

FRIENDS OF THE OASIS NEWSLETTER

The Oasis Senior Center, 501 Pulaski Street, Lincoln, IL 62656

FIRE ISSUE 2013

A FIRE TALE

Friday evening, June 21, 2013 a violent thunderstorm came through Lincoln, Illinois igniting a lightning strike on the roof of the Oasis Senior Center. The fire that developed smoldered until the entire roof was engulfed. As the brave firemen from neighboring communities (15 departments) fought the fire, it became obvious that The Oasis was in serious trouble. When dawn broke the roof

was gone, water and smoke damage engulfed the entire structure, windows were blown out and there was standing water in the basement. Dominic Dalpoas, Executive Director, and Wally Reifsteck, President of the Board, ventured into the building to attempt to retrieve the computers and important documents. The computers were retrieved but were completely destroyed. Fortunately, the back-up box was salvaged and the rising from the ashes began.

The following days were filled with insurance adjusters, structural engineers, and restoration services. The most pressing need was to find a temporary home out of which we could continue our programs. Community Action Partnership of Central Illinois offered an office to The Oasis on Monday, June 24, 2013. With the office space we were able to purchase a laptop, install the back up information and get back to business as usual.

Continued on page 2



OASIS

FIRE TALE cont.

The Executive Committee began a search for a temporary home. Many sites were offered and the generosity of many was very evident. The sites were toured and it was decided the St. John United Church of Christ offered us the most usable and handicapped accessible site.

St. John United Church of Christ, 204 7th Street , Lincoln, graciously opened their hearts and doors to provide The Oasis with a temporary home.

The Oasis Senior Center resumed limited services and programs on, Tuesday, July 16, 2013.

Benefit Access Programs, S.H.I.P. (Medicare Part D), Legal Aid, VA Administration, and Foot Care.

Setting up our offices at St. John's was made much easier and affordable by donations from Rick Hamm, Lincoln Land Communications and the State Farm Corporation's excess office furniture warehouse.

Obtaining office space and setting up for business became a fond memory as we forged ahead with the process of securing the burn site and proceeding with clean-up. The process has been arduous and certainly not as fast as we would have wished.

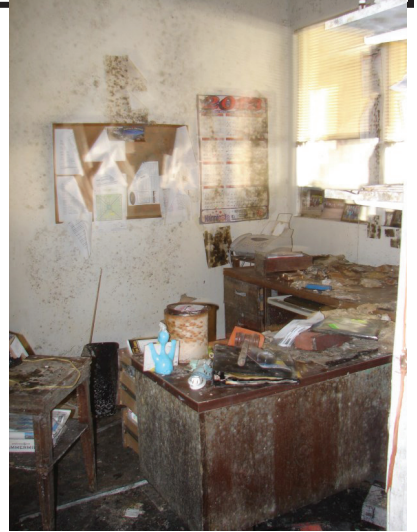
Days once again were filled with structural engineers, restoration men in big white suits, architects, insurance adjusters, impatient press, and most of all concerned and generous citizens of Logan County.

As the Oasis waits for the full range of options concerning our future, the largest fund raiser of the year looms on the horizon. Flea Market income constitutes a significant budget item. The businesses in downtown Lincoln have been very generous in extending offers of operating space for the many facets of the Flea Market operation. McQuellons, Lincoln May Enterprises have volunteered space for us to be able to have a successful Flea Market. We are always happy to have any resident volunteer to help us with this endeavor.

The Oasis Senior Center Board of Directors will be making many decisions within the next few months that will guarantee our mission to serve the senior population of Logan County for many generations to come. We will be asking all the citizens of Logan County to help in raising the Oasis Senior Center from the ashes.

OASIS

The Oasis Senior Center the day we started Cleaning!



Below is our Temporary Home at St. John United Church of Christ



OASIS ACTIVITY & NEWS!

LUNCH & LEARN

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 at NOON

The Area Agency on Aging for Lincoln land and the Oasis Senior Center are sponsoring a Lunch & Learn session. Information covered will include Durable Medical Equipment: Medicare Coverage and Fraud Schemes. Teri Johnson, Benefits Specialist, Area Agency on Aging for Lincolnland will try to answer any questions you may have. This information is critical to help protect and care for you and your loved ones. Drop in at noon for a good sandwich with some chips for lunch while learning about some helpful information. **REMEMBER**

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 at NOON BE SURE TO CALL THE AREA AGENCY TO RESERVE A SPOT at 217-787-9234 OR 800-252-2918

Hearing Screening

by appointment only

The **first Wednesday of each month** between 10:00a.m. and 11:30 a.m. This **FREE** service is provided by Joyce Dearth B.C.H.I.S. from the Hearing Aid Center. Please call The "Oasis" for an appointment @ 732-6132.

BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

The Oasis hosts a blood pressure clinic each **Friday beginning at 10 a.m.** Our retired Nurses are very faithful about getting your correct blood pressure so you can advise your physician. Let's us help you keep your health care providers better informed.

SENIOR HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM

(S.H.I.P.)

Are you having trouble understanding insurance forms? Having difficulty following reimbursement schedules or payments on your bills yet to be made? Can I save money if I plan my health insurance needs better?

Our S.H.I.P. volunteers have been trained to specifically help Seniors answer these questions. Our locally trained volunteers are available by appointment to assist you with insurance questions and ensure you are receiving the benefits your insurance plan provides. The S.H.I.P. volunteers are here on Thursday from 2pm-4pm. **Please call for an appointment at The "Oasis". 732-6132.**

ON LINE SOCIAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE

The Oasis Senior Center has a local volunteer who can help you with Social Security issues via the internet. Some of the assistance offered is:

- ⇒ Sign up for Social Security or estimate your \$ amt.
- ⇒ Sign up for Medicare
- ⇒ Replace a Medicare card
- ⇒ Sign up for disability

The 3rd Friday of the month, by appointment only

LEGAL AID

SUGGESTED DONATIONS ACCEPTED

Land of Lincoln Legal Assistance Foundation, Inc. provides legal assistance for Seniors (60 & Older) . **This service is sustained through donations and is available 4th Thursday of each month by *appointment only*. For more information, please call The "Oasis" 732-6132.**

Benefit Access Program

(formerly Circuit Breaker)

Remember you must continue to file an application for the License plate discount. The time to file is as soon as you get all the financial information to complete your application. If you need additional help or assistance and appointment, please call The "Oasis" at 732-6132. This service is a FREE service.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

A Veterans representative is scheduled to be at the Oasis/St. John United Church of Christ on each Tuesday of the month. No appointment is required. The representative will provide services to individuals on a first come first served basis. We encourage you to call the Center at 732-6132 to insure the representative is present.

OASIS ACTIVITIES & NEWS!

GIVE US YOUR FEET AND WE WILL TAKE CARE OF THEM

There was an old saying that if you gave some one an inch they would take a mile. Now the "Oasis" Senior Center would like to have two feet so we can provide you some foot care . The "Oasis", with the help of Staff from Christian Village, have found a registered nurse who provides foot care by appointments. Emma Van Dyke R.N. specializes in foot care and will be traveling to the Senior Center. Emma will trim & clean toe nails, file callouses, and apply lotion to your feet. She will also provide some foot care tips for you to consider. There is an \$8.00 nominal charge for this service. You must make an appointment by calling the "Oasis Senior Center at 732-6132. If you are diabetic, good foot care is a must.

**FOOT CARE WILL BE OFFERED
BY APPOINTMENTS ONLY
CALL 217-732-6132**

THE "OASIS" BOOK CLUB

Come on in and join our very own "Oasis" Book Club. The objective of this club is to rekindle the rewards of reading a book, and either sharing your thoughts with the group, or just sitting back and listening to others. Invited guests will present their impressions of the book of the month. You may participate as much or as little as you desire. There will be plenty of time to socialize with a group of people who all share the common interest of reading a good book.

**The Book Club Meets
Every 3rd Monday
Beginning at 1:00p.m.**

"OASIS" BUNCO

**COME ROLL THE DICE !
JOIN OUR BUNCO GROUP !**

Every 1st Monday of each month
(When The "Oasis" is open for Activities)
Refreshment provided by
Marilyn Armbrust Board Member

BIRTHDAY'S

EACH ONE IS AS SPECIAL AS YOU!

Come to your month's Birthday Party at the "Oasis" Senior Center. Sue Werschey & Marlene Wilmert, our hostesses, have games, music and good old fashion cake & ice cream for everyone to enjoy. Everyone is welcome, but if your birthday falls in the month we are celebrating you will receive a small gift in honor of your special day. The Birthday Party is open to the public and you can celebrate with us each month of the year. Come and meet some old and new friends at a good-time event.

