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BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF OSHKOSH NEWS

INSIDE

Meet the Club's newest board member and find out details on the Club's Annual Meeting/Great Futures Celebration Dinner in February.



Call your friends and make your plans for WineFeast 2017 presented by FNB Fox Valley.

The event will be held at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel and Convention Center on Saturday, April 29th and reservations for the elegant Cellar Select dinner prior to general WineFeast are almost already sold out!

WineFeast is one of the biggest social events in Oshkosh with over 550 guests in attendance for general WineFeast, and over 500 guests will be seated for the Cellar Select dinner. In response to the increasing demand for more reservations, even more seats have been added to this popular portion of the event. Cellar Select, sponsored by the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel, is a relaxing five course dinner and wine pairing event which begins with a champagne reception promptly at 4:00 p.m.

During dinner, which is sponsored by CR Meyer, guests enjoy an exciting live auction and a short program including an opportunity to hear a firsthand, mission-focused story on how the Club has impacted the lives of children and families. Reservations cost \$125 per person and tables of eight are available for \$1,000. Reservations also

include a full-access pass into general WineFeast.

Following Cellar Select, WineFeast begins at 7:00 p.m. and features delicious fare from over a dozen of your favorite local restaurants and a divine selection of over 100 wines and domestic and imported beers.

There will also be live entertainment by the Mike Kubicki Quartet, a silent auction with unique items for everyone and raffle opportunities to win wine and delectable chocolate from Hughes' Home Maid Chocolates. Individual tickets cost \$75 per person prior to the event.

If you plan to stay out late, rooms are available at the Best Western Premier Waterfront Hotel for WineFeast guests. The hotel is conveniently accessible from the Convention Center by skyway and is newly renovated. Reservations include today's newspaper, and wireless internet.

All proceeds from Cellar Select and WineFeast go to the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh and directly benefit families and children in our community who most need the services the Club

provides. This includes healthy meals and snacks, family fun nights focused on bringing families in our community together, homework help, basic needs support, one on one mentoring, and quality programming that focuses on STEM, staying active, and character and leadership skills.

To purchase tickets for WineFeast or to make Cellar Select reservations, please visit the Boys & Girls Club online at www.bgcosh.org. To learn about sponsorship or volunteer opportunities or for other questions, contact Development and Marketing Director Tracy Ogden at (920) 233-1414 or tracyo@bgcosh.org.

WineFeast is in need of both silent and live auction items. Donating auction items gives businesses and individuals the opportunity to display their product and get free advertising. For more information on donating an auction item, please contact WineFeast Auction Coordinator Mary Johnson at WineFeastAuction@gmail.com.

SAVE THE DATE

FEB 9 Great Futures Celebration Dinner/ Annual Meeting

FEB 11 WI Cornhole Winter Tourney

APR 29 WineFeast 2017

Wednesday night before Thanksgiving, 150 Club members and their families (50 adults, 100 kids) enjoyed a hearty and delicious Thanksgiving meal at the Club.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF OSHKOSH

GREAT FUTURES START [HERE](#).



FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends of the Boy & Girls Club of Oshkosh,

With the holidays behind us, our staff and board find ourselves focusing on our new 3 year strategic plan, "Opening Doors to a Great Future." This is where we will invest our resources to help our Club members best succeed. This includes a stronger emphasis on educational success especially regarding reading, math and science for kids who need the extra help. We'll also focus on more career exploration, looking at where good employment and career opportunities are trending in the Fox Valley. We stay committed to providing mental health services in our partnership with Catalpa Health, running our mentoring program for at-risk youth, and helping youth and teens make smart choices for their lives through our programs, leadership clubs, partnership with the Oshkosh Police Department and the Oshkosh Area School District.

Through your support of our events like Winefeast, the Oshkosh Marathon and our Great Futures campaign, you are partners in keeping our Club doors open so any kid can belong.

Thank you for continuing to care about our youth.

Marc Dosogne, CEO

Boys & Girls Clubs of Oshkosh, Inc.

