

Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center

P.O. Box 754, Park Forest, Illinois 60466

www.ludemanpflc.org

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NEWSLETTER

FALL, 2017

PFLC FALL GENERAL MEETING

***** SUNDAY ** OCTOBER 29, 2017***

ELISABETH LUDEMAN DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER

114 ORCHARD DRIVE, BUILDING 64

PARK FOREST, IL. 60466

ANNUAL NUT SALE LAUNCH: 1:00 P.M.

REFRESHMENTS: 1:30 P.M.

MEETING: 2:00 P.M.

AGENDA

JOHN HALEY, PFLC PRESIDENT

KELLY D. RICHARDS, NEW LUDEMAN CENTER DIRECTOR

MICHAEL SPICKER, CHIEF ENGINEER

ROSEMARY HOCH, DIETARY MANAGER

WELCOME

UPDATE

MAJOR RENOVATIONS UPDATE (see page 3)

DIETARY CHANGES UPDATE

The Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center mission is to advocate for the rights of all the residents of Elisabeth Ludeman Center. We will work with the center to provide quality of life enhancement for individuals with disabilities, and to act as a support organization for the family members and friends of the residents. We are an all-volunteer organization.

Elisabeth Ludeman Center Updates

Kelly D. Richards, Center Director

September 29, 2017

GREETINGS FROM THE NEW CENTER DIRECTOR

The time has truly flown by since the last Ludeman Center Update. As I look back over the last 6 months, I am proud of all the great work that has been done. I am dedicated to providing a supportive and nurturing environment for the Individuals that reside at the Elisabeth Ludeman Center.

INSPECTIONS/TAGS

Ludeman Center had our Annual IDPH Survey in April, 2017. We received 10 Tags for the regular survey and 16 life safety tags for 2017. The plan of correction was created and submitted for all the tags. The Center is currently in substantial compliance with ICF/DD Regulations. There was also an unannounced OIG Site Visit that occurred in May 2017. They only made one recommendation for the center. The response to the recommendation was submitted to OIG.

NEWS FROM LUDEMAN

- May 6 Ludeman participated in the 50 meter run and Softball Throw for Special Olympics. Our individuals took home 14 Gold Medals, 14 Silver Medals, 11 Bronze Medals. We had 10 Fourth Place Ribbon Winners.
- June 9 – 11 Ludeman individuals participated in the Illinois State Special Olympics and took home 14 Gold Medals.
- May 18 the Kiwanis club sponsored a wonderful field trip that included lunch and parking to the Brookfield Zoo in Chicago for Ludeman individuals.
- June 3 individuals from Ludeman attended a Special Olympics Picnic in Northbrook, Illinois sponsored by Construction Workers.
- July 5 Ludeman individuals elected a slate of officers for its own Aktion Club sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Park Forest. They also chose to name their club the "Stinger Aktion Club of Park Forest". In the future, they will choose the service projects they will participate in to benefit the community.
- August 10 Ludeman individuals watched the Chicago White Sox beat the Kansas City Royals at Guaranteed Rate Field.
- August 18 and September 3 Ludeman individuals attended the Chicago Sky basketball games. These trips are made possible because of the generous donations of the Chicago Sky and White Sox organizations.
- August 12 twenty eight Ludeman individuals participated in Special Olympics Bowling. They won so many medals, we are still tabulating the official count.
- August 19 the Kiwanis Stinger Aktion Club of Park Forest held a car wash to raise funds for the club. There were 19 Ludeman club members that participated along with the Kiwanis Club of Park Forest and Ludeman Staff. There were many bright, shiny cars that left the Ludeman property that day!
- May 31 Ludeman recognized its veteran employees during its Annual Military Recognition Day. Certificates of Appreciation from the Ludeman Center and from Senator Michael Hastings' Office, along with other patriotic gifts were presented to every veteran. DD Director Greg Fenton, Assistant Deputy Director Glenda Corbett, Center Director Kelly Richards and Park Forest Mayor John Ostenburg were also on hand to honor those who served our nation in the Armed Forces.
- June 7 Ludeman hosted its "Get Lean in 2017" Health Fair and Blood Drive.
- July 17 The Janitorial Training Program held its fourth graduation. •
- The Green House Project is underway. The building has been erected and we are just waiting for the utilities.
- The Elisabeth Ludeman Center has installed over \$373,000.00 worth of free lighting through the Illinois Energy Now Program organized by DCEO. The Ludeman Center completed more lighting than any other DHS facility and tied with a Corrections facility for the most work done in the entire State.
- October 6 we celebrated Ludeman's 45TH Anniversary. It was a grand event. See page 6 of the newsletter for a brief history of the Elisabeth Ludeman Developmental Center.

