

# THE ALDEN LEADER



The 'new' Alden Wentworth features a top-to-bottom renovation and amenities such as daily recreational activities, a hair salon and cable TV.

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**Banner design:**  
Alden Wentworth's 'new' lobby

## Grand Reopening Celebration

### Welcoming the 'new' Alden Wentworth

Following a year-long, multi-million dollar renovation, **Alden Wentworth** Rehabilitation and Health Care Center is strengthening its community ties and renewing its commitment to be the finest rehabilitation and health care facility on Chicago's South Side.

"The response from residents, families and medical professionals to Alden Wentworth's new look has been very positive," says Charlene Hill-Jeon, a licensed administrator.

The facility's Grand Reopening was celebrated with an open house last fall, followed by a Sunday brunch for residents and family members. Among nearly 100 community leaders who toured the rehabilitation and long-term care center were prominent clergymen, hospital administrative staff, law enforcement officials and city and state political representatives.

With the renovation complete, Alden Wentworth "is now concentrating on giving back to the community," says Drew Elisco, Alden's director of government relations. To show its commitment, the facility recently hosted a neighborhood Town Hall Meeting with Alderman Freddrenna Lyle, participated with Love Cathedral in a coat drive for children and is working with local churches to stock food pantries.

The main beneficiaries of the 'new' Alden Wentworth, however, are the residents. "Anyone who walks through our doors is impressed by the 'new' Alden Wentworth," says Admission Director Regina Long, who was hired shortly after the facility opened in 1981 and has provided support to

residents and their families over the years. "Alden Wentworth can proudly claim to be a state-of-the-art rehabilitation center that provides health care services to meet the needs of our residents and our community," she adds.

Key features of the total renovation include an enlarged therapy room with a full array of top-of-the-line equipment, as well as new flooring, wall coverings, furniture, artwork, draperies and more.

"The residents are so happy with all the work that has been done," Hill-Jeon says, adding that "they especially like the large flat-screen TVs in the day rooms."

Alden Wentworth offers a short-term 'Optimal Rehabilitation' Program as well as long-term care. A unit for individuals with Alzheimer's and related diseases, a secured behavioral health unit and inpatient hemodialysis are specialized services at the facility.

*See photos of the 'new' Alden Wentworth on the back page.*



At Alden Wentworth's open house, from left: Drew Elisco, Alden's director of government relations, with State Representative Andre Thapedi; and Alderman Freddrenna Lyle with Alden Wentworth Administrator Charlene Hill-Jeon.

# Facility Happenings

## 'Ducks' Make Waves for Leukemia Research

### *Alden of Waterford*

National Guardsmen, fire fighters, representatives from the City of Aurora and Village of Oswego and local pre-schoolers joined Alden employees, residents and families to cheer on more than 1,300 toy ducks at a 'Duck Race' to help fund leukemia research.

Co-sponsored by *Alden of Waterford* Rehabilitation and Health Care Center, the Aurora Fire Department and Soliel Salon and Day Spa, the afternoon event in October raised more than \$8,000 for the Leukemia Research Foundation. "Even though the day was cold and cloudy—definitely duck weather—we had a great turnout," says Administrator Nora O'Gorman. The logistics of how to get rubber duckys to 'race' across the pond at the entrance to the Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) in Aurora were worked out by local firefighters.

While about 150 guests feasted on appetizers prepared by Alden of Waterford's professional chef, National Guardsmen carried plastic bins brimming with toy ducks to the pond and firemen hooked up hoses to propel them across the water. "It was quite a sight ... all those rubber duckys racing to the finish line," O'Gorman says. "Everyone pitched in to make the event a huge success."



*Fire hoses propel rubber duckys toward the finish line at Alden of Waterford fundraiser for The Leukemia Research Foundation.*

Robert J. Molitor, Alden's chief operating officer, explained in the article that the attention paid to Alden Estates of Barrington's design during the renovation was based on the belief "that a pleasant environment promotes healing and wellness and aids in the recovery process."



