



Des Plaines Community Foundation

Helping Hands Brighten Lives

SUMMER 2017

FEELING LUCKY? TAKE A CHANCE — JOIN OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER AT RIVERS CASINO!



Come hedge your bets and double down with the Des Plaines Community Foundation (DPCF) on Friday, September 8, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the 14th annual and only fundraiser at the Cube nightclub at the Rivers Casino, 3000 S. River Road, Des Plaines.

Tickets for the event are \$85 per person and will include appetizers, gourmet dinner, open bar and entertainment, the musical stylings of Victor Pacini and Daniela Tereza.

There will be a raffle featuring a grand prize of \$1,000, and multiple second and third prizes including luxury hotel stays, restaurant dinners and gift cards and additional prizes valued at more than \$200 each.

There is a new popular fundraising game called “Heads or Tails” for guests to wager and win a prize.

Silent auction items will include golf packages, spa and sporting events, collectibles, gifts and more. You must be 21 years old to attend.

“Please help our cause by attending and/or supporting the 14th annual and only fundraiser at the new Des Plaines Community Foundation,” said Rosemary Argus, executive director of the Foundation. More than 200 people attended the event last year.

Alliant Credit Union Foundation is the main sponsor of the event this year, with a donation of \$3,500. Sponsorships for food or beverages station are still available for the annual event at the \$2,500, \$1,500 and \$500 levels.

The Foundation raises funds to identify, link and

Save the Date



Friday, Sept. 8, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.
for the 14th Annual Rivers Casino Fundraiser
For tickets call 847-297-4932 or visit DPCharities.org



(LEFT TO RIGHT) Singer Victor Pacini returns this year with special guest Daniela Tereza. Guests browse the silent auction items at last year's fundraiser.



mobilize assets to support the service programs of the Des Plaines Healthy Community Partnership Programs whose activities improve the lives of those that live and work in Des Plaines.

Some of the programs include; Neighbors Helping Neighbors Program Committee; Healthy Community/Healthy Youth Program Committee; Intergenerational Program Committee, and Seasons of Service Program Committee.

For tickets to the annual fundraiser visit www.DPCharities.org, or call Rosemary Argus at 847-297-4932 or 847-525-5566.

A NOTE FROM ROSEMARY



Rosemary Argus

The Des Plaines Community Foundation is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization that is made up completely of volunteers.

The Foundation funds the programs and services provided through the Des Plaines Healthy Community Partnership. The Partnership brings Des Plaines resources together to improve quality of life for those who

live and work in the community.

Together the organization supports programs that provide support for youth, senior citizens, and people with special needs and helps promote a healthy and safe community environment.

Besides all the folks who have generously donated to be our fundraiser sponsors we would like to thank the Alliant Credit Union Foundation, Rivers Casino, the Edward and Wanda Jordan Foundation, the Chicago Mar Thoma Church, Bob and Terry Lewandowski, Dan and Jody Whalen, Prairie Rock Financial, City of Des Plaines, BMO Harris, AT&T, Orange Crush, Pesche Flowers and ITW for all their financial support to fund our programs.

We would also like to thank each and every trustee on our Board for all their help in accomplishing all the good work we have achieved for the residents who live and work in Des Plaines. It takes all of us working together to be successful. God Bless.

Please help our cause by attending and/or supporting the 14th annual fundraiser at the new Des Plaines Rivers Casino on Friday, Sept. 8. You can “Bet on the Des Plaines Community Foundation” because for every \$1 we receive, we provide \$12 of service to our residents. We are able to do this because we are all volunteers!



Des Plaines Community Foundation

Helping Hands Brighten Lives

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PAST PRESIDENT: Chris Pesche, Pesche's Flowers

PRESIDENT: Rich Holke, Alliant Credit Union

VICE PRESIDENT: Mark Lucaccioni, Prairie Rock Financial Group

TREASURER: Margaret Polovchak, Des Plaines

SECRETARY: Kathy Puetz, City of Des Plaines

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Rosemary S. Argus, Des Plaines

