



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

The Village View

Summer 2016

Director's Notes — “There has to be a better way.”

“There has to be a better way.” That was the feeling I had after a meeting last year with a job coach from OCEC. For those of you not familiar, OCEC (Ogle County Educational Cooperative) provides special education services for most of the schools in Ogle County.

Job coaches are men and women who help older special education students find and fit into jobs in the community. The idea is that giving them experience now will make them more employable when they leave school.

The woman sitting in my office was telling me that it's tough finding jobs for students in a rural county like ours. Few large corporate employers, a below-average income, and no convenient public transportation are big hurdles for job seekers with developmental disabilities. “There has to be a better way,” I was thinking.

A while later I was talking with a friend of the Village. He mentioned a small town out east. They had a non-profit movie theater staffed in part by folks with disabilities. Hmmm.

A few months later I was brainstorming with another friend about businesses the Village could open to hire folks with developmental disabilities. Before long, the idea of a bakery emerged.

And so “The Village Bakery” was born. Last month the Village's Board of Directors approved the plan.

On the surface, The Village Bakery will look like any other local bakery and coffee shop. It will be located in downtown Oregon and offer fresh baked goods as well as coffee drinks (espressos, lattes, frapes, and the like), and ice cream. A drive-up window is also planned.

What makes the Village Bakery unique is its mission. The Village Bakery exists to provide real-world job training and experience to men and women with disabilities. Think of it as a job incubator. By working shoulder-to-shoulder with a professional staff, students and adults with disabilities can learn retail sales, bakery work, the art of being baristas, and money management. In short, all the jobs that running a great bakery and coffee shop entail.

The goal is that these folks will gain a resume and references – giving potential employers the assurance they need to hire them with confidence.

OCEC is also excited at the opportunities this will provide for many of their 18-21 year old special education students. Job coaches will work with their students at the Village Bakery, knowing that management wants nothing more than to have their experience be a positive one.

I am so excited to see the Village of Progress expand its mission of giving opportunity, community, and hope to adults in Ogle County with developmental disabilities.

There not only has to be a better way. There is.

Brion Brooks, Executive Director



THE VILLAGE VIEW

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PO Box 418, 710 S. 13th St.,
Oregon IL 61061

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New Board Member Angela Larson

Angela Kay Larson serves as Director of Brand Marketing and Communications at Blount International. Ms. Larson has been responsible for marketing development, international expansion, eCommerce, new product initiatives, brand awareness, and facilitating overall business strategy.

Prior to joining Blount, Ms. Larson established her own consulting firm offering clients strategic planning and professional business coaching. She is married to a fourth - generation farmer and lives in rural Pecatonica, Illinois. Brion Brooks commented, "Her experience and training in marketing and strategic planning should prove very valuable to Village of Progress and our board."

Felipe Rodriguez Joins The Village Staff

Felipe Rodriguez joined the VOP staff on 7/25/2016 as a full time DSP and route driver.

Felipe's primary responsibilities will involve driving the Leaf River bus route and working in developmental training. Felipe received his DSP training at Kreider, where he worked part time for 7 months.



He's married to Jenny Noon-Rodriguez and they live in Lost Lake near Dixon. Please extend Felipe a warm welcome if you see him while at the Village.



Committee: JJ Stiles, Bob Brown, Megan Voss, Renee Short, Tony Yates and Sharon Good.

New Voices Committee Named

VOP Voices is a committee of six peers who meet monthly with administration. The self advocacy committee is responsible for suggesting ideas, asking questions, and planning events. It is a volunteer committee with one year terms.

The Flame of Hope

It was a beautiful day in June for the Flame of Hope to pass through downtown Oregon. The Village of Progress handed out water to thank our local officers for their support of Special Olympics and all that they do for our community. “Approximately 3,000 officers carried the Flame of Hope nearly 1,500 miles, through thousands of Illinois communities until it reached its final destination – the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games in Normal,” according to Special Olympics Illinois.



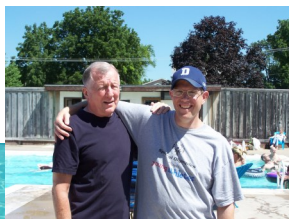
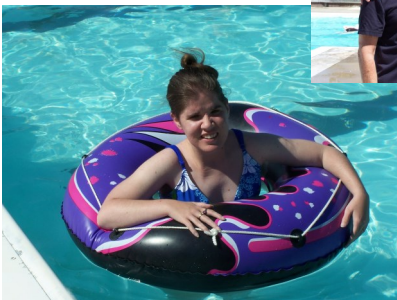
Dan Daub, carrying the Flame of Hope, organized local officers. Pictured with Rachel Brooks, Special Olympic Athlete.



Carla Bulthaus Hill, Ogle County corrections officer, with Jason O'Neil, Special Olympic Athlete.