*Ducks race to find a cure for leukemia.*

## National Magazine Spotlights Alden Facility

### *Alden Estates of Barrington*

The unique design and amenities of *Alden Estates of Barrington* Rehabilitation and Health Care Facility were featured in the December issue of *Long-Term Living*, a national publication.

In a three-page spread illustrated with interior and exterior photos, the magazine states that "Alden Estates of Barrington combines a state-of-the-art rehabilitation and health care center with many of the comforts of home."

The article describes specific design elements incorporated during a total renovation of the facility in 2006, including "warm, rich color tones that complement the wood finishes and crown moldings. The jewel-like colors inspire confidence and provide a cheerful atmosphere, while the leaf motif infuses the project with a lively, energetic and organic feeling."



*Long-Term Living magazine: Alden Estates of Barrington's lobby is 'welcoming and conducive to socialization.'*

## Partnership Benefits Seniors

### *Alden Poplar Creek*

A relationship that began more than 15 years ago has grown into a partnership that benefits seniors at both *Alden Poplar Creek* Rehabilitation and Health Care Center in Hoffman Estates and The Schaumburg Barn (The Barn) Senior Center.

For years, residents of Alden Poplar Creek have been regular visitors to The Barn for an afternoon of Bingo, cards and socializing, as well as for special events like picnics and 'Casino Night.' In keeping with Alden's pledge to give back to the communities it serves, says Administrator Jeff Russell, "we try to go the extra mile to make our relationship with The Barn a mutually beneficial partnership." Among other things, he says, the staff at Alden Poplar Creek prepares and serves 'themed' lunches 10 times a year for about 70 seniors at The Barn.

"For Cinco de Mayo, we served chicken-cheese quesadillas, rice and refried beans," says Marcia Dunning, Alden Poplar Creek community liaison. "A traditional Thanksgiving meal includes turkey and stuffing, pumpkin soup and pecan pie; and for St. Patrick's Day, we bring mulligatawny soup and corned beef and cabbage. We have a great relationship with The Barn and it gives our residents an opportunity to get out into the community and participate in these fun activities."

In return, regulars at the senior center show their appreciation in various ways, including knitting lap blankets, mittens and scarves for Alden Poplar Creek residents.

# People In The News

## Waterford Couples Are 'Young at Heart'



*Wynn and Gene Cook: Newly weds and new to The Lakes.*

At opposite ends of the marriage spectrum, two couples at *The Lakes at Alden of Waterford* are still 'young at heart.'

The memory of their 70th Wedding Anniversary at Alden of Waterford is the first thing Dale and Doris Chatfield mention when asked how they like living at *Alden of Waterford Continuing Care Retirement Community* (CCRC) in Aurora. "It was one of the most memorable moments of our lives," says Doris, 89. "The Alden of Waterford staff went out of their way to make it a perfect occasion. The presentation and the food were absolutely perfect...better than a country club."

Three years after the Chatfields moved from Colorado to live near their children, they still consider their duplex at The Lakes their dream home. "We've never met friendlier people than we know here," Doris says. Her husband especially likes the lake view and

swans outside their back door. "Our favorite restaurant is right here," adds Dale, 98. "The food at Alden Gardens of Waterford is always delicious. We couldn't ask for more."

Relative newcomers, Wynn and Gene Cook moved into their duplex at The Lakes right after they married last fall. Avid travelers, they met a year ago on a trip with a senior tour group. The couple "looked at several different retirement communities before we saw an ad for Alden of Waterford," says Gene, 83. "We came here and made up our minds almost instantly. It's a

terrific location, the duplexes are beautiful and the people are very friendly."

For Wynn, who lived in a large house in Naperville with a one-acre lawn for 44 years, The Lakes is the best of all worlds. "I have my activities and none of the hassles of owning a home," she explains. "It's great."

## Wishes Granted for Teens with Special Needs

Two teenagers at Alden facilities for developmentally disabled children and young adults were recently recognized by foundations that grant wishes for children with serious medical conditions.

Samantha Salazar, a 15-year-old resident of *Alden Village North* Health Facility for Children and Young Adults in Chicago, was presented in January with a flat-screen TV/DVD player and specially designed furniture, accessories and other items for her room.

