



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

SERVING ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FOR OVER 50 YEARS

The Village View - Summer 2021

Volume LII Number II



Director's Note:

Two events this past month have brought considerable joy and hope to the Village. The first is the advent of summer – warm breezes, bright sunshine, and a vibrant green landscape. The second was the successful vaccination of most of the people who work at and attend the Village.

With these two events now merged together, the Village is coming back to life with a variety of activities.

Our Village Bike Club has started back up after a year in hibernation. The Bike Club pairs local volunteers with those who attend the Village for rides through Oregon Park West. I'm happy to report that our volunteers were just as eager to resume the Bike Club as our men and women who ride with them.



In June we took a bus trip to Milwaukee to watch the Cubs play the Brewers. The weather was great, everyone enjoyed the trip and experienced tail gating prior to the game. The solo Brewers fan was happy with the results.

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:

Special Olympics announced that they'll resume sports in the fall. And that means bowling, a favorite for many at the Village. Every week a group travels to Town & Country Lanes in Mount Morris to get in a couple games.



It hasn't been all play and no work this summer. We're excited to announce that we've partnered with Crest Foods in Ashton IL. Twice a week a team of five men and women travel to Crest Foods to help them with packaging and production. Getting our people into the community and working shoulder-to-shoulder with Crest Food's employees has been a tremendous opportunity for us (and, we hope, for them).

It's been a difficult year-and-a-half, and the pandemic storm isn't over yet, by any measure. Still, I'm grateful that the vaccines, the sun, and the warm weather has given us at least a temporary respite. And I'm grateful that you are all able to be on this journey with us. As always, thanks for partnering with us.



Brion Brooks

WELCOME TO THE VILLAGE



Niki Hunt who is a familiar name in the area due to her local photography studio but few people know that she is a Registered Nurse with a range of experience. Her enthusiasm, experience, and dedication is evident



Marian Cropp is a licensed DSP (Direct Support Person) with a background in residential services. She's excited to now use her talents in our day service program. She brings a lot of experience and quality of care to everyone we serve.



Eric Sundvall has lived in Oregon area all of his life. He has spent the last 10 years working with individuals with special abilities. In his leisure he enjoys gardening. Eric is a great addition to our team.

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR PROMOTIONS



In June **Sara Zellers** stepped into the role of manager of the Village Bakery. A licensed DSP (Direct Support Person), Sara started working at the Bakery before it even opened, helping the manager at that time with setting the menu and hiring and training staff. After four years as an assistant manager, the time was right to offer her a promotion. "I'm honored to be asked," Sara said, "and see this as a great opportunity to lead the Bakery forward." Sara adds incredible enthusiasm and vision to the Bakery, its staff, and its mission.



Gina Fulton has been promoted to the manager of our Village Cleaning Service. Gina comes with a wealth of experience and has worked on the cleaning service staff for almost 5 years. She's a licensed DSP (Direct Support Person), frequently takes small groups of our men and women with her to help with local cleaning contracts, and has a great love for the people we serve.

Exploring Our Community!

In an effort to increase exposure to the community, we are stepping up the variety and number of small group outings. Our goal is to promote and improve self advocacy, informed decision making, budgeting/money skills and greater life experiences. Everyone chooses the activities they wanted to participate in each time.



The Story of Monkeyman



We have a story to make you smile! Mark Probasco, a VOP employee, was teaching sign language by zoom to some of our folks. The group was discussing animals. Then, the group started joking around (typical) and came up with Monkey Man. From that point forward, every time Tim saw Mark, he signed Monkey Man. Mark asked Tim's parents if they were prompting Tim to sign? They both said no. A month later Tim and his family attended his annual planning meeting. Tim was asked who was important to him - he signed "Monkey Man." Skipping ahead - on Tim's first day back in person at the Village, Mark had matching shirts made saying "Monkey Man" and gave one to Tim.

Our Amazing Workforce

We are fortunate to have gained a nice variety of in-house jobs. Sorting bubble bags for Midland paper; assembling and packaging kits for Wahl Clipper; crimping hydraulic valves for MTE Hydraulics; creating yarn sample cards for Quince yarn and packaging friction discs for Woods Equipment are just some of our contracts. We appreciate all of our customers and we are frequently complimented on our excellent consistent work product! Please help us spread the word about our amazing workforce!



