



BREAKING NEWS FROM *THE ALDEN LEADER*

ALDEN garners top awards,
recognition from state organizations

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Administrator of the Year Award, page 2



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Alden Long Grove's Marie Rosete named Administrator of the Year

Marie Rosete, administrator of *Alden Long Grove Rehabilitation and Health Center*, was presented with the 2006 Administrator of the Year Award at the Illinois Health Care Association's (IHCA) annual convention in Springfield.

A five-year employee of Alden, Rosete was cited for her outstanding leadership and excellent resident/patient outcomes at the Long Grove facility.

"Marie is a wonderful leader who is respected by everyone who works with her—nurses, physical therapists, dietitians, housekeepers and activity

personnel," said Robert Molitor, Alden's Chief Operating Officer.

Molitor praised the dedication of Rosete, who lives in Gurnee with her husband and two children, and the entire staff of *Alden Long Grove*. "They all go 'above and beyond' to provide quality care and services, which is evident by Marie receiving this well-deserved award," he said.

Two Alden administrators were nominated this year for the top IHCA administrative award. In addition to Rosette, Debbie Tumulak, administrator of Alden's *Governors Park of Barrington*, was recognized during the awards ceremony.

Tumulak is currently overseeing a total renovation of the Barrington facility and campus, scheduled for completion by the end of the year. When finished, *Alden Estates of Barrington* will be a state-of-the-art facility, offering high-quality medical services and physical amenities, including semi-private and private rooms with telephones, televisions and wireless Internet access, advanced security monitoring and restaurant-style fine dining with a salad bar.

Rosete asks Alden President Floyd A. Schlossberg to join her to receive IHCA's top administrator award



Alden Town Manor scores a triple-header with its innovative approach to dementia care

Alden Town Manor *Rehabilitation and Health Center* has received three coveted awards for its innovative programs for residents with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia.

Two of the awards, handed out at the IHCA's annual convention in September, were related to the facility's *Memory Bridge* initiative, which paired up junior high school students with residents in an after-school program (see *Memory Bridge*

and *Life Map's* article on the back page). For that initiative, **Alden Town Manor** was awarded the Innovation Program award and the Photograph of the Year award for a photo featuring resident Florence Dumbold engaged in conversation with one of the *Memory Bridge* students.

The Cicero facility also received the IHCA's first-ever Media of the Year award for artist Josh Dorman's *Life Map* project. The New York artist spent a week observing Town Manor

residents, after which he produced five paintings depicting topographical map perspectives of their lives.

Alden Town Manor's *Memory Bridge* was also recognized for Excellence and Innovation by the Illinois Council on Long Term Care at its annual dinner in September. "These awards emphasize our commitment to developing new and innovative approaches to caring for these special residents," said Alden President Floyd A. Schlossberg.

IHCA Community Partnership award goes to Alden Poplar Creek

This year's 'Putting on the Ritz' Senior Prom won **Alden Poplar Creek** the Illinois Health Care Association's 2006 Community Partnership award. More than 100 seniors and their guests attended the gala ball at The Seville in Streamwood.

"We have a wonderful staff that works closely with the community to offer innovative, 'out of the box' programs and services to our residents," said Sherry Marquart, administrator of the Hoffman Estates facility. "The Senior Prom is just one of the ways we meet the social needs of our residents throughout the year."

Due to the support of the facility's staff and an active advisory board comprised of local business and community members, 'Putting on the Ritz' was free to residents who attended. In keeping with the prom's theme, **Alden Poplar Creek** residents Morris Gordon and Mary Vicari were crowned king and queen.

In making the event a special day, local businesses and politicians including The Seville, the Knights of Columbus, Jet Photo Labs, Schaumburg Township Library, Men's Warehouse, State Rep. Terry Parke and Hoffman Estates Mayor William McLeod donated time and services.



