



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE • 1969-2019



Director's Note:

This summer I've been rummaging through the Village's archives, preparing for our 50th anniversary. A few things surprised me. They might surprise you, too.

It always starts with parents

Long before there was a Village of Progress there were a group of parents raising children with developmental disabilities. These parents believed that their children deserved a life of opportunity and respect. And so they formed the Blackhawk Association for the Mentally Retarded. That was in 1957.

This parent's association learned what other communities were doing to aid persons with disabilities and advocated for their children's education and for their future.

After years of helping to establish and support special education classes these parents started to dream about life for their children *after* they graduated from school. And so began the Village of Progress.

Wherever you see changes that help those with disabilities, you'll always find a group of parents who began with a dream.

It Takes Leaders with Passion

In the Spring of 1969 this Association asked Robert Glaser, then just a 26 year old instructor at the Dixon State School, to create a Day Training Center in Ogle County. By the fall of 1969, the Village of Progress officially opened its doors in Mount Morris. True to Bob's vision, the Village offered a sheltered workshop and a day care for children not able to attend public schools.

Not long after, Bob was introduced to John Herrmann, the Operating Manager of Caron Textile. John was a man with a passion for excellence in business that was as strong as Bob's passion for excellence in disability services. The two men quickly became strong friends and allies.

As the Village grew, John arranged for it to use part of Caron's building for production work. Six months later, John followed up on this unprecedented show of support by leading Caron to donate two acres of their land and advance a loan to help the Village construct its facility. That's where the Village of Progress has been located ever since.

Since then, the Village has expanded from 6,000 square feet to its current size of more than 25,000 square feet. Bob believed in the power of industry and was never afraid to explore new opportunities for the workshop. John believed in the power of industry as a force for good in the community.

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THE VILLAGE VIEW

A quarterly publication of
the Village of Progress, Inc.
PO Box 418, 710 S. 13th St.,
Oregon IL 61061

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Director's Note (continued):

It Takes a Village

No matter how strong the parent base or how passionate and capable the leadership, social good seldom happens without the support of the community. In this case, that support has come in many forms.

A driving force in moving from a parents' group to a functioning day training center was passage of the Ogle County 708 referendum to provide funding for local mental health and disabilities services in 1968. The County, its residents, and its many townships, clubs, and churches, have been faithful supporters of the Village ever since.

I imagine that the parents who helped create that first Blackhawk Association over 60 years ago could hardly imagine how far their dream has progressed, and how many families have been touched and served.

So you see, we're not just celebrating 50 years of the Village of Progress, we are also celebrating 50 years of a County constantly demonstrating its kindness and compassion.

Thank you. Without each of you we could not be who we are.

Please join us on Wednesday, August 28, from 1-2:30 as we celebrate together a wonderful legacy of service.

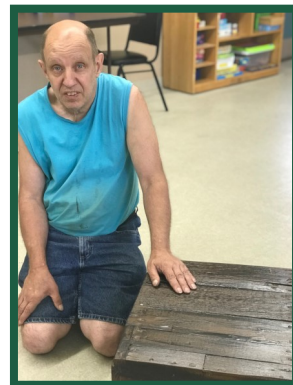
Brion Brooks

A Man on a Mission

John Miller is a man on a mission to build and create functional primitives using repurposed wood and donated lumber. John has a life-long passion for working with wood. He's made bird houses which you might see on country farm fence posts, bird feeders, foot stools, side tables, angel wings and the cut

outs for the collectible angels which are given out each year at the Rotary Foundation Angel

Ball. And that's just what he does here at the Village. At home over the years, John has erected log buildings – from sawing felled trees to hand-splitting wood shingles. He is pictured here with end tables and a shelf he made for the Village Bakery and for the Village of Progress. Functional and sturdy!



The Flame of Hope



The Ogle County First Responders pictured with Matt Spurbeck who ran a stretch and is a Special Olympic Athlete.

It was a beautiful day in June when the Flame of Hope passed through downtown Oregon. The Village of Progress handed out water to thank Ogle County First Responders for their support of Special Olympics and all that they do for our community. The Torch Run is a state wide fundraiser that helps pay for Special Olympics in Illinois. Dawn Todd, Special Olympic Coach at the Village explains, "It is truly a goose bump moment to be witness to the officers carrying the Flame of Hope into its final destination – the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Illinois Summer Games in Normal, IL." Group Photo at Torch Run in downtown Oregon, IL. Special Olympic motto "Let us win, but if we can not win, let us be brave in the attempt."



