



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

The Village View

Fall 2016

Director's Notes — Giving Thanks

As a child, I – like most children – learned that there's a strong relationship between receiving a gift and giving thanks for it. "Remember to say thank you, Brion" was a phrase often spoken by my parents. Yours, too, I'm guessing.

When I became a pastor, I learned that the Greek word "thanks" contains within it the word "gift." Further confirmation that this was no mere coincidence.

Here at the Village, the marriage of gift and gratitude is seen on an almost daily basis. Small courtesies extended by one person at the Village are quickly acknowledged by another. Just today I watched as one man in a wheelchair dropped his napkin at the lunch table and another man jumped up to place it back on his tray. "Thanks!" was the quick reply.



Sharon Good receiving Award.

Last month the Village held its 47th Annual Banquet. It was an opportunity to show, on a much larger scale, the tremendous bond between receiving a gift and responding with thanks.

Inside the Village, we recognized five individuals for their outstanding service to the Village. Adam Oltmanns received the Robert Stahl Friendship Award. A fitting award for a young man who is quick to flash a smile and just about always willing to sit and listen. Two personal achievement awards were given: The John Herrmann Personal Achievement Award was given to Sharon Good and the Robert Moehle Personal Achievement Award went to Sandra Braddock.

Sylvia King was singled out to receive the Carly Heller Special Olympian Award and Mike Fernandez was honored with the Fred Smith Competitive Employment Award for his after-hours work for the Village Cleaning Service.

In addition to extending recognition and thanks to those who work inside the Village, the night also provided an opportunity to recognize the generosity of those outside our facility.



Sylvia King with aunt Trisha and cousin Lisa.



Will Glendenning, scholarship recipient.

We provided three high school seniors with scholarships – each recipient either coping with a developmental disability of their own or committed to a career in this field. The recipients were Will Glendenning, Anthony Muratore Jr., and Conner Shaw.

For the first time ever, the Village was honored to extend the Janie Etnyre Volunteer of the year award to a family, rather than a single person. Heather Hatch, a faithful volunteer, received this

award together with her two grade school age children, Abby and Zeke. During different school breaks Heather frequently brings her children to the Village where they happily play board games and cards with others.



Heather Hatch with husband, Jacob along with children, Zeke and Abby.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

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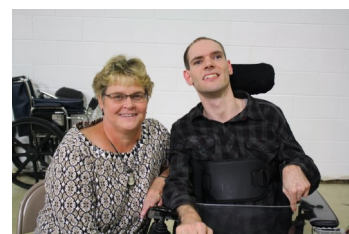
Director's Notes — Giving Thanks — continued

Finally, Robert Stouffer Special Recognition Award was received by Bob Gilmour, our long-time accountant who, even after retiring, still volunteers to help our men and women prepare and file their tax returns.

The Annual Banquet is more than a night of awards given and received. It's a night of thanks extended and gratitude returned. And that, I think, is what makes it such a wonderful place to spend an evening.

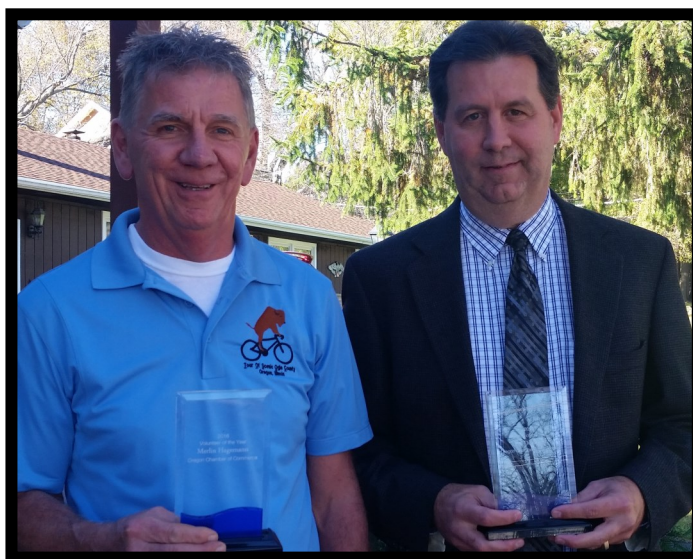


Bob and Cheri Gilmour at the VOP annual banquet.



A few more pictures from the Village Annual Banquet.