BIRTHDAY PARTY DATE'S
September 9th and October 14th beginning at 1:30
At St. John's Fellowship Hall

LIGHT LUNCH BINGO

The "Oasis", in cooperation with St. Clara's Manor, Symphony of Lincoln and Vonderleith Living Center have agreed to offer Light Lunch Bingo during 2013. Each facility has agreed to offer a light lunch at Noon prior to their regular 1:00p.m. Thursday BINGO games. The light lunches will occur once a calendar quarter by each group. Light lunch usually consists of a small sandwich, chips or vegetable or soups. Check below for the schedule and be sure to come early enjoy a "Light Lunch" courtesy of our gracious sponsors.

Light Lunch Schedule

September 26, 2013 St Clara's Manor
October 24, 2013 Vonderleith

OASIS BUILDING FUND CHAMPAIGN & FUNDRAISERS



Thank You

I gave \$ _____
to the Oasis Senior Center On _____ 2013.

Check Number _____

Keep this portion as a record of your tax deductible donation.



Help The Seniors in your Community through the
The "Oasis" Senior Center

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YES I want to make a difference by supporting
The "Oasis" Senior Center in serving the Seniors of Logan County
Enclosed you will find cash or check made payable to the Oasis for

\$10 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$500 _____ \$1000

Name _____

Address _____

Let's Celebrate **Grandparent's Day**



BREAKFAST at
AMERICAN LEGION
8 A.M TO 11 A.M.
SUNDAY SEPT. 08, 2013
\$8.00 PER PERSON
SPONSORED BY
THE OASIS SENIOR
CENTER
501 PULASKI ST.
LINCOLN, ILLINOIS
217-732-6132
SILENT
PIE AUCTION

TICKETS AVAILABLE
HELP US SUPPORT THE SENIOR CENTER

GERMANFEST

Lincoln's Oasis Senior Center and St. John
United Church of Christ are joining together
for the

14th Annual GERMANFEST.

Saturday, October 19, 2013

11:00a.m. to 3:00p.m.

Authentic German food will be served (Brats, red cabbage, sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Apple Strudel, German Chocolate Cake or Angel Food Cake) Polka Music by The Alley Kats Band, Games for Children, 50/50 raffle and a Bake Sale. Tickets available at St. John United Church of Christ or The Oasis Senior Center. Half of the proceeds will go to The Oasis Senior Center and to St John UCC for their mission projects. Tickets are \$8.50 for the meal or \$4.00 for the Dog Meal. For more information call the Oasis at 732-6132.

VAN TRIPS



VAN TRIPS PLANNED

Friday, Sept. 13 – Bloomington, IL – Bloomington Performing Arts – Wayne Brady, Includes Transportation & Show, Supper on your own, Members: \$68.00, Non-Members: \$71.00, Departs: 5:00 PM, Returns: 10:30 PM, **Deadline: Aug 16, 2013.**

Sunday, Sept. 15 – Bloomington, IL – Community Players – Arsenic & Old Lace, Includes: Transportation & Show, Supper on your Own, Members: 25.00, Non-Members: \$28.00, Departs: 1:15 PM, Returns: 7:30 PM ???, **Deadline: Aug 16, 2013.**

Sunday, Sept 29 – Goodfield, IL – Barn II – Greater Tuna, Includes Transportation & Dinner Show, Members: \$45.00, Non-Members: \$48.00. Departs: 10:45 AM, Returns: 4:30 PM, **Deadline: Aug 30, 2013.**

Saturday, Oct 5– Mystery Trip, Includes: Transportation, Members: \$36.00, Non-Members: \$38.00, Departs: 7:30 AM, Returns: 9:00 PM, **Deadline: Sept 6, 2013.**

**ONE SEAT AVAILABLE FOR THE OCT 9 THRU OCT 12
TRIP TO BRANSON, MO. Call 732-6132.**

VAN TRIPS NEW PICK UP AREA

Effective July 1, 2013 the Van will pick up all passengers at the “Old Hospital” parking area off of 8th Street. There is plenty of room to park and we believe it to be a safer area to board and unload the van for all our Van trips. NEW PICK UP AREA IS JUST OFF EIGHTH STREET IN THE “OLD HOSPITAL” PARKING LOT

POT LUCK THURSDAY

The Oasis sponsors a monthly Pot Luck on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Our Pot Luck dates for this newsletter are:

Starting at 11:30 A.M. the Pot Luck Committee, chaired by Jennie Mount, presents a great luncheon with entertainment and raffle prizes. If you do not have time to prepare a dish, we will accept a \$4.00 donation in place of your dish. Our drawing for a free lunch is sponsored by local restaurants. Bingo, sponsored by Christian Village, following the Pot Luck..

