

Memorial Day Program



This year's program was a great success. With more than 115 people in attendance, Oak resident, Sally Stevens provided a moving tribute to our fallen heroes. She was joined in the effort by pianist Barb Grulke and DeKalb Boy Scout Troop #33.



Oak Crest Employee Honored



Oak Crest's own Dawn Aves, CNA was honored as part of the Northern Illinois Conferences annual meeting of the United Methodist Church. This award recognizes deserving employees of NIC-related senior care institutions. The award is based on nominations and recognizes outstanding care and compassion, coupled with a sincere desire and love for older adults.

Dawn's nomination read in part, "It is people like Dawn who see their occupation as a calling, their job as a vocation and know that each day they do make a difference, there really is nothing more important than caring for those who can no longer care for themselves. You may call them employees, we call them angels. With so many wonderful people serving the residents of the DeKalb Area Retirement Center, it may be hard to single out just one individual. However, when families, residents and visitors do comment on interactions they have had, the good work they have witnessed and the compassionate care received, Dawn Aves stands out.

Dawn is a tireless advocate for the people she serves. She is warm, encouraging and supportive. She takes the time to know the person and provides them ample opportunities to express their needs and then does everything in her power to see that those needs are met. She is quick with a hug and a big smile. She greets everyone by name, remembers the important events and people in their lives and personalizes each inter-

action. Although she has many people to serve, she always takes the extra minute to add a sweater, pour a cup of hot coffee or hold a hand.

Dawn understands that home isn't bricks and mortar, it's about the heart and soul of the people to whom we entrust our loved ones. Dawn is the kind of person who understands that, embraces her role and truly cares. When asked how she can approach each new situation and resident need while maintaining such a positive attitude, she simply responds, "They deserve no less than the very best I can provide."



9th Annual Art & Craft Fest

Mark your calendars for our annual Art/Craft Fest at Oak Crest planned for Saturday, October 12th, 10 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Residents, volunteers and staff have been busy making various crafts for this special event. It is not too early to sign up for a booth of handmade items. Vendor applications are available. For more information or to volunteer, contact Joan Launer at jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org

A 1950's Ice Cream Social

Mark your calendars, don your poodle skirts and leather jackets and join your friends at Oak Crest for a 1950's Ice Cream Social. Thursday, July 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Terrace View Dining Room. Enjoy ice cream floats and music provided by Craig Mathey.

Calendar of Events

Board of Trustees

Mike Borden
Michelle Bringas
Bette Chilton
Rev. Joseph Gastiger
Jack Goodrich
Richard Katz
Carol Larson
Dave Louis
Linda Mason
Mary Jo McAdams
Kathy Spears
Dick Stokke

Dr. Paul Stromborg
Jill Tritt
Ann Tucker
David VanBuren
Wendy West

Ex Officio
Rev. Jonathan Crail
Rev. Young-Mee Park

Executive Director
Stephen Cichy

Thurs., July 11 7:00 pm 50's Ice Cream Social (Craig Mathey performing)
Fri., Aug 23 2:00 pm "Step Back in Time" (Exhibits of things from our past)
Sat., Sept. 21 2:00 pm Volunteer Tea and Recruitment

Trips & Excursions

July 10 Chicago's River Walk
July 17 "Les Miserables" at the Cadillac Palace
July 30-Aug. 1 Lake Michigan Summer: Ferry, Dunes & Blueberries
September 11 Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story (Fireside)
September 18-25 Mighty Colorado Trains

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

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

Return Service Requested

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



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:

Betty Patterson – Sycamore, IL
 Donna Mathey – Sycamore, IL
 Edna & Edward Schramm – DeKalb, IL
 Diane Hogan – 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.



David & Barbara Samulowitz

The highlight of the evening was the presentation of the 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 residents David and Barbara Samulowitz. Dave and Barb joined Oak Crest in the spring of 2015 and immediately immersed themselves into the Oak Crest community. Their talents are many and they willingly share them with others. Barbara is an accomplished seamstress, crafter and artist. She continues to create beautiful centerpieces, table cloths, floral arrangements and displays. Her warm and welcoming manner has eased many new residents' transition to Oak Crest and she goes out of her way to meet and greet each

new person. David spends countless hours sorting and delivering mail and his woodworking and furniture caning abilities keep him busy in the craft workshop. He and Barb are often described as the dynamic volunteer duo.

They have set up for parties, decorated, served and cleaned up. Staff knows they can count on them to pitch in and lend a hand and they are always open to new ideas and new challenges. They greet each new experience with a smile and make others feel welcome and included.

When the award was announced they were surprised. They couldn't imagine why doing simply what they love would warrant such recognition. It is this same humble response combined with their enthusiasm, energy and willingness to serve that makes them most deserving of this award. Joan Launer said, "We are so grateful for all that you both do. Volunteers are vital to the Oak Crest community and Dave and Barb are an integral part of what makes Oak Crest such a special place to live and work."

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.