Two outstanding citizens and board members



The Village of Progress would like to congratulate two board members who were recognized by the Oregon Chamber of Commerce as outstanding citizens. Pat Donahue, 2016 Citizen of the Year, and Merlin Hagemann, 2016 Volunteer of the Year.

Jackie Fransen named as Manager for the Village Bakery

Jackie Fransen joined the Village of Progress family October 24th as manager for The Village Bakery. Jackie is currently setting up policies and procedures as well as overseeing the renovations and hiring staff.

Jackie commented, "When I first read about The Village Bakery and the philosophy behind the business, I knew that I wanted to be a part of it." Jackie is a baker and worked as a food service manager for many years. "She has a true passion for the art of baking and will be a great asset for our new venture," explained the Village Director Brion Brooks.

Jackie graduated from NIU with a degree in Hospitality Administration. She is married to Brian and they have a two-year-old son named Henry. The Fransen family resides in Ashton, IL.



Jackie Fransen, manager for The Village Bakery, and her husband Brian Fransen at the Village of Progress annual banquet.

Ducks Unlimited visits the Village

Kyle Stefancin, Regional Director for Northeast Illinois Ducks Unlimited, stopped by the Village of Progress for a visit. The Village fulfills spring and fall merchandise orders for Ducks Unlimited fundraising events in Illinois by organizing, packing and shipping decoys, flags, duck calls and books. Last year the Village fulfilled and shipped merchandise to about 60 chapters.

Karen Kereven, Production Manager, said "We are thankful to be a partner with Ducks Unlimited; these orders give our men and women an extra few hours of work each month." Ducks Unlimited events are held to generate funds that fulfill their mission of preserving wetlands and waterfowl. Ducks Unlimited is the world's leader in wetlands and waterfowl conservation. Brion Brooks, Executive Director, explained "The Village is always looking for new partners to create work opportunities for the people we serve."



Ralph Miller, Village of Progress and Kyle Stefancin, Ducks Unlimited.

IMPORTANT DATES

AT

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

VOP CLOSED
THANKSGIVING
NOVEMBER 24 & 25

ANGEL BALL
DECEMBER 3, 2016
@
BARNACOPIA
POLO, IL

VOP CLOSED
CHRISTMAS BREAK
DECEMBER 24, 2016
- JANUARY 1, 2017

VOP CLOSED
MARTIN LUTHER
KING DAY
JANUARY 16, 2017

THANK YOU..... Our ability to maintain meaningful and effective programs for Ogle County Adults with disabilities is augmented annually by donations.



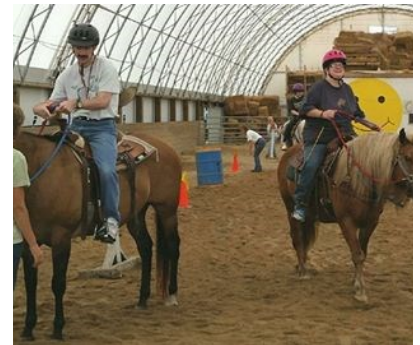
VILLAGE OF PROGRESS:

David & Joan Abbott • Richard & Carol Anderson • Mike & Ann Arends • Autumn on Parade • Lois Boeckelman • Mike & Susan Burke • Gary & Beverly Bunger • Byron Bank • Roger & Julie Cain • Gretchen Carpenter • Cedar Siding, Inc. • Chana United Methodist Women • Cherie Chopp • Dave & Karen Churney • James & Phyllis Coffman • Jean Colbacchini • Curtis & Laura Cook • Rick & Paula David • Kimberly Davis • Mary & Bill Davis • Design Enhanced Manufacturing Co., Inc. • Pat & Chris Donahue • Larry & Deb Drew • Randall & Sandra Ebert • Ken & Carol Eichholz • E.D. Etnyre & Co. • Evangelical Free Church of Mt. Morris • Exelon • Mike Fager • First Presbyterian Church of Rochelle • First State Bank of Mendota • Scott Fletcher • F.N. Smith Corp • Norma Freeberg • Don & Myrle Fuller • Ken & Barb Geise • Dave & Cindy Gesin • Joan Glendenning • Joyce Groenhagen • Steve & Dixie Hammer • Mynra Long-Hanes • Harvard State Bank • Brett & Brenda Herrmann • HMC Products, Inc. • Darlene Holland • Hub Printing, Inc. • June Kereven • Lynn Kereven • Darlene King • Bernard & Sara Kopp • Ladie's Yarn