Come on out and join the Fun!! Bring a Friend!!

\$\$\$ BINGO WEDNESDAY NIGHTS \$\$\$\$

AT EAGLES LODGE

Starting in September 2013

Bingo or as we like to say “Got It“ is one of our fundraisers sponsored by the Oasis in order to help ourselves rather than depending on others. We are making a plea to all our Bingo players to come out to the Eagles Lodge every Wednesday starting at 6:30 p.m. for a fun filled evening. Come one, come all and enjoy a good evening of entertainment, fun, excitement and sometime even a little cash. The payouts are all based on the amount of income generated. \$16.00 gets you all the paper needed to participate in every game played.

TRY US YOU WILL LIKE US!

EVERY WEDNESDAY EVENING at 6:30 P.M.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

What do we have going at the Oasis? Our building at 501 Pulaski is still standing! It has been completely cleaned out of contents-some has gone to be restored from the fire damage and the rest has been destroyed. The building is filled with mold as well as having asbestos that will have to now be removed. There is no roof and upper walls have had to be reinforced before a new one can be put on. It seems like structural engineers keep supplying us with additional problems if the building is to be restored since we will have to meet present day code.

The Oasis Board is faced with a number of decisions over the next few months. Each member of the Oasis Board has been asked for their input. They have been asked to raise questions-offer suggestions– and free to express opinions. Anything tht will help us to plan the future of The Oasis Senior Center for another 50 years is seen as important!

While the Oasis Board will be making the final decisions, they have established what is being called the “Fire Board” made up of the executive committee and the chairpersons of the other committees to act in their behalf on day-to-day decisions when such are required.

We would like to share the information we have at our first Potluck since the fire, which is scheduled for September 12th at 11:30a.m. in the Fellowship Hall at St. John United Church of Christ, our temporary offices, at 7th & Maple Streets (parking at the back of 8th street). Details can be found in another part of this newsletter.

Members of the Oasis are being invited to participate in the Opinion Survey (page 11) the Oasis Board has been using.

Thank you,

Wally Reifsteck, President of the Oasis Board

OPINION SURVEY

OPINION SURVEY

1. How much restoration of the present building would you suggest ?
 - A. Completely, including both floors and the basement.
 - B. Close in site and leave 2nd floor unfinished, but complete basement and 1st floor.
 - C. Close in present site and sell as is.
2. Is there a maximum amount that you would suggest we should spend on restoring the present building ?
3. What options would you like to see taken if it doesn't seem feasible to proceed with restoring the present building ?
 - A. Purchase and restore another building ?
 - B. Obtain a new site and building completely new ?
 - C. What would you like to see in such ?
4. What are the pros and cons you see in staying where we are or moving ?
5. What unanswered questions do you want to raise ?

Your Opinion Matters

We look forward to seeing you at the Potluck

September 12, 2013

**The correct mailing address for the
Oasis Senior Center
Senior Citizens of Logan County, Inc.
The "Oasis" Senior Center
501 Pulaski Street
P.O. Box 621
Lincoln, Illinois 62656**

**The "Oasis" Senior Center
THANKS
Thrivent Financial for Lutherans of Logan
County
For Sponsoring the Oasis
2013 Flea market event**



Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #362
Lincoln, IL 62656

Friends of the Oasis Newsletter
Published Bi-Monthly: Issue 2013-FIRE

501 Pulaski Street

POB 621

Lincoln, IL 62656

Phone : 217-732-6132 Fax : 217-732-5844

E-Mail OasisSeniorCenter@hotmail.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Senior Citizens of Logan County, Inc.
Board of Directors*

*Wally Reifsteck.....President
Ellen Burbage....V-President
Carol Schauer.....Secretary
Shirley Jordan.....Treasurer*

*Debra Aper
Marilyn Armbrust
Shirley Aukamp
Pat Benson
Harold Boyer
Lynnette Bruce
Marcia Cook
Jean Hall
Nancy Kleinman
Keith Leesman
Janet Kvitle
David Newhouse
Bob Parrish
William Post
Ray Saul
Dennis Schrader
Faye Stubblefield*

*Staff
Dominic Dalpoas....Executive Director
Georgina Binzen.....Secretary*

**The Mission Statement
of The Senior Citizens of Logan
County, Inc.**

To provide a place where senior citizens, as individuals or in groups, come together for services and activities which enhance their dignity, support independence and encourage their involvement in and with the community.