TRUSTEES

Robert Argus, United Airlines

Dina Argus, Des Plaines

Steve Bader, Wyndham Hotel Chicago O'Hare

Paul Bartholomae, Retired, Maine West Building Trades Teacher

Sunny Cherian, Chicago Mar Thoma

Sherry Gardner, Sysco Foods—Chicago

Jan Goczkowski, Century 21—Langos & Christian

Sandra Hansen, BMO Harris Bank

Jim Johnsen, IPS Corporation

Bob Lewandowski, R. Franczak & Associates

Chris Peterson, Corporate Coach

Kimberly Potokar, Alliant Credit Union

Chuck Reid, Pastor, Bethesda Worship

Dick Sayad, Alderman, City of Des Plaines

Jody Whalen, Des Plaines



THE CUBE: ENJOY A GALA NIGHT AT THE DES PLAINES RIVERS CASINO

The event includes several open bars where guests can enjoy the ultimate in mixology



ROSEMARY ARGUS RECEIVES 2017 INSPIRE AWARD

Presence Holy Family Medical Center (PHFMC) recently presented the 2017 Inspire Award to Community Activist Rosemary Argus, executive director of the DPCF.

The award recognized Rosemary's lifelong devotion to community service. She's spent more than 50 years assisting the community of Des Plaines and the surrounding suburbs, including being a past alderman for the City of Des Plaines and a park commissioner for the Mt. Prospect Park District.

For the past 16 years, Rosemary has acted as executive director of the DPCF, which supports the community programs of the Des Plaines Healthy Community Partnership by generating and distributing financial and community resources.

The Foundation was created to raise funds not available through local tax revenues to identify, link and mobilize community assets that will benefit all people of Des Plaines. It distributes up to \$80,000 each year to the elderly, disabled and youth of Des Plaines.

"Rosemary Argus was the unanimous decision for this year's recipient, and it's not difficult to understand why," said PHFMC President Yolande Wilson-Stubbs at the award presentation. "When I look back on your history of service to our community, your passion to help everyone you can and your drive to make this a better place to live, there's no one I would rather see standing beside me accepting this award."

The Presence Holy Family Medical Center Inspire Award is presented annually to a community leader or



Presence Holy Family Medical Center President Yolande Wilson-Stubbs, left, presented Rosemary Argus, executive director of the Des Plaines Community Foundation, with its 2017 Inspire Award for Community Service.



The 2017 Inspire Award.

organization that exemplifies the values that inspire our ministry's outreach to the community.

The award recognizes exceptional leadership from an individual or organization that has gone above and beyond the call of duty to advance the well-being of the neighborhoods served.

Presence Holy Family Center is Northwest Chicagoland's only long-term, acute-care hospital. It is part of Presence Health, the largest Catholic health system in Illinois.



(LEFT TO RIGHT) The DPCF board members are Chuck Reid, Pastor, Bethesda Worship; Mark Lucaccioni, Prairie Rock Financial Group; Kimberly Potokar, Alliant Credit Union; Rich Holke, Alliant Credit Union; Dina Argus; Robert Argus, United Airlines; Rosemary S. Argus; Jody Whalen; Paul Bartholomae; Kathy Puetz, City of Des Plaines; Bob Lewandowski, R. Franczak & Associates; and Margaret Polovchak.

FOUNDATION AWARDS FIVE SCHOLARSHIPS

The Des Plaines Community Foundation (DPCF) recently awarded four \$1,500 scholarships to Des Plaines students. This is the fifth year the Foundation has offered these scholarships for both two-year and four-year college students to help pay tuition.

A fourth annual Sadie Rosie scholarship is presented as well.

The four recipients for the Foundation scholarships are: Muskaan Dhiman, Maine East High School; Miranda Gonzalez, Maine West High School; Layan Safi, Elk Grove High School, and Hannah Schill, Maine West High School. They were chosen out of more than 20 applicants.

“We believe that helping our young adults obtain a college education is an investment, not only in the future of our youth, but also in the future of Des Plaines,” said Argus. “The scholarships will help bring a college degree within reach for students who deserve it most.”

The Sadie Rose Argus Leadership Award was presented to David Charewicz, a former Elk Grove High School student, who worked with the DPCF for the past five years doing volunteer community service like cutting lawns for



David Charewicz, Sadie Rose Argus Leadership Award winner, with his father and City of Des Plaines 8th Ward Alderman Mike Charewicz.



DPCF scholarship winners with their families.

elderly and disabled residents.

Charewicz opted to not accept the prize and instead he re-donated the scholarship money back to the Foundation.

The Sadie Rose Argus Leadership Award was given to students in recognition of their efforts and volunteer hours directly related to carrying out the mission, programs and services of the Foundation.