STAFFING UPDATES

We have hired the following staff in the last 6 months:

- 6 Registered Nurses; 2 Support Service Workers; 1 HPC; 1 Dietician was promoted to Dietary Manager II.; 1 Support Service Worker was promoted to Support Service Lead; 5 MHT transferred from other facilities. A dental hygienist; social worker; Residential Service Supervisor; Educator, Opt C ; Administrative Assistant; LPN II are the newest additions to the Ludeman family. Unfortunately the dental hygienist resigned for personal reasons and the position has since been reposted.
- We are expecting to hire three new Unit Directors, DON and Assistant DON in the next couple of months.
- Mental Health Tech Select was conducted on July 12 and 13. There were a total of 80 participants over the 2 days. Only 50 successfully completed the process. There is another Tech Select scheduled the early part of October and there was one conducted at the beginning of September.
- We have three staff that successfully completed Mental Health Technician III training. They will become the newest shift leads in their homes.
- We continue our efforts with monthly Open Forum's for staff to voice any issues and/or concerns Center wide. We held an Open Forum in May, July, August, and September. Our next Open Forum is tentatively scheduled for October 25 and 27.
- Overtime is currently at 13.96%. We have made significant strides in reducing the overtime! This is due in part to the all the newly hired MHT's. We have 24 additional MHT's that have started and are currently in training. We anticipate with the start of those new staff, the overtime number will drop substantially.
- The Ludeman Center hosted a Community Job Fair on September 21. It was open to all prospective job applicants. We had 232 people from the community attend Job Fair and 21 employers were present. We had several people interviewed on the spot.
- I am truly happy about the new and exciting things that are going on at Ludeman Center and I look forward to meeting those of you that will be in attendance for the General Membership Meeting in October. I am committed to ensure that every individual is provided with the most optimal care possible. It is my personal goal to make Ludeman the model State Operated Developmental Center in Illinois.

Thank you, Parents & Friends for your continued support of the Elisabeth Ludeman Center.
Kelly D. Richards, Center Director, (708) 283-3001.

\$11 Million in Capital Improvement Projects Underway at Ludeman Center!

- Here's some very positive news! The Elisabeth Ludeman Center has received 11 million dollars for major repairs and rehab work to each of its 40 residential homes. Over the years, residents and staff of many of these residential homes have dealt with drafty windows, rusty doors and leaky roofs. Beginning this fall and continuing next spring, every home will receive brand new roofs, new exterior doors and screen doors, and new energy efficient windows that will have built in mini-blinds between the panes of glass.
- Many of you remember that several years ago the Ludeman Center applied for and was awarded this large amount of grant money (\$11 million) that became available by way of a court settlement. The Ludeman Center was eligible to apply for part of the settlement and actively did so. The money however after being promised to Ludeman became frozen within the maze of Illinois state government. But better days are here, the money made available and the sorely needed work is underway.
- The Ludeman Center also received \$373,000 in grants from the Illinois Energy Now Program. This program sponsored by DCEO allowed Ludeman to replace or update light fixtures in buildings and on grounds to take advantage of modern & much more energy-efficient alternatives in lighting. Literally, this is an incentive program from the DCEO that will pay for itself over a relatively short time!

For more details and answers to any questions you might have regarding these projects, please join us at the Sunday, October 29th PFLC General Meeting. Both Mike Spicker, Ludeman Chief Engineer and Kelly Richards, Ludeman Center Director will be there to tell us more about these exciting projects!

2017 ANNUAL PFLC NUT SALE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2017

OFFICIALLY BEGINS AT 1:00 PM; BEFORE THE GENERAL MEETING

The Annual Holiday Nut Sale is easily Parents and Friends biggest fundraising effort of the year. The great thing about our fundraiser is that all the money raised will be used to enhance the quality of life for all the Ludeman residents and to advocate on their behalf.