2016 Summer Special Olympics

Five Village of Progress athletes qualified for State competition, traveling to Normal for the Illinois Summer Olympics Games. Matt competed in the 200 M run; Sylvia and Kara ran the 100 M; Elizabeth competed in the softball throw; and Jenny competed in shot put. Everyone enjoyed participating and making new friends.



Every year special Olympic athletes and their families celebrate the season with a swim party and cookout at the city pool in Polo.

IMPORTANT DATES

AT

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

SPECIAL OLYMPIC PARENTS GROUP CAR WASH

AUGUST 13, 2016

FIRE STATION IN OREGON

CLOSED - LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 5, 2016

TOSOC

TOUR OF SCENIC OGLE COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

CYCLING EVENT AT THE VILLAGE

CLOSED - COLUMBUS DAY

OCTOBER 10 2016

ANNUAL BANQUET

OCTOBER 19, 2016

SAINT MARY'S LEARNING CENTER IN OREGON

ANGEL BALL

DECEMBER 3, 2016

BARNACOPIA POLO, IL

THANK YOU..... Our ability to maintain meaningful and effective programs for Ogle County Adults with disabilities depends on your donations.



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS:

David & Joan Abbott • Richard & Carol Anderson • Dave & Jennifer Baker • Byron Kiwanis Club • Roger & Julie Cain • Joanne & Kevin Carr • Jean Colbacchini • Mary & Bill Davis • Larry & Deb Drew • Martin & Doris Ebert • Randall & Sandra Ebert • Jeff & Kathy Feste • Scott Fletcher • Donald & Myrle Fuller • David & Cynthia Gesin • Carla Grove & Sharon Leisson • Steve & Dixie Hammer • Brett & Brenda Herrmann • Raymond James Association • Bernard & Sara Kopp • Beverly Kump • Codelle Leonard • Lynnville Township • Raymond & Julie Mann • John (Steven) Moehle • Karen Novak • Ogle County Beef Association • Oregon Kiwanis Club • Oregon Nashua Township • Diane Pavlus • Wanda Pettenger • Pinecreek Woman's Club • Polo Lions Club • Rochelle Knights of Columbus • Rochelle Women of the Moose • Barbara Rosenbalm • Laurie Ryland • Patricia Saunders • John & Margaret Siddens • Joseph & Patricia Sowiak • Kimberly Stahl • Frank & Sheryl Stern • Frank & Dianne Swingel • Jacqueline Wirth • Jonette & Gary Wood • Karen Young



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Joel & Eleanor Colbert • Teresa Fearer • Chet Kobel • Tim & Kathy Leary • Phil & Maggie Nye • Wanda Pettenger • Polo Knights of Columbus • John Roe • Tom & Myrna Snodgrass • Rose Sowa • Mark & Kathy Tremble •

MEMORIAL GIFTS:

Evert Aiken • Harlan Alderks • Rosalie Anderson • Ester Appler • Ron Baker • Mary Barclay • Wayne Bonnell • Doris Book • Harlan Blake • Phyllis Bradshaw • Jake Broderick • Jimmy Broderick • Roy & Edna Bry • Robert Brooks • Norma Brooks • Jake Burke • Peter Cacciatore • John & Victoria Cich • Jim Corcoran • Richard Countryman • Ralph & Edith Davis • Tom DeArvi l • Deryl Donaldson • Kitty Donaldson • Leon Donaldson • Mary Beth Etnyre • Janie Etnyre • Donald Faivre • Bill Fearer II • Dottie Flessner • Richard Geiken • Kenneth Gittleson • Matt Glaser • Erma & Loran Glock • Rick Hahn • Paul & Bev Higgins • 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 • Robert & Eleanor Moehle • Charles & Ida Moth • Ruth Nelson • George & Pauline O'Brien • Bob Pearson • Eugene Peck • Carol (Judy) Kereven Rauch • Sally Roe • Diane Schmidt • Bob Scodellaro • Ruth Scodellaro • Richard (Dick) Seyster • Mark Shoemaker • Mary Jane Shoemaker • Scott Smith • 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 •





SUMMER DAY CAMP

For many of our folks, day camp activities are the highlight of the year. This year, donations to our day camp fund allowed men and women from the Village of Progress to choose between a riverboat cruise and meal along the Rock River or a three course meal and country concert at White Pines Inn.

Thanks to the following Day Camp donors who helped create lasting memories and make the lives of our folks more enjoyable: Richard & Carol Anderson • Gary & Beverly Bunger • Mike & Susan Burke • Byron Bank • Roger & Julie Cain • Jean Colbacchini • Mary & Bill Davis • Rick & Paula Davis • First Presbyterian Church of Rochelle • First State Bank of Mendota • Joan Glendenning • Harvard State Bank • June Kereven • Lynn Kereven • Darlene King • Leaf River Lions Club • Angela Leary • Mary Lee • Codelle Leonard • Mt Morris Community Women’s Club • Oregon Kiwanis Club • Oregon Knights of Columbus • Teresa McDowell & Tricia Black • Richard & Betty Messer • Nancy Miller • Polo Evening Women’s Club • Greg & Julie Reckamp • Joseph & Patricia Slowiak • Sterling Federal Bank • Stillman Valley Lions Club • Helen Mae Wales • Janet Wehmeyer • Wilbur & Nina Whetsel •



IN-KIND DONATIONS

In—Kind gifts of goods or services rather than money can be made by individuals or organizations. These donations can be extremely valuable to help us meet the needs of men and women at the Village and to keep our facility looking good and functioning properly.

