

THE VILLAGE VIEW

News from the Village of Progress, Inc.

Spring 2016

Director's Notes —

“Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance you must keep moving.” – Albert Einstein

These are tumultuous times for Illinois. And for agencies serving people with developmental disabilities. State funding for disabilities services has remained flat for the past eight years, while inflation has climbed 13%. Illinois ranks 47th among the states in its care of those with developmental disabilities. In the Great Lakes region alone, Illinois spends about \$44 per person on disabilities services— less than a third of what other states in the area spend.

Faced with these challenges, agencies like the Village of Progress have two choices. We could cut staff and cut services; circle the wagons and do less with the less we've been given. But that goes against everything the Village stands for. Or, we can look for creative new ways to keep moving forward. This is the way we seek to go, and your generosity makes that possible.

- Your response to our Christmas Wish List shattered last year's giving, which had broken the record for the years before it.

- The Village Attendance Grant Program continues to gain momentum. We're now able to offer part time attendance to a dozen men and women who lack state funding – people who would otherwise be isolated from the community and the services they need.

- Last year we decided to build an outdoor practice court for our Special Olympics basketball athletes. The project would be expensive, but a memorial donation would help pay for part of the costs. Besides, we thought the project was worth it. In the end, Wolber & Sons donated the time and labor to grade and lay a base for the court. Then Martin & Co. stepped forward to lay the asphalt— also refusing to take any payment. The two biggest costs, donated.

Your support encourages us to keep finding new ways to serve our people.

For example:

- Our Village After Hours program takes men and women on monthly outings where they can gain confidence in social settings and show the community their vibrant and warm personalities.

- We recently launched a music therapy program – where a trained and licensed therapist uses music to increase communication and socialization for several of our more withdrawn individuals. More on that as the program unfolds.

- We've partnered with the Byron Schools to become best buddies to a group of second graders. Together they visit the Byron Public Library, hear stories about differences, and enjoy craft projects. These are small steps we take now to build greater understanding in the future.

Plans are now in the works to provide our people with even more interactions and work opportunities in the community. Stay tuned for details. Again, though, I want to emphasize how critical you are in helping us to look beyond disabilities, focus on capabilities, and expand possibilities. .

*Looking beyond disabilities,
Focusing on capabilities,
Expanding possibilities.*

Thanks for all you do!

Brion Brooks, Executive Director

THE VILLAGE VIEW

A quarterly publication of
the Village of Progress, Inc.
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Cold Water, Warm Hearts Take the Polar Plunge

Water temperatures were below 40 degrees when eight individuals from the Village of Progress took the icy plunge on Saturday, March 5, to raise money for Special Olympics at Olson Lake - Rock Cut State Park in Rockford.

A unique and frigid way to support Special Olympic athletes! Our plungers this year included Deb Mumford, Denny Mumford, Joe Neubert, Kelli Nichols, Jeremy Reynolds and Jacob Werner. Jon Barnhart and Dave Gesin, long-time supporters of the Village, also joined us for the plunge.

This year 6,480 individuals braved the cold and plunged at 21 locations across Illinois. Together, they raised over \$1,883,823 for the athletes of Special Olympics Illinois!



First time plunger, Deb Mumford, thanks everyone that supported the plungers.

Making The Connection

In March and April, the Village of Progress hosted over twenty high school students eager to learn more about the people who attend the Village and the services they receive.



Both Faith Christian School of Grand Detour and Oregon High School students spent time socializing with the men and women from the Village of Progress.

Students also assisted with outdoor projects that will help get the Village ready for spring and summer activities. We are grateful for the interaction with the students and for their thoughtful service.



Village All Stars, Individuals, Head to State

The Village of Progress' Special Olympics basketball headed to State competition this spring.

First, the Village All Stars team scored a come-from-behind victory at the District Tournament in Byron, securing a first place finish and sending them on to



Men and women from the Village joined the All Stars in Bloomington to cheer on their team.