The DPCF scholarship committee trustees are: Rich Holke, Kimberly Potokar, Mark Lucaccioni, Sandra Hansen, Kathy Puetz, Margaret Polovchak, Sherry Gardner and Dick Sayad. They judged the student applications based on strict guidelines and required paperwork.

Students considered for future scholarship program must complete an application, which can be downloaded at www.desplainscommunityfoundation.org/scholarship.



DPCF Board members and trustees and the Foundation scholarship winners with their families.



T-Bob's owner Ted Roombos with Rosemary Argus of DPCF on Thanksgiving morning.

FOUNDATION AND LOCAL BUSINESSES SERVE A HAPPY THANKSGIVING FOR NEEDY DES PLAINES RESIDENTS

The Des Plaines Community Foundation, T-Bob's Smoked Bar-B-Q, 1165 S. Elmhurst Road, Sysco Foods Chicago and Panera Bread in Metropolitan Square worked together to provide and deliver Thanksgiving Day dinners.

As a result, more than 200 families, homebound seniors and people with disabilities had a very happy 2016 Thanksgiving. According to Argus, turkey dinners were delivered to those in wheelchairs, on oxygen and the blind, who have difficulty leaving their homes.

"This is our fifth year making the meals and delivering the turkey dinners," explained Argus. "It was T-Bob's and my idea, as well as local churches. It's a group effort."

T-Bob's owner Ted Roombos and his family and staff have donated their time every year to help on Thanksgiving," Argus added. Roombos roasts all the



Rosemary Argus, executive director of the DPCF, holds a map of the homes of the 200 families who received meals. The IT Department at the City of Des Plaines made the map of the routes for the volunteer drivers on Thanksgiving.

turkey breasts for the dinners.

Lacey Belle Argus, and her schoolmates from CHIPPEWA made Thanksgiving Day "We Care About You" cards, which were included with the meals.

Also, the Des Plaines Girls Softball girls wrote Thanksgiving Day cards to the recipients of the meals so that they know they're cared for.

Everyone on both the Neighbors Helping Neighbors list and the Des Plaines church lists were called to confirm they would be home on Thanksgiving Day and enjoyed having a cooked meal delivered.

Sysco Foods provided 80 pounds of turkey breasts, vegetables and potatoes. T-Bob's roasted the turkey. Volunteers packaged the corn, sweet potatoes, main entrée, bread, and pumpkin pie.

DPCF volunteers picked up Panera Bread's contributions of bagels, other bread and pastries and delivered them to T-Bob's. Other volunteers, including a large number from Sysco Foods, delivered meals between 10 a.m. and noon on Thanksgiving Day in the rain.

"This is a really touching program to provide for these families," said Argus. "We appreciate all the volunteers."

MIDWEST GAMING AND RIVERS CASINO DONATE \$10,000 GRANT

Rivers Casino donated \$10,000 to the Des Plaines Community Foundation earmarked to help develop wheelchair ramps, snow shoveling and vegetable garden programs.

"We are developing a program to pay for supplies for Des Plaines elementary and/or high school students to assist with these programs," said Argus.



(RIGHT) Rebecca Banks, Rosemary Argus, Bob Argus and Tabi Charlet hold a \$10,000 grant check from Midwest Gaming.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: ZANIES FUNDRAISER PUTS THE 'FUN' IN FUNDRAISING



Jody and Dan Whalen organized the charity event to benefit the Des Plaines Community Foundation at Zanies Comedy Club at 5437 Park Place in Rosemont.

The Whalen family and Rosemont-based Zanies Comedy Club recently worked together to raise nearly \$6,500 to support the Des Plaines Community Foundation at Standup for Des Plaines II, a special comedy night benefit.

“This was our second year of doing this charity event for the Des Plaines Community Foundation,” explained Dan and Jody Whalen. “But next year we plan to be even more successful with at least 200-plus guests.”

According to the Whalens, who have lived in Des Plaines for 32 years, the profit from the Zanies fundraiser turned out to be about \$3,900, including another \$2,500 from Sam Palumbo at Orange Crush in Wheeling.

“Zanies Comedy Club and Cyndi Nelson, the general manager, worked with us to host this fundraiser and



(LEFT TO RIGHT) Bob Argus, Rick Mika and Dina Argus at the Standup for Des Plaines II Fundraiser. Comedian Mike Toomey headlined the fundraiser.

allowed the entire ticket price to go to the charity,” said Dan Whalen.