"Because Samantha is non-verbal, it was actually her grandparents who interpreted her wish," says Janet Yu, a volunteer 'wish granter' for the Illinois chapter of 'Make-A-Wish Foundation.' "We worked with her grandparents to

research what items would best meet Samantha's needs and wishes," Yu adds.

Last summer, a 19-year-old resident of Bloomingdale's *Alden Village* Health Facility for Children and Young Adults was also granted his wish. Diagnosed with a brain tumor in 2008, Gregory Cordero wanted his family and friends to be able to celebrate his 20th birthday with him.

The Chicago chapter of 'A Special Wish Foundation' made Gregory's wish come true by providing transportation and hotel accommodations for more than 30 friends and relatives from Ohio, as well as catering a party at Alden Village. "We couldn't have hoped for a better birthday for Gregory," says Leslie Cordero, his sister. "The smile on his face was worth a thousand words."



*Dale and Doris Chatfield: Celebrated 70th Anniversary at Alden Gardens of Waterford.*

## Recognizing Employee Excellence

**ALDEN SALUTES THE DEDICATION OF ITS EMPLOYEES. THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES WERE ELIGIBLE FOR 5, 10, 15, 20 AND 30-YEAR ALDEN SERVICE PINS DURING THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2009.**

### **Alden Alma Nelson Manor**

Latoniah Jackson, 5 yrs

### **Alden Estates of Naperville**

Floyd O'Hara, 30 yrs

Victoria Peters, 30 yrs

Angelina Hernandez, 20 yrs

### **Alden Courts of Des Plaines**

Yesenia Cruz-Peralta, 5 yrs

### **Alden of Des Plaines**

Adelina Sanchez, 5 yrs

### **Alden Lakeland**

Alan Carter, 5 yrs

Teta Duncan, 5 yrs

Debra Roans, 5 yrs

Mary Ann Po, 5 yrs

### **Alden Long Grove**

Carmen Castro, 10 yrs

Nellie McCollum, 10 yrs

Hugo Bahena, 5 yrs

Marionne Borres, 5 yrs

Lesley Hieras, 5 yrs

### **Alden Northmoor**

Jesus Flores, 10 yrs

Ligaya Nipin, 10 yrs

Krystyna Prośniak, 10 yrs

### **Alden North Shore**

Carmen Avila, 10 yrs

Angellie Dam, 5 yrs

Mirosława Dziekonski, 5 yrs

Francisco Evangelista, 5 yrs

Irene Galuzo, 5 yrs

Susan Kleidorfer, 5 yrs

### **Alden Orland Park**

Latonya Davis, 10 yrs

Miles Rose, 5 yrs

Carmen Zepeda, 5 yrs

### **Alden Park Strathmoor**

Angelica Escobedo, 5 yrs

### **Alden Poplar Creek**

Nancy Meyer, 5 yrs

### **Alden Princeton**

Beatrice Burke, 10 yrs

Thelma Johnson, 5 yrs

### **Alden Terrace of McHenry**

Kara Vanderford, 10 yrs

Jill Muse, 5 yrs

Analy N Sapanhila, 5 yrs

### **Alden Town Manor**

Diane Macon, 5 yrs

### **Alden Valley Ridge**

Precila Hernandez, 15 yrs

Gina Sepanton, 15 yrs

Maria Andres, 5 yrs

Abel Medina, 5 yrs

Cynthia Perry, 5 yrs

Alfonso Valencia, 5 yrs

### **Alden Village**

Antoinette Manishimwe, 5 yrs

Henry Mbogo, 5 yrs

### **Alden Courts of Waterford**

Edward Arguelles, 5 yrs

### **Alden Gardens of Waterford**

Christine Wright, 20 yrs

### **Alden of Waterford**

Amelia Ramos, 5 yrs

Ofelia Vilorio, 5 yrs

### **Alden Wentworth**

Felica Martin, 10 yrs

Matthew Murry, 10 yrs

Belinda Brown, 5 yrs

Phyllis Williams, 5 yrs

### **Heather Health Care**

Toni Mattison, 10 yrs

Carniece Robinson, 5 yrs

Melvin Weathers, 5 yrs

### **AMS**

Bob Nadolski, 20 yrs

Ayesha Bokhari, 10 yrs

Indu Chhabra, 10 yrs

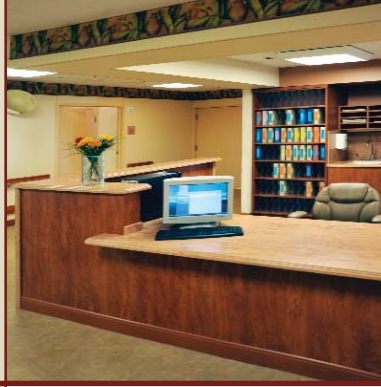
Beverly Romero, 10 yrs

Maria Guzman, 5 yrs

Christine Pineda, 5 yrs

Christine Reinhofer, 5 yrs

Tracey Smith, 5 yrs



## Experience the Difference

Orthopedic Rehabilitation  
Neurological Rehabilitation  