Our 2017 'Buy a Case, Sell a Case' Kick-Off event will take place at our General Meeting on October 29th. Our goal is for everyone to try and purchase at least one case of nuts. You can give them as gifts or sell them to your family, old friends, new friends, co-workers, or members of your congregation. It's a great way to inform those in your life about the Ludeman Center and the good work PFLC does.

We are hoping to improve on last year's fundraiser where we made just over \$4,000, which was down considerably from the \$5,600 PFLC made the year before. So please make every effort to support the Nut Drive this year. We look forward to seeing you at the General Meeting on October 29th and getting our fundraiser off to a rousing start.

Many Thanks,

Fred Flynn & John Haley
Nut Sale Drive Co-Chairs

The prices per box are as follows:

Cashews	\$15.00
Deluxe Mixed Nuts	\$15.00
Chocolate Covered Mixed Nuts	\$14.00
Holiday Sampler*	\$11.00
Chocolate Bridge Mix**	\$10.00

** Holiday Sampler is a divided box consisting of frosted pretzels, chocolate covered almonds, Peppermint bark, & M&M's.*

***Chocolate Bridge Mix is a delicious mix of chocolate covered peanuts, raisins & almonds, plus dark chocolate covered vanilla crèmes and malted milk balls.*

All products can be purchased individually or as cases (12 boxes to a case). Most importantly, all funds raised will be used to advocate for and enhance the quality of life for all people living at Ludeman. Please bring your checkbooks and participate.

2017 Tootsie Roll Drive

Thanks to Alexis Pride & our PFLC Volunteers who on September 15th & 16th collected \$\$\$\$ for the Knights of Columbus Annual Tootsie Roll Drive that benefits the Intellectually Disabled. A portion of the collection is donated to PFLC based on the number of volunteer collectors. This year's volunteers were:

Alexis Pride, Committee Chairperson

Fred Flynn	Paul Keipert	Sheila Threlkeld
Shirley Walters-Toliver	Uyles Myles	Angie Kaskey
Ann Patellaro	Alexis Pride	John Haley
Lynn Brady	Sarah Ross	

2017 VOR Washington, D.C. Conference

Paul Keipert, our PFLC Treasurer and Board Member, attended the VOR Conference to represent the PFLC Intellectually Disabled in Washington, D.C. from June 3 – 7th. Paul walked the halls of Congress to visit each office of our Illinois Legislators. Thank you, Paul, for devoting your time and talents to this important conference.

Here is Paul's write-up on his experience:

- There were meetings on both Saturday and Sunday afternoon until evening to discuss issues, and VOR board business, and elect/re-elect board members. As usual there is time set aside for state VOR representatives to report on what has been happening in their home states. There is typically more sad news than happy, and it is quite draining and disappointing at times. But the group is energized by the support of all the VOR members at the conference.
- I was quite pleasantly surprised this year that there were five other VOR members beside myself for the Illinois delegation. Four of them are from the Murray center, and played major roles in the Murray lawsuit and efforts to keep Murray from succumbing to forced closure. Lastly, an individual who has a sister at Mt. St. Joseph's private facility in Lake Zurich walked the halls of Congress with us.
- For the visits, we split into two teams of three members. After years of trying to visit all twenty offices, this year seemed MUCH simpler with the two teams! We also took VOR drop-off folders for the Congressional offices for the state of North Carolina, which had no VOR representative this year. Everyone that we visited was very nice. After each visit, we had the aide pose with us at the Illinois flag and Congressperson's name plate, took a picture and posted it on Twitter and Facebook as requested by the VOR team.
- The Murray team had brought a copy of the three-part Tribune article. We decided that these would be good to include in our Illinois handouts. We made enough additional copies that we had one for each Illinois office.
- We reminded the Congresspersons that the DD Act is some seventeen years overdue for re-authorization, and that we would like to see it get re-authorized with hearings with language strengthened to secure congregate facilities as a legitimate option for a person with developmental and intellectual disabilities, and that the rights of a person and/or their guardian are not eroded by ideologists bent on deinstitutionalization. We asked Congresspersons to support appropriations language that would prohibit the Department of Justice and the Protection and Advocacy departments from spending their appropriations on lawsuits and legal action bent on illegal (per the DD Act and the Olmstead decision) de-institutionalization and erosion of guardianship rights. Included also was a sheet advising of the dependence of IDD population on Medicare/Medicaid for their very existence, and advising that changes to these systems needs to move slowly and cautiously for the very lives of our most vulnerable citizens.
- We had been unable to arrange a meeting with Senator Durbin's office. After meeting with Senator Duckworth's aide, we dropped in again on Senator Durbin's office to see if we could meet with them. While we were waiting for the receptionist to see if someone would meet with us, another group came in for their appointment. We struck up a conversation, and one woman in their group had a son with DD/ID disabilities, and was unaware that there was such a group as VOR, and sounded like she has been dealing with her son all on her own. I gave her one of my VOR business cards that I had printed up for the visits and hope she gets some help and support with VOR. It ended up that we did not get to meet with anyone there, but it felt like a divinely inspired chance meeting with this woman.
- I am so very thankful and proud that the PFLC board and membership feels the membership in VOR and participation and investments in its annual Washington initiative are a priority. I am thankful that PFLC pays for my registration and my hotel accommodations. But most of all, I'm thankful for this annual opportunity to go WAY outside my comfort zone, and have this way to do something significant on behalf of my brother Glenn, and to honor my mother, Dolores.