“We worked with Cyndi at Zanies about five weeks before the event and locked in the date,” said Jody Whalen. “We had a little over 130 guests show up on a Thursday night, which was just great.”

According to Argus, the Whalens provided a very fun evening and raised a significant amount of funds for the Foundation. “We appreciate their good work,” said Argus. The Whalens are planning to hold the event annually.

Dan also did about five minutes of stand-up comedy at the event—reminiscing his younger days when he did open mic night at the old Rosemont COMEDY Cottage in the mid-1980s.

The comedy headliner at Standup for Des Plaines II was WGN’s Mike Toomey with his sharp delivery, quick wit, and unique style. Toomey has been a favorite at comedy clubs and special events since 1982. Mike has appeared in concert with such names as Wayne Newton, Crosby, Stills & Nash, and Reba McIntyre.

CHICAGO MAR THOMA CHURCH DONATES \$4,500 TO DPCF

Chicago Mar Thoma Church and their diocesan bishop presented the Des Plaines Community Foundation with a check for \$4,500 to fund foundation programs, such as college scholarships, donations to food pantries, and the purchase of coats for needy families.

“The Mar Thoma Church parish members wanted to take this opportunity to help people in our community,” said Reverend Abraham Scaria.

The diocesan bishop presented the foundation with a check to support the Foundation’s programs..

(RIGHT) Sunny Cherian of Chicago Mar Thoma Church, left, presents a check to Rich Holke, president of the Foundation.





Mia Thomas, Arrie Henderson and Amaya Castaneda prepare helmets for the kids.

STUDENTS VOLUNTEER IN SEASONS OF SERVICE PROGRAMS

The Des Plaines Community Foundation has had a presence at the annual Spring Fun Fair at The Mountain View Adventure Center in Prairie Lakes.

“Four student softball players got together off the field to lend a helping hand preparing for the event last spring,” said Argus.

Student volunteers Lacey Argus, Mia Thomas, Arrie Henderson and Amaya Castaneda helped unpack and prepare the bicycle helmets which were ready to distribute to the children.



The idea of the bicycle project was presented to the Foundation for funding by Dr. Michael Bagby, who continues to head up the project and work every year.

The Foundation planned to give out 100 bicycle helmets to the first children who attended and needed a helmet. Bike safety checks, bike safety information and minor maintenance were provided.

The Des Plaines Softball girls have volunteered hours to help the needy and disabled of Des Plaines. They have helped residents by helping them pack when moving, raking leaves and light housekeeping chores.

DPCF Partners with Alliant Credit Union Foundation: FREE WORKSHOP TEACHES DES PLAINES KIDS ABOUT MONEY AT FRIENDSHIP PARK CONSERVATORY

The Alliant Credit Union Foundation and the Des Plaines Community Foundation hosted a workshop called “The Basics of Saving and Money Management for Kids.”

The kid’s event was held at Friendship Park Conservatory at 395 W. Algonquin Road in Des Plaines—provided by the Des Plaines Community Foundation as a partner.

The event had 11 participants and was geared towards children ages 7 to 11 and featured a raffle for a chance to win episodes of Biz Kid\$ on DVD and Jean Chatzky’s book, “Money Rules.”

The workshop taught children about the basics of saving and money management as well as provide helpful suggestions for accompanying parent/guardians on how to encourage financial literacy skills in their children.

The Alliant Credit Union Foundation is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit dedicated to promoting economic empowerment and self-sufficiency in people, especially in communities where Alliant Credit Union members and employees live and work. The Foundation carries out its cause through education, service, grants and investment.



KC and Michael Conrad



Dan Pavel and Sioui Pavel



Robert Arcuri with daughters Sofia and Isabelle



Ethan and Colin with father Eric Podgorski

SPECIAL THANK YOU: TO PAUL BARTHOLOMAE FOR JEN SCHOOL AT MARYVILLE

The Des Plaines Community Foundation appreciates Paul Bartholomae and sincerely thanks him for his work with the Jen School students in Des Plaines.

The Des Plaines Community Foundation donated \$3,750 to the Maryville Jen School garden shed project to buy the supplies, including tools and lumber needed to construct a

garden shed, while the students provide the labor under the guidance of Bartholomae. The program will be great for students who are eager to learn construction skills and helping the community is an added boost.

“What will make the program so successful is the cooperation among students,” said Bartholomae, a retired 33-year veteran instructor. “The plan will be to divvy up tasks and bring different

strengths to the table. And, they work—just like a real-life crew. It is really a hands-on experience for some of these



Paul Bartholomae works with the Jen School students in Des Plaines.