Cardiac Rehabilitation  
Skilled Nursing  
Alzheimer's Care  
Respiratory Services  
Ventilator Care  
Respite/Vacation Care  
Senior Living  
Hospice Care

### Mission Statement:

To be the best residential and long-term care provider for our customers

Located throughout  
Chicago and the suburbs,  
Rockford and  
southern Wisconsin

- 22 Rehabilitation & health care centers
- 2 Alzheimer's residential centers
- 3 Assisted living communities
- 6 Special needs facilities
- 7 Senior living communities

### CIRCLE of Values

Compassion  
Integrity  
Respect  
Continual Improvement  
Learning  
Enthusiasm

The 'new' Alden Wentworth: From left, remodeled nurses' station, lower level 'Main Street Promenade' and state-of-the-art rehabilitation and therapy room.

## 'Extreme Makeovers' in 2010

Two Alden health care facilities are slated for top-to-bottom renovations this year. Work is already underway at *Alden Village North* Health Facility for Children and Young Adults on Chicago's far north side, while a total reconstruction of *Alden Estates of Skokie* Rehabilitation and Health Care Center is scheduled to begin later this year.

At Alden Estates of Skokie, where Alden assumed management at the end of 2008, the facility will be transformed into a short-term rehabilitation center with top-of-the-line programs, services and amenities.

"We're looking at an extreme makeover," says Administrator Michael Gottesman. "Everything in the building will be new—from a layout that features a fine dining restaurant and 'Main Street Promenade' with an ice cream shop, gift shop and spa, to a state-of-the-art rehabilitation center with indoor walking track. Even the front entrance is being redesigned."

When the project is finished, Gottesman says, "we will meet the North Shore's expectations for top-quality, post-hospital rehabilitation in an exclusive setting."

The renovation at Alden Village North is

equally comprehensive, although the design, programs and services are geared to long-term, developmentally disabled children and young adults rather than rehabilitation patients.

"When the construction is completed, Alden Village North will be a whole new building," says Marla Costello, regional director. "The only thing that will be the same is the brick and mortar."

The extensive renovation includes a new entrance, expanded lobby area with offices for key personnel, reconfigured nurses' stations and shower areas and new furniture. "This project doesn't only call for new window treatments... we're even getting new windows," Costello says.

Plans also call for piped-in oxygen and for moving the facility's day training program to the second floor. Both upgrades will benefit residents with medically complex, breathing-related conditions.

Another major Alden construction project, scheduled to break ground this spring, is a nine-acre campus in south suburban Shorewood for a 100-bed skilled nursing facility and 50 units of independent senior living apartments and villas.



Newly opened with limited apartments still available!

*Alden Gardens of Bloomingdale* Supportive Living Community offers housing and services for individuals 65 and older who are in need of an affordable, assisted lifestyle. The next issue of *The Alden Leader* will feature Alden's newest offering, its services and its amenities. For more information, call 630-307-7273 or visit us on the web at [www.aldengardensofbloomingdale.com](http://www.aldengardensofbloomingdale.com).



[www.thealdennetwork.com](http://www.thealdennetwork.com)