Gratefully ...

Paul Keipert

VOR Link: <http://www.vor.net/>

DONATIONS

Donations are still needed to fund the various activities PFLC sponsors for the enjoyment of the residents. We also continue to need your financial help for the Protect Our Residents legal fees. Your donations are put to good use. We are here for our residents. We are their voices. A little help from many goes a long way!

Website News – www.ludemanpflc.org

Amazon Smile Update – To date, we have received \$254.37 from the Amazon Smile Program. Go to our website, and click on the Amazon Smile “Get Started” button to have a portion of your purchase donated to PFLC! It’s easy, and does not add additional charges to your order total.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

The Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center is a 501c (3) Non-Profit Organization

All donations are tax deductible. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated. We accept money, time and talent.

LUDEMAN CENTER INFORMATION

It is important that you know the following information to contact the right Ludeman Center resource. First, know what Unit and House Number your family member/friend resides in. There is a full complement of staff to help you at the Unit level. Should any issues arise, they should be your first point of contact.

Unit 1, Houses 4 – 22

Unit Director	708-283-3300
Assistant Unit Director	708-283-3303
Executive Secretary	708-283-3301
Nursing Office	708-283-3315/3142
Social Worker	708-283-3144
Residential Supervisors	708-283-3304/3413
Investigations	708-283-3036

Unit 2, Houses 24 - 39

Unit Director	708-283-3348/3074
Assistant Unit Director	708-283-3343
Executive Secretary	708-283-3064
Nursing Office	708-283-3347/3345
Social Worker	708-283-3291/3292
Residential Supervisors	708-283-3344/3189
Investigations	708-283-3357

Unit 3, Houses 40-56

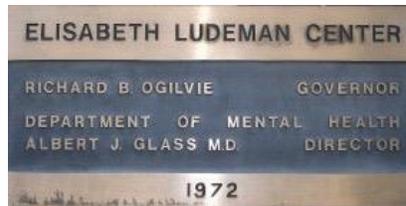
Unit Director	708-283-3380
Assistant Unit Director	708-283-3383
Executive Secretary	708-283-3381
Nursing Office	708-283-3382
Social Worker	708-283-3395
Residential Supervisors	708-283-3384/3290
Investigations	708-283-3058

General

Switchboard	708-283-3000
Director’s Office & Staff	708-283-3001, 3004, 3006, 3007
Health Center	708-283-3150, 3153, 3168, 3175
Dental Office	708-283-3100, 3103, 3104
Psychological Services	Contact Switchboard
Trust Fund	708-283-3039
Developmental Training	708-283-3101/3109
Activity Therapist	708-283-3107
Café 64	708-283-3195
Dietary	708-283-3432
Kitchen	708-283-3325