Featured Home

Come see for yourself... (floor plan 1300' duplex)

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 on-site 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 e-mail her at lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org



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

Oak Crest Rotary Club

Oak Crest's Rotary Club began in April of 2018 and is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Sycamore. They have had a busy first year under the leadership of Chair Sally Stevens, Oak Crest Resident, Vice Chair John Peterson of Resource Bank and Oak Crest Resident Barry Schrader as Secretary. This spring the Club completed its second season of planting flowers in the two raised garden beds they provided for the residents of the Health Center. Last Spring they purchased two hardwood raised boxes for the health center courtyard as their first club project. This past December they purchased a 20-foot flagpole for the same location and installed light strings to make it look like a Christmas tree. Then the flagpole was dedicated the week of Memorial Day by Troop #33 Boy Scouts and Rotary member and Scout leader Cliff Golden. The flag will be flown on holidays and special occasions. The club now has 34 members and meets at Oak Crest on the second and fourth Thursdays at noon. Each meeting includes a 30-minute program of educational or entertaining nature and adjourns at 1:00 p.m. Rotarians from any other club are encouraged to attend. For membership information call (815) 758-5424.



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 \$36,640 in contributions and pledges! Our goal is \$70,000. 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

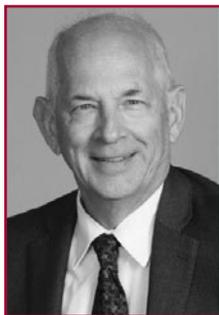
Community Relations Chair

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.

From The Executive Director



This spring I celebrated another birthday and in usual Oak Crest style, it did not go unnoticed by staff and residents. This year's theme was "A Magical Celebration" and featured magic themed food, door prizes and a magician. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed the event.

For me the passage of another year gave pause for thought. It's almost unbelievable how much time has gone by and the many changes Oak Crest has experienced since I began my tenure back in 1984. My own family of four has grown with the addition of two grandchildren and a third on the way. It seems like just yesterday Evelina and I were starting our lives together, working and raising two little boys. It also seems like just yesterday Oak Crest was comprised of one three-story building and starting to build duplex homes. Now, after a number of additions, we are home to 275 people, boast our own

fitness center, dining venues and an array of amenities and features that set us apart as an organization committed to quality and care and services.

You might say like my birthday celebration, Oak Crest is magical. We hear it often from families and residents alike. There is something really special about Oak Crest. It goes beyond the things you see, it's more about the people who live and work here. There is a level of caring and commitment that goes far beyond what one would expect. The minute people walk through our doors there is a feeling of belonging and family. There is a sense that every person is an individual and that each and every person matters to the organization and the people who work here. The feeling is mutual and is evident in every interaction. Employees will say the residents living at Oak Crest are the best part of their day, and residents will credit employees as the best part of life at Oak Crest.

I'm not sure you'd call that magic but you'd have to agree that there really is something special about Oak Crest. That feeling ex-

tends to our commitment for care and services. As an organization, we are committed to providing quality care and services for life. For those residents who may outlive their financial resources the Good Samaritan Fund was established. This fund's existence and maintenance is the result of fund-raising efforts and the thoughtfulness of donors. This year's campaign is off to a good start and I thank you for your generosity. If you haven't made your donation, I encourage you to consider doing so and being a part of the magic that is Oak Crest. There are many ways a donor could choose to support Oak Crest. However the gift is made, it is important to remember that while Oak Crest is a not-for-profit organization and charitable gifts can allow considerable savings to the donor, the most important fact is the Center and the people we serve can benefit from your generosity.



Stephen P. Cichy
Executive Director

"A Night At The Drive In..."



Residents, family and friends enjoyed our 39th 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. (Limited seating. Make your reservation by calling 815-756-8461)

Tues., July 23, 2 pm "Benefits of Exercise" David Brenner, Presenter

Tues., Aug. 23, 2 pm "Managing Your Blood Pressure with DASH Eating Plan" Northwestern Medicine, Presenter

Travelogue Series

Mondays at 7:00 pm, Little Theater

July 1 — Iceland, Pat Vary, Presenter

July 15 — Israel, Jenny Ruff, Presenter

August 19 — Slovenia, Pat Vary, Presenter

King & Queen Crowned



2018-2019 reigning King and Queen Larry and Judy Sill passed along their crowns and scepters to residents Bob and Linda Daniels with their warmest wishes for

the coming year. Bob and Linda moved to Oak Crest in April of 2018 from their home in Waterman, IL and immediately immersed themselves in the Oak Crest community. Both are active in their community and willingly share their time and talents with their neighbors and friends. Bob and Linda 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 2019-2020 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 email cbuehler@oakcrestdekalb.org. The deadline for nominations is Friday, June 28, 2019. The award will be presented at a dinner on Friday, August 2, 2019.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES - YOUTH, TEEN AND ADULT

Providing volunteer opportunities for people of all ages, is one way Oak Crest encourages the discovery of and sharing of new talents and a feeling of being part of something larger. Volunteering is a great way to teach and reinforce values 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. If you haven't considered 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