

The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge

(As published in The Oak Ridger's Historically Speaking column during the week of 11/30/2020)

Aid for Distressed Families of Appalachian Counties exists to support and serve those in need. The professional staff goes even further than just meeting immediate needs, they assist those in need to become stable and self-sufficient.

I am proud to have been associated with ADFAC over the years in a number of capacities ranging from helping make the leadership at the Y-12 National Security Complex more aware of the essential efforts to help those most in need in our communities to serving on the board of directors and finally being the first recipient of the Bill Wilcox Bow Tie Award for service to ADFAC. Bill Wilcox himself created the award and named me the first to receive the honor.

In 2017, another project I helped on was to recreate a children's activity book based on the history of Oak Ridge. An earlier version was the basis for this upgrade and the artwork and stories emphasized are fresh and well presented. Becky Hook, who chaired the committee, wants to let people know the book is available for purchase at \$10 each. Books are available at The Ferrell Shop, Southern Bliss, The Children's Museum of Oak Ridge and the American Museum of Science and Energy.

Artwork, poems, puzzles, and short stories in *The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge* were created by students from Oak Ridge schools. Area artists and photographers also donated their services to benefit ADFAC through the proceeds of this book.

The 2017 project was done as a part of ADFAC's 30th anniversary and Oak Ridge's 75th anniversary. Graphic designer, Ariana Rector, created the cover. She also illustrated many of the coloring pages and compiled the finished work.

The ADFAC committee, chaired by Becky Hook, included Jim Dodson, Cheri Donovan, Jane Palmer, and me. All proceeds go to help ADFAC support those in most need in our communities. Get your copy soon!

The Secret's Out - Discover Oak Ridge gives an overview of the unique history of the city that is full of activities for children ages five to twelve. Designed with the help of children and created for children the activities are fun and informative. A driving scavenger hunt included in the book allows residences or visitors to explore the city finding historical landmarks.

The book is divided into Historical, Parks & Recreation, Culture, Innovation and Education sections. The activity book replaced a 1991 coloring book sponsored by ADFAC and is dedicated to Oak Ridge children. The book contains children's art, poetry and perspectives as well as activities they will enjoy.

A couple of quotes about *The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge*:

"I was so honored to work on this book. Many children growing up in Oak Ridge are not aware of its unique history and we hope they as well as visitors to this city find this book fun and informative. It would not have been possible without the input from so many teachers, students, artists, and agencies that were so cooperative in providing materials. Ariana Rector, graphic designer, did an amazing job pulling the materials together as well as providing artwork and the cover design. There are even QR codes, thanks to Jim Dodson, that can be used to access student artists talking about work. We hope the readers enjoy the book and also know their purchase also is helping to support ADFAC"--Becky Hook

"This book is such a treasure for people who live here and who visit our community. I'm really proud and grateful to the committee that worked so hard to develop and publish this fun way to explore Oak Ridge. Helping ADFAC is a bonus!"--Annie Cachero, Executive Director, ADFAC.

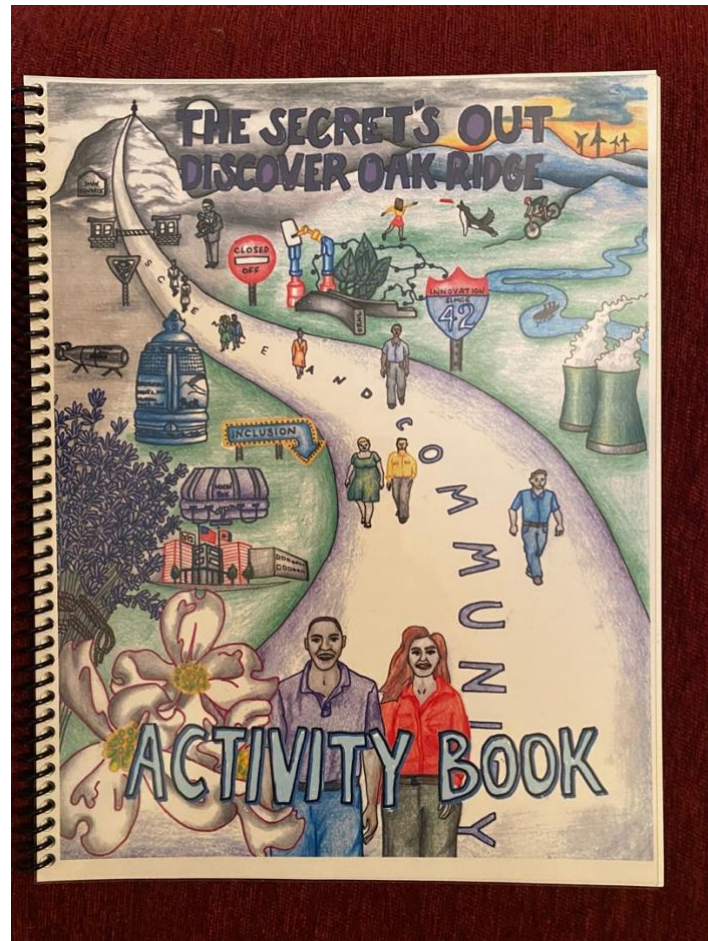
ADFAC's looks forward with a vision for the future of our communities where they are sustainable, healthy, and viable and where all families are self-sufficient, productive and free of the need for continued public assistance. ADFAC focuses on addressing the needs of the most vulnerable in our area by striving to provide a comprehensive scope of services with compassion.

The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge

(As published in The Oak Ridger's Historically Speaking column during the week of 11/30/2020)

The support is provided as short-term assistance for basic needs; Affordable solutions for home rehabilitation, new construction and rental housing; Energy conservation; Children and youth education services; and Education via life coaching and/or referrals.

And you can be a part of this tremendous initiative by just purchasing a \$10 copy of *The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge*. Besides just helping your community, children you share this book with will have a blast and learn about Oak Ridge's amazing and unique history while having fun! Get copies for all your children or grandchildren...



Cover of *The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge*

The Secret is Out – Discover Oak Ridge

(As published in The Oak Ridger's Historically Speaking column during the week of 11/30/2020)



The Gregory Family from a couple of years ago at a Little Free Library (Barry/Patty Cox home) Granddaughter Lily Gregory, daughter Lauren Gregory, grandson Will Gregory, son Eric Gregory, then Jeanie Gregory (artist with several pages in the book).



Ray Smith, Barbara Ferrell, The Ferrell Shop; Denise Parten, Southern Bliss; Annie Cacheiro, ADFAC executive director; Becky Hook, ADFAC school supply coordinator and activity book chair; and Jim Dodson, ADFAC board of directors and committee member proudly show off the finished product