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| Sherrie Martin  | Stephen Cichy      |
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| Mary Jo McAdams |                    |
| Jill Olson      |                    |

*Save The Date*  
**Saturday, September 10th**  
**Craft Fest at**  
**Oak Crest**  
**10:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

# Calendar of Events

**Upcoming Events:**

- |               |          |   |
|---------------|----------|---|
| Sat. Sept. 10 | 10am-2pm | Craft Fest at Oak Crest   |
| Tues. Oct. 11 | 2pm      | Art Insights Program of the Art Institute of Chicago "Beyond The Dots" Impressionism and Pointillism. |
| Sat. Nov. 5   | 2pm      | Fall Fashion Show and Tea with TaylorMarie Fashions - tickets available Oct. 4th.                     |

**Excursions:**

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Sept. 23-Oct. 1 | Autumn Leaves -Canada and New England. A 9 day/8 night cruise and tour program aboard Norwegian Cruise Lines' Norwegian Jewel. |
| Sat. Dec. 10    | "A Fireside Christmas" at the Fireside Theatre.  |

*Please contact Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator at (815)756-8461 or jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org*

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



*The Door Opens  
 In Welcome*



**Top to bottom:**

- Jan FitzHenry - Sycamore, IL*
- George Riccio - DeKalb, IL*
- Kay Johnson - Elburn, IL*
- Ralph Schwirian - DeKalb, IL*

News of Interest to the Oak Crest Community and Friends

Autumn 2011 • Volume 32 • Number 3

## Good Samaritan Named

Since 1977 it has been a tradition for the DeKalb Area Retirement Center- Oak Crest to name a community Good Samaritan. A Good Samaritan is a person who cares for others beyond the normal compassion of most people; a person who actively participates in various community organizations and combines community service with personal caring; a person who works quietly to better the lives of others. Through the years outstanding individuals, couples, and siblings have been selected for this very special award. This year Oak Crest residents, Trustees, and friends met for a very special dinner in the Oak Crest Terrace Dining room for this year's special award presentation.

Following the Opening Comments made by Stephen Cichy, Oak Crest's Executive Director, a very meaningful Keynote Address was given by Pastor Sandi Graber of the Presbyterian Church. Oak Crest Board President Ann Tucker then made the presentation of the 2011 Good Samaritan award to Jerry Smith.

Having spent most of his adult life in service to this community, Jerry personifies the Good Samaritan. He has served in leadership roles as past vice-chair of the Kishwaukee Community Hospital Board of Directors, has held the presidency of the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, DeKalb United Way and the Kishwaukee Kiwanis. In 1997 he was a member of a delegation to President Clinton's Summit on

Youth, chaired by Gen. Colin Powell. He was an active member of the Oak Crest Board of Trustees and was the recipient of the NIU Foundation President's Award for service to NIU. Along with his wife Ging, he was the recipient of the James Forster Community Service Award and was the recipient of the Kishwaukee United Way's Leo Olson Award and the DeKalb County Tribute to Heroes Award. He is a member of St. Mary Catholic Church in DeKalb and actively participates in the NIU Life Long Learning Program.

Since retiring in 2008, Jerry's boundless energy and desire to serve the community in which he has lived and worked shows no sign of slowing. As an active member of many charitable boards that support the quality of life throughout DeKalb County he continues to lead by example and many organizations and individuals have benefited from his willingness to share his time and talents. Those who have had the privilege to work with Jerry in his many volunteer roles would describe him as a professional, with a strong work ethic and a can-do attitude. They would also tell you that his love for his community is genuine. His active volunteer involvement in this community spans many years and so many organizations and individuals have been affected by his willingness to serve. When not volunteering, Jerry enjoys spending time with his wife Ging, their son Eric and daughter-in-law Jen and their many friends in the community.



## 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 nearly \$45,000 in cash contributions and pledges! Our goal is \$50,000. 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,

Tony Chulick  
Community Relations

## From The Executive Director

I believe that each of us comes to the place we are in our lives right at this moment because of the experiences of the past. This same statement can be applied to Oak Crest and the roll that charitable giving has played in the development of the campus. From the very beginning community support has always been an important element in the development of the Center. Support has been demonstrated in many ways, most notably in the commitment of both time and money. Over the years the Center has received support to develop, to grow, and to improve.