If you would like to make an in-kind donation, please contact us. Thank you: H.C. Anderson Roofing • Jon Barnhart • Blackhawk Carpet & Tile • Nancy & Don Etnyre • Merlin’s Greenhouse & Flowers • Ogle County Fair Association • Gracie Prose • White Pines Inn

SUSTAINING GRANTS

Annual awards that support the Village Attendance Grant Program:

A. Charles and Lillemor Lawrence Foundation and The Rochelle Area Community Foundation.



**24th Annual
John Herrmann
Memorial Golf Play**

Enthusiastic golfers and generous supporters helped raise over \$10,000 for the Village of Progress Foundation and Larry Young & Friends Charities. Eighty-eight golfers played in the event. Generous sponsors, gracious donors and fun participants were the key to a successful day. Those who attend the Village are truly fortunate to have such supportive friends.

A huge thanks to Oregon Subway for donating their delicious sub sandwiches, and to Woody Buick and William Manny Insurance for their special hole-in-one premiums. Our top notch sponsors include: KSB Hospital, Smith & Birkholz, P.C., E.D. Entyre & Company, Snyder Pharmacy, Hub Printing, Youngberg Industries, Oregon Knight of Columbus, Don and Nancy Etnyre, Holcomb State Bank, Fearer, Nye & Chadwick, Stillman Bank, Bill Geist, Joey "C" Restaurant, William-Manny Insurance Group, Martin & Company Excavating, Northcentral IL Football Officials, Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, Byron Bank, Al Weir, James Hoff, Chet Kobel, Gary & Doris Ferb, Byron Financial, Jim Sibigroth, First National Bank, HA International, Savant, Dan Manning Insurance, Butch Peters Family, Cacciatore Family and the Rockford Boys & Girls Club.

Our raffles were a huge success and bidding wars occurred on silent auction items. Thanks to: Jim Sibigroth for the Cubs/Pirates tickets, Kelly Wirth for the Cubs/Brewers tickets, Beth Henderson for the stay at White Pines Inn, Snyder's/Ace Hardware for the outdoor items and Jim Kaufman at Super Value for outfitting us with beer and wine.

The Jake Burke Memorial Court

Jake worked at the Village of Progress during the summer while in High School and loved basketball.

His parents wanted to honor his memory and so a practice court was designed at the Village of Progress for the Special Olympic athletes. A year later, the court is a reality because of strong community support and volunteers.



Thank you to the following companies and individuals that made this project possible: The Jake Burke Memorial Fund • R.E. Wolber & Sons • Martin & Company • Rogers Ready Mix • Joe Wyatt Family • Stan Ballard • Special Olympic Parents Group • Jon Barnhart • Kay & Bill Tallyn • Rochelle Area Community Foundation.



The Village of Progress presents TOSOC. A scenic bike ride, on beautiful country roads. Hundreds of cyclists are anticipated. 3 routes: a 10 miles fun ride, a 32 mile ride, and a 62 mile ride.

If you enjoy riding a bike please join us!
Not a cyclist? Volunteer, sponsor, or
buy TOSOC Merchandise!

Please mail this form :
 Village of Progress Foundation, Inc.
 PO Box 418 • Oregon IL 61061
 Or fax to 815-732-3228
 Or Email: TOSOC@villageofprogress.org

REGISTRATION FORM

Contact: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____ email: _____

- I want to ride in TOSOC** Please send me a registration and waiver.
- I want to Volunteer at TOSOC on September 24, 2016**
Please contact me.
- I want to sponsor the event for \$100** (Name on back of shirt and on signs during ride)
Name of Business: _____

Take your picture with TOSOC and send it to: TOSOC@villageofprogress.org. You could win a free TOSOC mug!



**Village of Progress, Inc.
47th Annual Dinner**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2016
6:30 p.m.**

**St. Mary's Learning Center – Oregon, IL
1 Mile West of Oregon on Route 64
Call us for tickets (815) 732-2126**

Adult - \$15.00
Children 5 to 12 - \$5.00
Children 4 & under - FREE



**Come see us at
Autumn on Parade
Oregon, IL**

OCTOBER 1st & 2nd

Booth # 303 & 304

(on 6th Street next to the Judicial Center)

**Men and women from the Village
along with some staff
will be selling hand made items.**

 **Exelon Generation.**
Premier Sponsor

 **TŌSOC**
tour of scenic ogle county

September 24, 2016

- Beautiful Scenery
- Wildlife Sightings
- Historic Sites



A United Way Community Solutions Provider
Funded in part by the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board



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