Top: Front (from left) Bob Molitor, Sherry Marquart, Floyd A. Schlossberg and (standing, front) Vice President Carrie DiPaolo join **Alden Poplar Creek** staff after the IHCA awards dinner

Below: Advisory Board members pose with Senior Prom queen candidates and their daughters



Alden Naperville's Tojeno receives CNA of the Year award

A 27-year veteran of **Alden Naperville Rehabilitation and Health Center** is the recipient of this year's Certified Nursing Assistant award from IHCA. At the association's annual awards dinner in September, Emily Tojeno was recognized for "going above and beyond" in delivering quality care to residents at the Naperville facility.

"Emily deserves this recognition for all of her hard work and dedication," said Administrator Nora Tabron. "She is a wonderful role model for the entire nursing team and a great example for other CNAs." Tojeno's husband, sister, brother, daughter and several other family members also work at **Alden Naperville**.

Also recognized at the awards dinner was **Alden Valley Ridge** Nursing Director Denise Anderson, who was nominated for the Nursing Director of the Year award.



Alden Courts of Waterford Aces IDPH Annual Survey

Alden Courts of Waterford recently achieved a deficiency-free survey from the Illinois Department of Public Health. The facility, which provides assisted living for people with dementia-related illnesses, is located on Alden's Waterford campus in Aurora.

Following three days of extensive interviews and program reviews, the Public Health team had no negative findings. "This is proof of a commitment to provide quality care on a continual basis," said Alden's Chief Operating Officer Robert Molitor.

Understanding Dementia:

PBS documentary to feature memory bridges, life maps

(reprinted from *The ALDEN Leader*, Vol. 3, Issue 1, 2006)

Two projects piloted at **Alden Town Manor Rehabilitation and Health Center** will be featured in a documentary to be aired on the Public Broadcasting in the spring of 2007.

One project—The Chicago-land Memory Bridge Initiative—paired students from Cicero’s Unity East Junior High School with residents of **Alden Town Manor’s** Pathways Unit. The students used interactive computer software to effectively communicate with seniors whose cognitive skills were impaired by Alzheimer’s or other forms of dementia. Through letters and visits over a period of three months, the students built one-on-one “double best buddy” relationships with the residents.

RAISING POSITIVE AWARENESS

The project “strengthened the reading and writing skills of the students and also preserved the cherished memories of our residents,” said Joyce Molino, Pathways Unit Coordinator. “These memories will raise positive awareness about what people with dementia *do not* forget and about the valuable people they continue to be,” Molino adds.

The project, developed by Chicago-based *The Foundation for Alzheimer’s and Cultural Memory*, was so successful that the foundation has been awarded a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health to expand the Memory Bridge initiative to other schools and long-term care facilities.

In the second project, also developed by *The Foundation for Alzheimer’s and Cultural Memory*, New York-based artist Josh Dorman spent a week at the Cicero facility with five Pathways Unit residents, listening and



Ruth Anderson and daughter Susan share memories and a keen sense of humor

watching as they shared thoughts, feelings, memories and dreams with Michael Verde, the foundation’s executive director.

RUTH ANDERSON’S LAND

What Dorman observed provided the inspiration for five ‘life map’ paintings, each named for a resident and depicting topographical map perspectives of their lives. The paintings, created over seven months, represent “the way these people live in abstract, semi-invented worlds,” wrote the nationally-recognized artist in a letter to his family.

“When you look at the paintings, it’s as if you’re flying over Ruth Anderson land,” concurs Molino. “By using Ruth’s memories and reminiscences, he (Dorman) created a land in which she exists today. In Ruth Anderson land, she’s 17 years old, not 95, and her land is as real to her as the ‘here and now’ are real to us.”

*There is a Bridge:
What people with
Alzheimer’s never forget*

Last April, Ruth Anderson’s daughter joined **Alden Town Manor** staff and Alden executives as guests at a fund-raiser hosted by Verde’s foundation. Dorman’s ‘life map’ paintings were exhibited, while excerpts from the documentary—‘*There is a Bridge ... what people with Alzheimer’s disease never forget*’—were shown.

Four of the paintings will be auctioned at future fund-raisers to support work with Alzheimer’s patients. The painting depicting Ruth Anderson’s life will be on display at Alden’s corporate office.

The ALDEN Network of senior services is comprised of more than 30 residential, rehabilitation and health care centers, providing home health, pharmacy and durable medical equipment services.

www.thealdennetwork.com