Crest and retirement. I am including the five most asked questions and my responses.

Q: I’m doing fine in my home now. Why should I even consider retirement before I really need it?

A: The time to make decisions concerning your future is now. It is so important that you make choices while they are yours to make. Two things that I have found Oak Crest residents share; a fierce desire to make their own decisions and a desire to remain independent. Oak Crest is a retirement community designed to offer independent living to active older adults. About the time you “need” Oak Crest you may have waited too long.

Q: I’m pretty used to being independent, and if I come here will I lose that?

A: Living at Oak Crest you have all the same opportunities you had at home and much more. The main difference is that Oak Crest offers the guarantee of security and future care without the worry. You remain as independent as you were before.

Q: If I am interested in coming to Oak Crest do I have to sign over all my assets?

A: Absolutely not. Applicants must complete a financial statement disclosing assets and income. This information is kept in strict confidence and is used to determine someone’s eligibility as it pertains to financial obligations should they be accepted to Oak Crest.

Q: If I am responsible with my assets and still run out of money will I have to find another place to live?

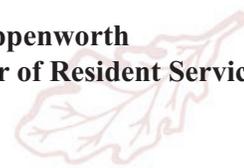
A: No. Oak Crest’s commitment to its residents is one that guarantees if they outlive their financial resources and have not in any way divested themselves, they would be provided a home here. This is accomplished through the Good Samaritan Fund.

Q: Some places really pressure you when you call with questions or stop by. What should I do if I’d like some information about Oak Crest but don’t want a sales pitch?

A: Part of Oak Crest’s philosophy deals with community awareness and education. When someone calls with a question or stops by for a visit we try to answer their questions with complete and concise information. We hope that people never feel “pressured.” We pride ourselves on being approachable, cooperative and informative. Most people comment that a visit at Oak Crest is like a visit with an old friend.

I hope the above information has answered some of your questions and given you some facts in black and white. Now, I invite you to come and experience, in living color, all that Oak Crest has to offer.

Liz Hoppenworth
Director of Resident Services



“Volunteers Always Needed - Forever Appreciated”

Join your friends on Friday, April 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Oak Crest Vista Room. The evening provides an opportunity to welcome new volunteers and recognize those individuals who give of themselves each and every day. The event will culminate with the presentation of the Oak Leaf Award. This annual award is presented yearly to a deserving volunteer for hours of service and the impact their service has on others. All volunteers are invited to bring a friend and enjoy an evening of music, food and fellowship.

RSVP by calling Joan Launer at (815)756-8461 or email her at jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org.