2019 Summer Special Olympics

The Village of Progress took two athletes to Normal for the Illinois Summer Olympic Games. Pictured with their coach, Amber Wright, are Sylvia who earned 5th place in softball throw and Angela who earned 2nd place in the tennis ball throw. Everyone enjoyed participating and making new friends.



IMPORTANT DATES

AT

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

THE VILLAGE BAKERY

FALL OPEN HOUSE

AUGUST 23RD—24TH

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

AUGUST 28TH
1:00PM—2:30

THE VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

CLOSED - LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 2, 2019

TOSOC

TOUR OF SCENIC OGLE COUNTY

SEPTEMBER 28, 2019

CYCLING EVENT AT THE VILLAGE

CLOSED - COLUMBUS DAY

OCTOBER 14, 2019

New Board Members Julie Mann & Heather Hatch

The Village of Progress welcomes Julie Mann and Heather Hatch as the two newest members of its Board of Directors.

Julie Mann is the Vice President of Administration at KSB Hospital in Dixon. Julie earned a bachelor's degree in social work from Illinois State University and a master's degree in business administration from Northern Illinois University. She also is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Julie lives in Chana and has three children and nine grandchildren. Her community involvement includes serving organizations like the CASA, Oregon Rotary, Junior Achievement, Relay for Life, and her church.



Heather Hatch was raised in California before moving to Oregon with her family. Heather has a degree in child development and has worked as a case manager for people with developmental disabilities. After moving to Oregon Heather began volunteering at the Village, along with her children. With her experience she was quickly recruited as a substitute supervisor. Upon returning to Oregon after living a couple years out of state, she agreed to join the Board of Directors.

Heather's hobbies include singing, running and cycling, gardening and "annoying my kids by taking too many photos of them."

Please extend a warm welcome to Julie Mann and Heather Hatch.

New Voices Committee Named

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



Committee members include: Chris Otten, Sharon Good, Nora Wojtalewicz, Renee Short, and Rachel White

Village of Progress, The Village Bakery & Oregon Park District Partner to Offer Classes

In our ongoing effort to integrate the community and our agency on shared experiences, both The Village Bakery and Village of Progress are partnering with the Oregon Park District to offer fun seasonal projects for children and their parents. Check out the classes and join in the fun. Register at the park district. Classes held at the Village of Progress and The Village Bakery.

CREATIVE EXPRESSION

K-3RD WITH ADULT at VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

Allow your child to express their creativity and create projects out of recycled materials with the consumers and staff from the Village of Progress. Kids will be working alongside people with developmental disabilities to create a seasonal project that can be used to decorate your home. Each participant must be accompanied by an adult. Fee \$8/\$9 NR

10/11 Scarecrow-Child size porch decoration
9:30am-11:00am



THE VILLAGE BAKERY CLASS

PRE-K TO 3RD WITH AN ADULT

Join The Village Bakery and their staff for an exciting decorating experience. Each participant must be accompanied by an adult. Everyone takes home baked goods. Fee: \$16/\$19 NR

10/11 Fall Favorites
9:00am-10:30am



The Etnyre Foundation generously donated dollars to The Village Bakery to install automatic door openers; making it easier for folks with wheelchairs, walkers, and strollers to access The Village Bakery.



Group Effort & Beautiful Gardens

This spring Stillman Bank donated money to rejuvenate our gazebo gardens. Then Oregon High School sent numerous students over on their annual day of service to the community and cleared our brush. Next U of I Extension offered to plan and plant the garden with the help from their Master Gardeners. The result has been a beautiful garden for our folks to enjoy and walk around. Thank you for the group effort!

Village of Progress Donations



Crest Food donated \$10,000 to update our portable building. We are so thankful for the large donation. We will keep everyone updated as the work begins!