State competition in Bloomington. Next, several of our individuals competed in the skills competition, with two winning gold and an invitation to state competition.

In Bloomington, the All Stars received a well-earned silver medal for 2nd place.

In Individual Skills competition, Tim Koebler took first place receiving a gold. Elizabeth Bastuk proudly earned her third-place Bronze medal.



Tim Koebler going for gold!

Elizabeth Bastuk proudly earned her third-place Bronze medal.

WE CAN ATTEND



THANK YOU

The Attendance Grant Program continues to be a top priority at the Village of Progress. The grants give men and women who are on the waiting list for state funding an opportunity to attend the Village on a part time basis.

Thanks to many generous donors, 13 men and women are attending the Village. The focus is now increasing donations to secure more grants for more individuals.

IMPORTANT DATES

AT

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

JOHN HERRMANN MEMORIAL GOLF PLAY DAY

JULY 11, 2016

*SILVER RIDGE GOLF COURSE
IN OREGON, IL*

SPECIAL OLYMPIC POOL PARTY

JULY 16, 2016

COMMUNITY POOL IN POLO, IL

SPECIAL OLYMPIC S PARENT'S CLUB CAR WASH

AUGUST 13, 2016

FIRE STATION IN OREGON, IL

TOSOC

TOUR OF SCENIC OGLE COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

CYCLING EVENT STARTS AND ENDS AT THE VILLAGE

ANNUAL BANQUET

OCTOBER 19, 2016

SAINT MARY'S LEARNING CENTER IN OREGON, IL

WISH LIST: Adams, Betty x
 Anderson, Richard & Carol x
 Armbruster, Charlie & Sandra x
 Atkins, Karin x Beck, Gail &
 Gerald x Burke, Bob & Dawn x
 Bry, Ronald x Capozzi, Zack &

Our ability to maintain meaningful and effective programs for Ogle County Adults with disabilities is augmented annually by donations. Below are a few pictures of what we were able to purchase thanks to your generosity.

Casey Campbell x Carpenter, Ben & Molly x Catholic Daughters of America x Churney, Karen & David x Crisham, Jack x Davis, Gary & Susan x Davis, Larry & Joyce x Daws, Courtney x Dement Township x DeWitt Siding x Dixon Auto Body x Donaldson, Betty x Ebert, Larry & Aneda x Egan, Sherri x Eichholz, Ken & Carol x Etnyre, Nancy & Don x Etnyre, Roger x Fager, Mike x Faivre,



Jimmy and Ben work on a new puzzle together. Over 20 games and puzzles were purchased with donations through the Village's Christmas Wish List.



Over \$4,000 was donated to support our participation in Pegasus' therapeutic riding lessons .

Richard & Linda x Fearer, Nye & Chadwick x Fearer, Teri x Ferb, Gary & Doris x First Presbyterian Church of Rochelle x Flessner, Todd & Judy x Gale, Mark & Deb x Gale, Tom & Lisa x Gelderloos, Clyde & Nancy x Glaser, Bob & Karole x

Glendenning, Joan x Groenhagen, Scott & Kayse x Hammer, Steve & Dixie x Hardesty, Mike & Julie x Holcomb State Bank x Hopkins, Lyle & Sheryl x Kay, Nancy x Grover, Jessica x Kereven, Lynn x Knodle, Millie x Knapp, Clifford x KSB Hospital x Lee, Mary x Le Fevre, Eldon & Shirley x Le Mar, Shirley x Lieving, Paul & Kathryn x Lindenmier, Bill & Marge x Marx, Kevin x Meminger, Dirk & Jennifer x Messer, Arnie & Betty x Mt. .Morris Women of the Moose x Merdian, Neil & Christa x Miller, Marv & Ted Gesin x Nelson, Carl & Leona x O'Brien, Tim & Bev x Ogle County USDA Service Center x Oregon Lions Club x Orsted, Juanita x Ortman, Dr. Jonathon & Donna x Pettenger, Wanda x Pine Rock



Apple has many apps that engage people with developmental disabilities. This year we were fortunate to be able to purchase two iPads.