Great Futures Celebration Dinner

The Great Futures Celebration Dinner, which is presented by the organization's Board of Directors, will be held at the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh on Thursday, February 9th and will recap the successes of 2016, review the Club's financial position and recognize board members, donors and volunteers who have made a significant impact at the Club over the past year.

Oshkosh Corporation will receive the Kids & Community Awards for their committed leadership in our community; the Oshkosh Police Department will receive the Award of Merit for their years of dedicated volunteer work; Sue Ackerman will receive the J.R. Vette Friend of Youth Award for her outstanding efforts on the Club's board of directors; and Jason Presto will receive the Professional Service Award for his significant contribution to the Club in his role as Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of the Tri-County Area.

Registration is at 5:30 p.m. and a catered dinner from Zuppas will be served promptly at 6:00 p.m. There will be a short program from 7-7:30 p.m. If you would like to attend this event, please RSVP to Angie Koepke at (920) 233-1414 or angelak@bgcosh.org by February 2nd. The cost is \$30 per person to attend. If you are unable to attend, please consider sponsoring a Keystone or Torch Club member to attend. We hope to see you there!

Meet Our Newest Board Member



Darrin Kuehn is the Senior Director of Operations with Festival Foods. Darrin has been with Festival for the past 14 years. Prior to Darrin's Senior Operations role, Darrin lead 8 different stores and worked with teams and communities throughout Central Wisconsin. Aside from Festival, Darrin is in partnership with many investment and real-estate initiatives throughout the Fox Valley. Along with Darrin's professional career, he coached High School Football. At 21 years old, Darrin was the youngest Head Varsity Coach in the State and served in that capacity for 16 years at two different area high schools (2004 named Green Bay Packers High School Coach of the Week). Previous to Darrin's retail career and coaching, Darrin served our country and is a veteran

of the United States Marine Corps. Darrin attended Ripon College for his BA and received his MBA from UW Oshkosh. Darrin's wife, Erin, is a RN at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin Fox Valley. Darrin and Erin have 5 children, Jackson (12), Julian (10), Ruby (7), Jesse (4), and Liberty (Newborn). In Darrin's free time, he enjoys family activities, traveling, and building projects to enhance and improve our communities.

PHOTO GALLERY



The Calvin College women's volleyball team from Grand Rapids, MI volunteered at the Club while they were in town recently. They helped address Christmas cards, did snack prep in the kitchen and spent quality time with Club members.



Part-time staff member Ciara helps a Club member practice his skills in math during STRIDE Academy online learning time in the lab. STRIDE Academy helps students who are struggling improve their scores in the subjects of math, reading and science.



The 'Tidetown Challenge' took place in Green Bay in December. Seven area Boys & Girls Clubs competed against each other in a variety of activities to determine which Club is the champion. Oshkosh took 2nd place in the Scrabble Challenge and 3rd place in the Play-doh Pictionary challenge!

To see more photos of the exciting things taking place at our Club, please visit our Facebook page.



NEW WEBSITE!

The Club launched a brand new website in early January that provides better information for donors, parents and volunteers including features like a calendar of Club programs, field trips and events, ways to get involved, the latest Club news and details about all of the Club's programs and services.

One of the best new tools on the website is the TraxOnline Parent Portal which allows parents to register their children for summer, sign up for memberships, optional field trips, teen camps, programs and after school care, as well as make payments on their account by credit or debit card.

We hope you check it out at www.bgcosh.org!

Oshkosh Marathon



The 13th annual Oshkosh Marathon (and Half Marathon) put on by DuTriRun and sponsored by CR Meyer will take place on April 30, 2017 and start

in downtown historic Oshkosh at the Leach Amphitheater at 7 a.m. The race benefits the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh, the Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Center and the Oshkosh Area Humane Society. The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh is currently looking for about 30 volunteers to help work as course monitors. Those interested in volunteering on behalf of the Boys & Girls Club should contact Marketing Coordinator, Katie Huebner at katieh@bgcosh.org. For further information about the Oshkosh Marathon including rules, fees, registration and more, please visit www.dutrirun.com or call 920-574-2972.