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

Giving opportunities are innumerable. They can be in the form

of cash contributions, securities, tangible property, and real estate. Each offer 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. As you review your charitable interests please consider that a gift given today can make a difference to the people we serve now, and in the future.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about charitable giving opportunities please contact me (815)756-8461 or [scichy@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:scichy@oakcrestdekalb.org)

*Stephen P. Cichy*

Stephen P. Cichy  
Executive Director

## Employee Scholarships Awarded

In 2006 the Oak Crest Employee scholarship program began with a generous gift from the estate of Jack Boyle. Jack Boyle, a former Oak Crest resident and supporter of the Oak Crest community saw 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 undergraduate degree or equivalent program of study. The scholarship is a fitting tribute to a man who while he 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 minimum of 1,000 hours each of the last two years. Applicants must demonstrate acceptance into an accredited 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. This year a total of \$10,500 is being awarded to three very deserving individuals. They are:



**Rebecca Meyers.** Rebecca was awarded a scholarship in the amount of \$3000. Rebecca is the wife of Jonathan Meyers. Rebecca began working at Oak Crest in April of 2008 as a certified nursing assistant. Rebecca credits the positive work environment and experiences here at Oak Crest in helping her follow her career path toward nursing. Rebecca is currently enrolled as a student at Kishwaukee College and is looking forward to completing her degree in nursing. In her application Rebecca said, "This scholarship will benefit my future career as I will acquire the knowledge needed to be the best nurse possible. In addition to my education, dedication and compassion, this scholarship will allow me to take care of and improve the lives of others." The committee agreed that based on Rebecca's application, letters of recommendation and personal inter-

view she is a wonderful asset to the Oak Crest community and a very deserving scholarship recipient.



**Lordhits McNamara.** Lordhits award is in the amount of \$3500. Lordhits is the daughter of Food Service employee Lorli McNamara. Lordhits also works part-time at Oak Crest as a receptionist and has been able to balance her time between work and school. Lordhits, her mother and younger sister immigrated to the United States and quickly she immersed herself in the language, culture and education of her new home. Lordhits is a student at Benedictine University where she is majoring in international business and economics with minors in Chinese and Spanish. In her application essay Lordhits said, "I am aware that education is the key to success and I want to be given the opportunity to play a role in building America."



**Crystal Dalaguete.** Crystal received a scholarship in the amount of \$4000. Crystal is the niece and dependent of Food Service employee Lorli MaNamara. Crystal is a student at Kishwaukee Community College where she is majoring in nursing. She is an active member of various service clubs and makes time in her schedule to volunteer for a variety of service organizations. Some of you may recognize Crystal because not only does she have a beautiful voice that she shares during the Oak Crest Open Mic nights but she coordinates a group of fellow students who give dance performances and assists with a number of evening activity programs. In her application essay Crystal said, "My ultimate dream is to become a nurse and an American citizen. This scholarship will provide me with the peace of mind and security to follow my dreams."

The Board of Trustees, residents and staff congratulates these individuals on their achievements and wish them well in their future endeavors. Donations to the Center are tax

## Christmas Tree Walk

The Christmas Tree Walk and Open House is scheduled for Sunday, December 11, 1-4:00 p.m. The Christmas Season is a very special time at Oak Crest as we decorate and prepare for the celebration of the birth of Christ. Decorating begins the week of November 7th and volunteer help is welcome anytime during the weeks following. Volunteers are encouraged to contact Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator at (815)756-8461.

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 the Center at (815)756-8461 or e-mail [lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:lhoppenworth@oakcrestdekalb.org)

## Memory Keepers

Oak Crest recently introduced a pilot program designed to provide residents with the tools and information necessary to maintain and improve memory. The program involves an initial assessment, informational meetings, exercises and follow-up. Liz Hoppenworth, Director of Resident Services said, "As a life care community Oak Crest is committed to the health and well-being of the people who choose to make their homes here. Memory plays a vital role in the quality

## Craft Fest

Mark your calendars and join your friends for the 1st annual Oak Crest Craft Fest and lunch planned for Saturday, September 10th. 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 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 feature hymnal angels, quilts, pillows, jewelry, party favors, wood crafts, seasonal decorations and much more. To satisfy your sweet tooth Fest attendees won't want to miss out on the Bake Sale featuring homemade goodies of every type.

After spending a morning browsing the craft offerings and touring the lovely apartment homes purchase a ticket and enjoy an all you can eat buffet in the lovely Terrace Dining Room or enjoy a more casual fare in Oak Crest's own Café de Feuille de Chene.

Volunteers and crafters are encouraged to contact Joan Launer, Community Events Coordinator at (815)756-8461 or [jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org](mailto:jlauner@oakcrestdekalb.org)

*Memory Keepers continued...*

of life and is a key component in the enhancement and maintenance of one's independence." At this time the pilot program is not available to the general public, however interested individuals are invited to join the Oak Crest Memory Keepers for monthly meetings designed to explore topics that directly address memory maintenance and improvement. You can register for the programs by calling (815)756-8461.

**Thursdays @ 10:00 a.m.**  
**Oak Crest Vista Room**  
**October 6 – The Learning Curve**  
**November 3 – A Life of Purpose**  
**December 1 – Feed the Brain**