Township x Prose, Charity & Nick x Reeverts, Frank & Karen x Rinehart, Jerry x Rochelle Township High School x Rochelle Women's Club x Rockford Orthopedic Associates, LTD x Roinas, Betsy & John x Rude, Kevin & Julie x Scheer, Louis & Betty x Sell, Jean x Siddens, John & Margaret x Smith, David & Sharon x Spencer, Helen x Stahl, Diane x Stahl, Kirstin x Stedum, Robert & Catherine – Oregon x Tremble, Mark & Kathi x Wallace, Sharon x Urish, Rob & Karen x Whaley, Carol x Wirth, Kelly & Marsha x Young, Joan & Larry x Zimmerman, Richard & Cecelia x Zwettler, Al & Maggie x



Nurse Jessica demonstrates the use of a new standing lift that transfers clients to and from their wheel chair.

Donations (continued):

VOP: Agre, Mary ☒ Bauer, Brad & Donna ☒ Brown, Rebecca ☒ Byron Women's Group ☒ Cann, Helen ☒ Champley, Thomas & Janet ☒ Drew, Larry & Deb ☒ Fager, Mike ☒ Felker, Suzanne ☒ Fletcher, Scott ☒ Forreton Grove Church ☒ Gittleson, Kay ☒ Grecula, Glenda & Mark ☒ Greenfield, Tim & Catherine ☒ Groenhagen, Robert & Loretta ☒ Hammer, Steve & Dixie ☒ James, Thomas & Barbara ☒ Kaminski, John & Kathleen ☒ Klein, Thomas & Sharon ☒ Ladies Guild of Monroe Center ☒ Lindenmier, Bill & Marge ☒ Lowry, Debbie & Kenny ☒ Meister, Stanley & Agnes ☒ Piwonka, Patricia ☒ Oregon Healthcare Pharmacy ☒ Popp, Jason ☒ Robinson, Doreen & David ☒ Roos, Gary & Diane ☒ Rosenbalm, Barbara ☒ Samsel, Barbara ☒ Schelling, Arnold ☒ Schultz, James & Sharon ☒ Siddens, John & Margaret ☒ Smith, Susie ☒ Stern, Frank & Sherry ☒ Stone, Barbara & Erik ☒ White Rock Township ☒ Wirth, Kelly ☒ Young, Karen ☒ Young, Larry ☒

FOUNDATION: Grand Detour Township ☒ Kobel, Chet ☒ Nye, Marguerite ☒ Pettenger, Wanda ☒

OUR DONATIONS & MEMORIALS ARE UPDATED THROUGH THE MOST RECENT DATE POSSIBLE BEFORE PRINTING. IF A DONATION/MEMORIAL HAS BEEN MADE RECENTLEY & IS NOT REFLECTED IN THIS NEWSLETTER, IT WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE. THANK YOU!

MEMORIAL GIFTS:

Evart Aiken • Harlan Alderks • Rosalie Anderson • Ester Appler • Ron Baker • Doris Book • Phyllis Bradshaw • Jake Broderick • Jimmy Broderick • Roy & Edna Bry • Robert Brooks • Jake Burke • Peter Cacciatore • John & Victoria Cich • Jim Corcoran • Richard Countryman • Ralph & Edith Davis • Tom De Arvil • Deryl Donaldson • Kitty Donaldson • Leon Donaldson • Mary Beth Etnyre • Janie Etnyre • Donald Faivre • Bill Fearer II • Merlin "Punk" Fenelton • Dottie Flessner • Richard Geiken • Kenneth Gittleson • Matt Glaser • Erma & Loran Glock • Louise Hagemann • Rick Hahn • Bernice & Bob Hammer • Carly Heller • Arlene & John Herrmann • Jake Jaquet • Paul Kaczmarzyk • James Kereven • Joey Kerwin • Dianne Klancir • Melvin Knodle • Ryan Knapp • Maurice & Carolyn Koebler • Ronald Francis Kramer • Mary & Raymond Kramer • Al & Nora Krau • Richard (Dick) Lee • Greg Leonard • Paul Lentz • Ervin Lieving • Orville & Harriett Mass • Kevin Messer • Arnold Meyers • Joe Meyer • Robert & Eleanor Moehle • Lewis & Lenore Mohr • Randall Mohr • Charles & Ida Moth • Ruth Nelson • George & Pauline O'Brien • Bob Pearson • Eugene Peck • Taylor Probasco • Carol (Judy) Kereven Rauch • Sally Roe • Diane Schmidt • Bob Scodellaro • Ruth Scodellaro • Richard (Dick) Seyster • Mark Shoemaker • Mary Jane Shoemaker • Ed Smith Jr. • Scott Smith • Melody Snyder • Ed Sowa • Kathy Sowinski • Bob Stahl • Floyd & Eleanor Stahl • Marge Stevens • Lenora Walker • Shelby Walker • Leonard & Vada Wood • Leona Woodhead • Josephine & Clarence Wright • Donald & Della Young • John & Harriette Ziembra •

A DAY WITHOUT LAUGHTER IS A DAY WASTED!

Charlie Chaplin



Several staff worked hard to put on a late-winter 'Flick & Float' and pot-luck at the Nash Center. There was a great turn out with loads of fun!



A weekly group of men and women bowls at Towne and Country Lanes in Mt. Morris. Rachel decided to coordinate her outfit to her bowling ball for good luck.



St. Patrick's Day at the Village of Progress. Lots of leprechaun sightings!



Congratulations, John, on bowling your highest 600 series at T-Byrd Lanes in Rochelle.



Jason and Doris took turns playing at our holiday dinner. Lots of smiles are found on faces when the piano is being played at the Village.



Great day and a great turnout for the Snyder's Ace Hardware grand opening. Thanks Snyder's for inviting us to host the cookout. We received over \$1,100 in donations.



Staff planned another fabulous family-friendly event last month — bowling and a potluck at Towne & Country Lanes. Food and fun is the common theme.



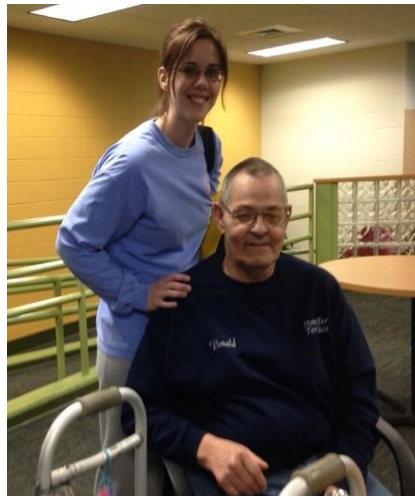
Our janitorial crew happy and hard at work!



Craft Time!



IPads help create an instant connection between high school volunteers and our men and women.



Jessica and Donald at "Flick 'n Float."



Faith Christen student playing the piano while Tony sings along.

THE BEST THING ABOUT MEMORIES IS MAKING THEM!

12:30 Shotgun Start
4 Man Scramble
Steak Dinner

Village of Progress Foundation & Larry Young and Friends Charities
Present the 24th Annual John Herrmann Memorial
Golf Play Day
Monday, July 11, 2016
Silver Ridge Golf Course

Annual Fall Banquet
Saint Mary's Learning Center
Oregon, IL

WEDNESDAY
OCTOBER 19, 2016
6:30pm

Same Place... *New Date*

Exelon Generation.
Premier Sponsor

TŌSOC
tour of scenic ogle county

September 24, 2016

- Beautiful Scenery
- Wildlife Sightings
- Historic Sites

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