Trees FROM Seeds

PROGRAM

A little over a year ago, the Club and Catalpa Health, the leading children's mental health center in Northeast Wisconsin, partnered to start offering on site mental health services to Club youth and families.

The Trees from Seeds program, which is funded through a grant from the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, has even expanded this fall to include providing services one day a week at Merrill Elementary School.

The program encourages mental health and wellness by providing mental health therapy by a licensed therapist, case management services (developing mental health plans and connecting families to community resources), trauma informed training for staff (awareness and comprehension of root causes of trauma) and integrated mental health programming (incorporating mental health awareness into programming and family nights).

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that up to 1 in 5 children in a given year have a diagnosable mental health disorder. Research shows that 50% of lifetime causes of mental illness begin by age 14. Sadly, less than 20% of children with diagnosable mental health problems receive the treatment they need (mentalhealth.gov). Many children are not able to access care due to barriers like transportation, finances, lack of parental engagement or an inadequate support system to facilitate treatment success.

In 2014, 26.1% of middle school and 18.6% of high school students in the Oshkosh Area School District seriously considered attempting suicide according to the Winnebago County Health Department. From 2010-2014, 12 youth deaths, ages 11 to 19, were ruled as suicides. Studies show that early identification and intervention can lessen the effects of mental illness, particularly during a child's development (NAMI, 2010). Additional benefits of early treatment include preventing adverse or violent behaviors and contributing to a child's success in school both academically and socially (NAMI, 2010).

Any Club parent may request therapy services for their child. Services are provided to children and families who are identified as needing the service through various channels including referrals, wellness screenings or walk-ins.

The objective of the Trees from Seeds program is to make sure Club members are receiving necessary mental health services to overall increase their mental health literacy and resiliency to give them the best opportunity to thrive.

By making mental health a priority at the Club, we have been able to work on improving Club member's health, not just physically but mentally and emotionally as well. This better allows them to focus on having fun, making friends and participating in the impactful programming we offer every day in areas like good character and leadership, life skills, and career exploration.



Trees from Seeds Program staff from L to R: Jasmine Knaus (Case Manager), Marie Stafford (Licensed Professional Counselor) and Kelda Tangen (Administrative Assistant).

Radford Christmas Party

Club families celebrated the holidays at our Radford Center Christmas Party in December. There was a hot dinner, pictures with Santa, cookie and ornament decorating, a Secret Santa Workshop, games and more.





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Kids made sturdy Popsicle stick, clothes pin and Playdoh structures in the Learning Center and then tested to see how much weight their towers could hold.

MISSION

To improve the lives of children and families.

VISION

The Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh will be a generation-changing leading provider of programs emphasizing youth development services and family outreach support to meet the needs of young people 6-18 and their families, especially those who need us most.

CONTACT US!

Phone: (920) 233-1414 | Fax: (920) 233-1816 | Email: info@bgcosh.org

Washington, D.C. Trip

Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh alumna and 2016 Youth of the Year, Georice Thomas was invited by Senator Ron Johnson on a special trip to visit and tour around Washington, D.C. in October along with the Club's Development and Marketing Director Tracy Ogden.

Georice and Tracy flew out to Washington, D.C. for a three day sightseeing tour that included touring several Smithsonian Institutes, the Newseum, the National Mall, the United States Capitol, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, the White House and Arlington National Cemetery. One of the highlights of the trip was visiting the Supreme Court and personally meeting Samuel Anthony Alito, Jr, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court!

Last year, as a high school senior, Georice won the title of the Boys & Girls Club of Oshkosh's 2016 Youth of the Year because of her service to Club, community and family, academic success, strong moral character, and public speaking ability. As Youth of the Year, Georice was awarded a \$10,000 scholarship from the Boys & Girls Club's Charles F. Hyde, Jr. Youth of the Year Scholarship Endowment. She is currently attending college at Grand Canyon University in Phoenix, Arizona.



Board of Directors

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