Happy Anniversary

On October 6th Ludeman Center celebrated its 45th anniversary! Over those many years Ludeman has provided quality service and care for our loved ones, the near 400 developmentally disabled residents who call Ludeman their home. The day was celebrated with a gathering of the many friends of Ludeman Center. Greg Fenton, Director of Division of Developmental Disabilities, was the keynote speaker at the celebration. The Ludeman Resident Choir performed and a cake was provided by Parents & Friends of Ludeman Center. Several of the original residents and their families were in attendance, as well as several of Ludeman's original employees still on the job at Ludeman. One of these, current Records Director, Jackie Amelse is the longest working member on staff. Jackie actually began working at Ludeman 3 days before the center opened! For pictures and more information on the 45th Anniversary Celebration, please visit our website: ludemanpflc.org



A Short History of the Elisabeth Ludeman Center

- Ludeman Developmental Center opened on October 8, 1972, dedicated as a Center for children with developmental disabilities. The concept of a facility such as Ludeman Center began around 1967 under Gov. Otto Kerner. The premise was to have smaller state facilities where individuals would live in a home like setting. At that time, Lincoln and Dixon “state schools” were fully operational with 3,000 to 5,000 individuals in each Center. The hope was to reduce each to only 2,500 individuals.
- Ludeman Center was the first facility being built in the home-like setting and there were to be 6 more in the greater Chicago area. Ludeman opened in 1972, with Howe Center following in 1974 and Waukegan Center (Kiley) in 1975. When costs were considered and also the upcoming trend of having people with disabilities living in the community, the other centers were not constructed.
- Ludeman Center opened October 1, 1972 with 52 children moving in and 44 moving in the next day. We started out with only 8 individuals per home (4 boys, 4 girls). The first children we received ranged from 6 - 16 years of age. The homes were ready, but the landscaping hadn't been finished, so there was lots of mud and our “mud rooms” were well used. Many were in need of toilet training and becoming familiar with activities of daily living. There was a lot of progress made with these children. We enrolled those we could in local special education programs as well as providing classrooms here.
- In the next few months we received 82 individuals from Dixon and in 1973-1974 about 100 individuals from Lincoln. We then transferred a number to Howe when that opened and then to Kiley when that opened. For the next few years we had more individuals transfer in, and more come directly from homes or the community. On December 15, 1979 we took in 97 people from a private facility which closed down overnight. This totally changed our population to a much more adult population and forced us to put 11 people in each home. Over time we reduced that to 10 per home, as we now operate.
- As Dixon began shutting down as a facility, we again received a number of transfers in 1982 and 1983. Our next big influx was in 2001 and 2002 when the Lincoln Developmental Center was closing. This was followed by Howe Center closing in 2010 and Jacksonville in 2012. Our population now stands at 386 or so with an average age of 50.
- To offset the numbers of transfers and direct admissions, we've worked very hard to move individuals out to smaller community settings when appropriate. That is still our goal today – move people to smaller homes/facilities where services may be more individualized, more integrated in the community.
- The Parents and Friends of Ludeman Center have been a very supportive group since its inception in 1973. They have fought for our state-operated centers with legislators (state and federal), groups who feel that state-ops or larger ICFDD's should no longer exist, and even in the courts. They have helped out financially as well – buying equipment, vehicles, picnic tables, benches, etc. They are always ready to donate time and money towards events and activities.

Information compiled by Jackie Amelse, Ludeman Center Records Director

Parents & Friends of Ludeman Center
P.O. Box 754
Park Forest, IL 60466



Thanks for your great support of last month's Fall FunFest. Delighted to have so many of you there making the residents' day so enjoyable! Special thanks to our Volunteers, Donors, the Ludeman Staff, Administration, and Activity Department for making the day so successful!!

Hay Rides and Pumpkin Pies – Here Comes Fall!



Come Out and Support PLFC Sponsored Events

Sunday, October 29th

PFLC Fall General Meeting – Building 64
Ludeman Center, 114 Orchard Dr., Park Forest, IL
ANNUAL NUT SALE LAUNCH 1:00 P.M.
Refreshments 1:30 p.m. Meeting 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 12th

Fall Disc Jockey Dance – Ludeman, Building 64, 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.