



fiftyfive Forward

A publication of Senior Services, Inc. of Wichita

FALL 2015

Galaxy of the Stars 2015 Sets Records For Attendance, Fundraising

More than 500 people turned out for the Galaxy of the Stars Celebrity Roast and Tribute honoring Jack DeBoer June 26 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel.

This was the largest event in the history of Senior Services, Inc. of Wichita, raising over \$100,000 for the 10 programs operated by Senior Services.

The roasters featured some of Wichita's biggest movers and shakers: Bucky Walters, Charlie Chandler (INTRUST Bank), Harvey Sorensen (Foulston Siefkin), Susan Peters (KAKE TV), Fritz Kling (DeBoer Foundation), David Redfern (Consolidated Holdings), George Laham (Laham Development), Dawson Grimsley (Davis Moore) and Herb Krumsick (JP Weigand). Rene Steven (Spangles, Inc.) returned for the eighth year as roast master.

The evening started with complimentary wine, beer, champagne and hors d'oeuvres. Guests were treated to an elegant sit down



dinner of beef tenderloin, grilled chicken, au gratin potatoes and mixed summer vegetables. Dessert included chocolate cake and strawberry panna cotta.

Jack and Marilyn were gracious guests. Jack surprised the audience during his rebuttal by playing the piano.



Senior Services Plans Special Final Friday Celebration

Two of the world's best-known explorers, Martin and Osa Johnson, continue to draw the interest of international scholars, who visit the Safari Museum in Chanute, Kan., for research opportunities, as well as the general public, who thrill to the romance and the adventures that mark the Johnsons' lives.

Opened in 1961, the Safari Museum serves as the repository for award-winning exhibits of the Johnsons' lives and adventures, African art and culture, movies, books, and changing special exhibits. In September, some of that museum experience will be coming to the Downtown Senior Center in Wichita as part of a special Final Friday celebration hosted by Senior Services, Inc., of Wichita.

At 6 p.m. Sept. 25, doors will open for a short reception, followed by introductions and a documentary film at 6:45 p.m. Jacquelyn Borgeson Zimmer, curator of the museum, will present a brief talk on the Johnsons.

From 1917 to 1936, the Johnsons set up camp in some of the most remote areas of the world,



A graphic celebrating the 75th anniversary of 'I Married Adventure'. It features a central collage of three images: a portrait of Osa Johnson, a hand holding a clapperboard, and a movie poster for 'I Married Adventure'. The text '75TH ANNIVERSARY' is written in large yellow letters on the left. On the right, it says 'BOOK MAY 17 1940' and 'FILM SEPTEMBER 23 1940'.

and provided an unmatched photographic record of the wildernesses of Kenya, the Congo, British North Borneo, and the Solomon and New Hebrides Islands. Through popular movies such as *Simba* and *Babooana*, and best-selling books like *I Married Adventure*, Martin and Osa popularized camera safaris and an interest in African wildlife conservation. Their legacy is a record of animals and cultures of many remote areas of the world.

The program and film are open to the public free of charge, but RSVPs are requested. Please call Anna at 267-0302, ext. 200, to make your reservation, and plan on joining us for what promises to be an unparalleled adventure!



Retired Hairdresser Finds New Meaning At Orchard Park Center

When Irene Leiker moved to Wichita from Hays six years ago, the only people she knew were her daughter and family.

Irene had a 50-year career as a hairdresser, so she was accustomed to visiting with clients all day. She quickly realized that as much as she loved her family, she also needed some friends and outside social activities. She decided to join Orchard Park Senior Center, and soon found herself caught up in a number of educational, fitness and social opportunities.

“What I gain here is exceptional,” she says. “We have a lot of nice people. I enjoy Stretch and Tone and the activities, and I have made some very good friends. We go on trips and out to eat.”

Irene notes she has learned a lot at the numerous educational sessions. “We’ve had good programs here. They say you need to learn one thing a day and I do, every time I come here.”

47th Annual Meeting September 15

The Board of Directors of Senior Services, Inc. of Wichita invite you to attend the 47th annual meeting from 3 to 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, at the Downtown Senior Center, 200 S. Walnut.

The meeting will acknowledge the achievements of the last year, address the challenges ahead, and recognize employees and volunteers who make it all possible. In addition, they will install new board members and officers and say goodbye to outgoing board members Donna Lehane, Sandee Jasnoski, Dean Wasser and Paul Wolff.

Bucky Walters, local comedian, will be the keynote speaker. Bucky is always entertaining and sure to be a hit with those attending.

Please join us for a complimentary appetizer and beverage reception following the meeting.

This meeting is free to the public but RSVPs are appreciated: call 267-0302 x:216.



Irene Leiker with her friends, Peggy and Marilyn, during a recent educational session at Orchard Park Senior Center.

Senior Employment Fair Set For September 29

Encouraged by the tremendous success of the March 17 senior job fair, the Senior Employment Program at Senior Services, Inc. of Wichita has scheduled a first-ever fall job fair for 9 to 11 a.m. Sept. 29 at the Downtown Senior Center.

Job seekers 55+ must apply at the Senior Employment Program, 200 S. Walnut, and complete a two-hour orientation prior to the fair. They are taking applicants now through Sept. 18.

SEP offers help preparing a resume, interview strategies, computer training and quality job leads, in addition to sponsoring the weekly job club and job fair. For more information, call 267-1771 or visit seniorservicesofwichita.org.





Senior Services, Inc.
of Wichita

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AARP Honors Downtown Senior Center With “Top State Host” Award

AARP Driver Safety recently honored the Downtown Senior Center with the inaugural “Top State Host” Award for its outstanding support in 2014 collaborating with local AARP Driver Safety volunteers to host its classroom-based driving refresher course, designed to help drivers stay safe and confident behind the wheel.

From January 1 through December 31, 2014, the Downtown Senior Center offered 10 courses at its facility, reaching 152 participants in the Wichita area.

AARP Driver Safety’s Top State Hosts are recognized based on the profound impact they make reaching drivers in their community. Of the hundreds of organizations in the state that held a course in 2014, AARP selected the host reaching the largest number of participants and the host holding the highest number of courses



to be honored.

The Downtown Senior Center continues to offer AARP Driver Safety events, including the AARP Smart Driver course.