Group at Conover Square • Leaf River Lions Club • Codelle Leonard • Angela Leary • Mary Lee • Sharon Leisson • Codelle Leonard • Tina Martin • Teresa McDowell • Marilyn Melvin • Monte & Jane Messenger • Richard & Betty Messer • Nancy Miller • Tim Mitchusson • John Moehle • Mt. Morris Community Women's Club • Mike & Mary Mudge • Oregon Lions Club • Oregon Nashua Township • Oregon Knights of Columbus • Oregon Women's Club • Juanita Orsted • Leon Palmer, Jr. • James & Elinor Patrick • Patricia Piwonka • Polished Hair & Nails • Polo Evening Women's Club • Jan Prose • Julie & Greg Reckamp • RE/MAX of Rock Valley • Rochelle Community Hospital • Rockvale Township • John Roe • Barb Rosenbalm • John & Margaret Siddens •



Karen Sikorski • Joseph & Patricia Slowiak • Snyder Pharmacies • Rose Sowa • Diane Stahl • Kim Stahl • Sterling Federal Bank • Frank & Sheryl Stern • Mary Strohmman • Bill & Jean Suneson • Village of Progress Parents Booster Club • Elizabeth Wagner • Helen Mae Wales • Janet Wehmeyer • Steve & Donna Wells • Wilbur & Nina Whetsel • White Pines Inn • Morris & Patricia Wiener • Kathleen Wilson • Margaret Wolf • Karen Young • Larry & Joan Young •



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS FOUNDATION:

Wanda Cacciatore • Mark & Deb Gale • Gary & Judith Hassler • Chet Kobel • Tim & Kathy Leary • Nancy Miller • Phil & Maggie Nye • Wanda Pettenger • Polo Knights of Columbus • Barbara Rosenbalm • John Roe • Tom & Myrna Snodgrass • Mark & Kathy Tremble •

MEMORIAL GIFTS:

Rosalie Anderson • Ron Baker • Mary Barclay • Wayne Bonnell • Harlan Blake • Roy & Edna Bry • Norma Brooks • Jake Burke • Pete Cacciatore • Helen Cann • Ralph & Edith Davis • Deryl Donaldson • Kitty Donaldson • Leon Donaldson • Mary Beth Etnyre • Janie Etnyre • Bill Fearer II • Dottie Flessner • Matt Glaser • Erma & Loran Glock • Louise Hageman • Rick Hahn • Carly Heller • Paul & Bev Higgins • Emmagene Hope • James Kereven • Melvin Knodle • Richard (Dick) Lee • Ervin Lieving • Orville & Harriett Mass • Kevin Messer • Joe Meyer • Robert & Eleanor Moehle • Randall Mohr • Ruth Nelson • George & Pauline O'Brien • Carol (Judy) Kereven Rauch • Sally Roe • Richard (Dick) Seyster • Scott Smith • Melody Snyder • Ed Sowa • Bob Stahl • Marge Stevens • Ellis Stukenberg • Lenora Walker • Shelby Walker • Leonard & Vada Wood • Josephine & Clarence Wright •



TOSOC SPONSORS:

Alpine Chiropractic Clinic • Bry's Antiques • Byron Financial Services • Conover Coffees & Chocolates • Empty Pockets • EXELON Generation • Fischer's Inc. • Green River Cyclery • Jay's Drive Inn • Kaczmarzyk Insurance Agency • KSB Hospital • Ladie's Yarn Group at Conover Square • Legal Shield • Maggie's Idle Hour • McDonald's in Oregon • Merlin's Greenhouse & The Otherside Boutique • Oregon Auto Body • Oregon Lions Club • Oregon Shell Station • Rockford Orthopedic • Barb Rosenbalm • Scott Stephens State Farm Insurance • T-Byrd Lanes • White Pines Ranch •



Special thanks to the priceless volunteers that helped with TOSOC!



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS FALL BANQUET

Gail & Gerald Beck • Joe & Dawn Clinton • Curtis Cook • Don & Nancy Etnyre • Dave & Cindy Gesin • Grand Detour Town Fund • Tom & Laure Guest • Dolores Haak • Lowell Harp • Harvard State Bank • Phillip & Carol Houston • John Jr. & Diane Kenney • John & Tammy Koebler • Angela Larson • Masons of Oregon • Mark & Michelle Mongan • John & Patricia Plescia • Rochelle Chiropractic Clinic • Rochelle Kiwanis • Sheryl Pitts-Wolff • Richard & Cecelia Zimmerman •



The tables looked wonderful thanks to White Pines Inn and Merlin's Greenhouse.