A finished ramp.

students, and the experience can turn into a future career.”

“Utilizing their construction skills to build garden sheds, ramps, decks, picnic tables, and paint houses, they have come to the aid of many residents that needed assistance,” Argus said.

The Foundation gives a special “thank you” to Bartholomae for working with the students and encouraging the building of wheelchair ramps to help free disabled and elderly people who are trapped in wheelchairs in their homes.

“The ramps are the most important thing we do for the Des Plaines residents in need,” said Bartholomae.

It becomes a problem when the elderly or disabled can’t get out of their homes to get to the doctor.



(ABOVE) A finished shed. (LEFT) Jen School students attend a wheelchair ramp training session under the guidance of Paul Bartholomae.

DPCF DONATES \$10,000 TO THREE LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

The Des Plaines Community Foundation donated \$10,000 to local area food pantries. The donation was split between three food pantries.

“During these hard times all food pantries are pressed for help with so many people out of work,” said Argus of the Foundation. “People are struggling in this economy and food pantries are a very necessary and important factor to some resident’s lives. The Foundation Trustees voted unanimously to donate.”

Dick Sayad, DPCF board member and Des Plaines 4th Ward Alderman, presented the Elk Grove Township Pantry with a \$2,500 donation. Mike Sweeney Supervisor of Elk Grove Township accepted the donation.



Dick Sayad presented Mike Sweeney Supervisor of Elk Grove Township with a \$2,500 donation.

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Rich Holke presented Deb Walusiak of the Self Help Pantry and Closet with a \$5,000 donation. SHC&P board members (Left to Right) Holly Wilson, Ray Imig, Katherine Bausone and Bill Schoenberg with Debbie Walusiak, SHC&P executive director, and Rich Holke, president of DPCF, and Deb Walusiak of the Self Help Pantry and Closet.



Sweeney said he would use the donation to restock the shelves. “The donation is very much appreciated,” said Sweeney.

Rich Holke, president of the DPCF made a stop at the Self Help Closet and Pantry of Des Plaines where he presented Debbie Walusiak with a \$5,000 donation.

“We usually help 800 to 1,000 residents a month,” said Walusiak. “We are extremely grateful to be recipients of what the Foundation does for the community. They do very generous work.”

Alderman Dick Sayad also presented Carol Teschky Maine Township Supervisor with a donation of \$2,500.

“The generous donation will be used to purchase much needed food for individuals and families in need,” said Teschky.

(LEFT) Dick Sayad presented a check for \$2,500 to benefit the Maine Township Emergency Food Pantry. Supervisor Carol A. Teschky thanks Dick and the Foundation for continued support.



DPCF DONATES TO THE BOY SCOUTS OF TROOP 160

Board member and Alderman Dick Sayad 4th Ward presented a check for \$500 to benefit the local Boy Scouts’ pancake breakfast. Boy Scouts of Troop 160 held their

Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Zachary Church. From left to right are Nick Rosenoon, Jay Mueller, Sayad, Terry Runde and John Redding



DPCF RAISES FUNDS FOR 2017 RELAY FOR LIFE

The Relay for Life event was this past June in Des Plaines and the Foundation donated \$500. Proceeds from the relay go to fund the American Cancer Society's efforts to research and fight cancer.

Relay for Life is a unique 12-hour, family-oriented community fundraising event. Some of the highlights of our Relay include a survivor/family reception, survivor and caregiver recognition and a luminaria ceremony, in which we honor and remember those who have battled this disease.

This inspiring event unites the entire community in celebrating those who have survived cancer, remembering loved ones lost, and providing an opportunity to fight back against the disease.

(LEFT) Rosemary Argus holds a special Thank You certificate from the Des Plaines Relay for Life for the Foundation's donation of \$500

Des Plaines Community Foundation



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

888-646-8898

1420 Miner Street, Room 402A
Des Plaines, IL. 60016

Neighbors Helping Neighbors...

A program where you can get help.

- Do you need transportation to a medical appointment?
- Help with personal shopping?
- Help with yard and/or home care?
- Help with the purchase and installation of an emergency response box (Knox Box) or wheelchair ramp?
- Whatever your need, we might be able to help!

Call 888-646-8898

If you would like to volunteer for this program, please call.

We need volunteers!

We need people to drive residents and to do light yard and/or house work.