Mary Agre • Richard & Carol Anderson • Crest Foods • Dalmer Clawson • Cherie Chopp • Gary Davis • Karen Dietrich • Larry & Deb Drew • Sherri Drew • Randall & Sandra Ebert • Don & Nancy Etnyre • E.D. Etnyre • Mike Fager • Teresa Fearer • First Presbyterian Church of Rochelle • Dennis Flannagan • Tom & Lisa Gale • Dave & Cynthia Gesin • Joan Glendenning • Gene & Kathy Green • Jason Hammer • Steve & Dixie Hammer • S & K Hayden • Ronald Horn • KSB Partner's in Health • Bruce & Teresa Johnson • Kiwanis Club of Byron • Sara & Bernard Kopp • Mary Lee • Raymond & Julie Mann • Alan & Marie McNames • Norman & Thelma Meeks • Donna Merrill • Robert & Carmen Meyer • John Moehle • Thomas & Jamie Nobis • Phil & Maggie Nye • Randall & Nancy Ocken • Ogle County Beef Association • Ogle County 4H • Ed & Karen Olsen • Oregon Fellowship Ministry • Leon Palmer • Neal & Diane Pavlus • Wanda Pettenger • Patricia Piwonka • W. Ed Rice • Rochelle Area Community Foundation • Rochelle Women of the Moose • Rockvale Township • Jennifer Rodriguez • John Roe • Barbara Rosenbalm • Sharon Russell • William Schafer • Scott & Joyce Stephens • Marcia Sterenberg • St. Paul Lutheran Church • Sheryl Stern • Stillman Bank • Frank & Diane Swingel • Sharon Thunberg • Jean Walker • Morris Weiner • Jay Werner • White Rock Township • Jennifer & Jacqueline Wirth • Margaret Wolf • Sheryl Pitts Wolff • Karen Young •

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Summer Camp Donations

For many of our folks, day camp activities are the highlight of the year. Thanks to the following Day Camp donors who helped create lasting memories and make the lives of our folks more enjoyable: Larry & Becky Brown • Lynette Carmichael • Karen Churney • Jean Colbacchini • John (Jack) Crisham • Rick & Paula Davis • Dave & Cynthia Gesin • Larry & Joyce Groenhagen • Holcomb Bank • June Kereven • Darlene King • Leaf River Lions Club • Tim & Kathy Leary • Mary Lee • Richard & Betty Messer • Jim & Vada Rosenbalm • Charles Snyder • Judy Snyder • Sterling Federal Bank • Frank & Diane Swingel •



In Memory: Roger Beardin • Marian Blumeyer • Edith & Ralph Davis • Duane Herrmann • Jean Maronde • Kevin Messer • Ruth Meyer • Melody Snyder •

In Honor: Kathy Bouska • Bob Groenhagen • Myrna Hart • Sally Toms •

In Kind: Bob & Dawn Burke • Knuckles & Associates • Larry & Deb Drew • Master Gardner's Club • Merlin's Greenhouse & Flowers • Oregon Church of God • Oregon High School Students • Oregon Lions Club •



25th Annual John Herrmann Memorial Golf Play Day

Enthusiastic golfers and generous supporters helped raise over **\$16,000** at this year's John Herrmann Memorial Golf Play Day. Dollars raised support our attendance grant program which assists people that lack government funding to attend the Village of Progress. One hundred and thirty three golfers played in the event. Generous sponsors, gracious donors, along with fun participants and volunteers 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. Two wonderful highlights this year included: our first hole in – congratulation Mark Tremble — and the winning team from Blount/Woods Equipment donated the cash they won back to the Village — Thank you!

Our top notch sponsors made the day a success: **Blount/Woods Equipment • Byron Bank • Wanda Cacciatore • John Canova • Central Bank Illinois • Gary & Susan Davis • Don & Nancy Etnyre • E.D. Etnyre • Mike & Renee Fager • Fearer, Nye & Chadwick • Doris & Gary Ferb • Franchescos Restaurant • Bill Geist • Generations at Neighbors • H.A. International • Harvard State Bank • Hub International • Knights of Columbus Oregon • Kobel Family • KSB Partner in Health • Paul Lieving • Manning Insurance Co. • Martin & Co. Excavating • Merlin's Green-House & Flowers • Northern Illinois Football Officials • Oregon/Dixon Autobody • Oregon Snyder Pharmacy & Ace Hardware • Butch Peters • Sauk Valley Bank • Savant Capital Management • Jim Sibigtroth • F.N. Smith Corp. • Smith, Birkholz & O'Brien • Sterling Federal • Stillman Bank • Frank & Dianne Swingel • Mark & Kathi Tremble • Youngberg Industries •**

Bidding wars occurred on baseball tickets donated by: **Jim Sibigtroth, Kelly Wirth** and **Dan Bellino**. And **Jim Kaufman at Super Value** made our pick your prize raffle a huge success by donating and hand selecting wonderful beer and wine.



Please join us on Wednesday, August 28, from 1-2:30 as we celebrate 50 years of service.



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



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