Curtis Cook donated 50/50 winnings back to the Village of Progress!



New desks thanks to Shaw Media.



Oregon Methodist Church Youth Group volunteered demo time at the Village Bakery.



Banquet center pieces were turned into bouquets to take home.



Oregon Knights of Columbus volunteered demo time at the Village Bakery.

IN-KIND DONATIONS are gifts of goods or services rather than money and can be made by individuals or organizations. Donations of goods or services can be extremely valuable to help us meet the needs of men and women at the Village or keep our facility looking good and functioning properly. If you would like to make an in-kind donation, please contact us .

Thank you: Dave Gesin • Merlin's Greenhouse & Flowers • Ogle County Newspapers (Shaw Media) • Oregon High School Fresh/Soph Volleyball Team • Oregon Knights of Columbus • Oregon Lions Club • Oregon Methodist Youth Group • David Murphy • TOSOC volunteers • White Pines Inn •



1st Annual TOSOC

TOSOC – the Tour of Scenic Ogle County kicked off Saturday, September 24, with dry roads and a break from the heat earlier in the week. TOSOC is a first time cycling event for the Village of Progress. “It was an amazing turnout,” remarked Sherri Egan, from the Village of Progress “Being the first year for this event, we really had no idea what kind of turnout to expect. We were prepared, thanks to tremendous support from volunteers and sponsors. But we estimated attracting a hundred or so cyclists. When we hit 200 advanced registrations a couple of days before the ride, we knew we were doing something special.”

The first riders started pulling into the Village’s parking lot to unload their bikes and pump up their tires as early as 6:15 a.m. – over an hour before registration opened at 7:30 a.m. By the time registration closed, 325 cyclists had signed up and were out on the road. TOSOC was developed with the help of Oregon resident and cycling enthusiast Scott Stephens. Stephens was instrumental in developing a number of biking routes around Ogle County, including the TOSOC routes. “Ogle County has some of the best cycling and scenery in northern Illinois” said Stephens. Most of the cyclists agreed. “We heard so many people comment on the tremendous the scenery. They simply had no idea before coming here,” Stephens said. “Many enthusiastically said they’d be returning to Ogle County next year.”

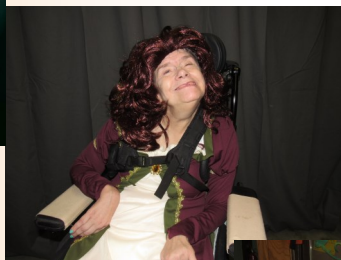


TOSOC had three cycling routes to choose from. The first was a **10 mile family ride** through Oregon. Developed with the help of the Oregon Park District, this ride toured a number of the city’s parks. **A 32 mile route** took cyclists through Grand Detour (stopping at the John Deere Historical Museum) and the Nachusa Grasslands for Bison viewing; **a 62 mile loop** added in some of the scenic areas north of Mount Morris and west of Daysville. “What I really appreciate about TOSOC is that it didn’t only benefit the Village of Progress, it benefitted all of Ogle County,” said Brion Brooks, Executive Director of the Village of Progress. “We had riders from as far away as Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and Missouri. We even had a couple come up with their bikes from Texas,” added Brooks.

By the end of the day, TOSOC netted approximately \$11,000 for the Village’s Attendance Grant Program. Attendance Grants were developed by the Village in 2014 because so many people with disabilities, people who are entitled to services, cannot receive them because Illinois lacks the funding. Statewide, approximately 27,000 people with developmental disabilities are on the waiting list to receive funding. TOSOC proceeds will provide 169 days of attendance. Attendance grants are awarded to men and women in Ogle County, enabling them to attend the Village on a part time basis. Search TOSOC on Facebook for pictures and for more information email TOSOC@villageofprogress.org. To learn about biking in Oregon visit www.oregoncity.org and click on Bike Ogle or search BikeOgle on Facebook.



Halloween Festivities at The Village of Progress



A Spooky evening with friends; serving terrifying food, dancing to monster music (by Marques and Friends) and playing ghostly games (with an actual ghost sighting)!





Coming Soon!



The Village of Progress is a United Way Community Solutions Provider; funded in part by the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) board; and received awards in 2016 from the A. Charles and Lillemor Lawrence Foundation and the Rochelle Area Community Foundation.



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