Tim Wells separating and stacking bubble wrap for Midland Paper.

Call Karen for an estimate
815-732-2126

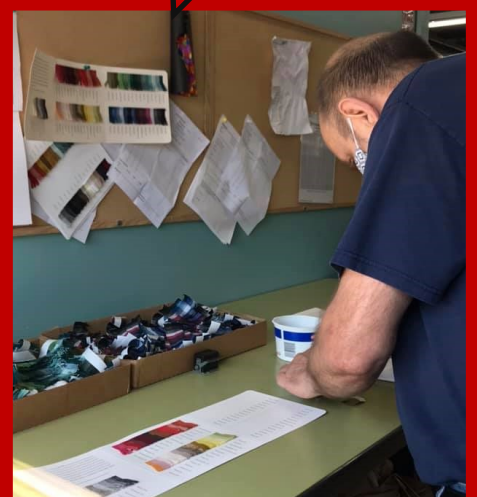
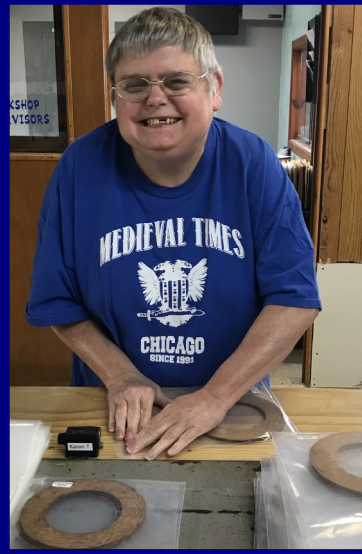


Judy Hoffman inserting an instruction booklet for Wahl Clipper.

Sylvia King assembling a Wahl Clipper kit.



Lila Mitchell packaging friction discs for Woods Equipment.



John Miller putting yarn strips on color cards for Quince Yarn.



Matthew Spurbeck crimping valves for MTE Hydraulics

2021 John Herrmann Memorial Golf Play Day

Enthusiastic golfers and generous supporters helped raise over \$23,000 for the Village of Progress Foundation and Larry Young & Friends Charities. 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. Team Cacciatore won and generously donated winnings back to The Village of Progress.



A huge thanks to our top notch sponsors and donors: Cacciatore Family • Central Bank Illinois • Don & Nancy Etnyre • 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 Hospital • Paul Lieving • Dan Manning • Martin & Co. Excavating • Butch Peters • Jim Sibigroth • Sauk Valley Bank • Savant Capital Management • F.N. Smith Corp. • Smith, Birkholz & Morrow • Stillman Bank • Frank & Dianne Swingel • Mark & Kathi Tremble • Larry Young • Youngberg Industries •

Bidding wars occurred on Cub/Brewer Tickets! Thanks to Dan Bellino for donating the baseball tickets and Mike Mullarkey the winning bidder. Jim Kaufman at Super Valu made our pick-your-prize and beer wagon raffles a huge success by hand selecting wonderful beers and wines.

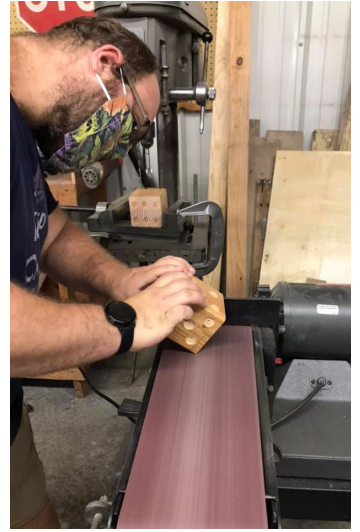


Wood Working Projects



Jeremy has been making hand-made Yard Dice Games with volunteer Steve Wells in our wood-working shop for us to use as prizes and donations at our fund raising events.

Everything in the set is made from repurposed materials. The Yard Cup comes from food buckets used at our Village Bakery in Oregon, IL. The Yard Dice are donated leftover 4x4 lumber. A booklet inside describes different games you can play with the dice.



John has been busy framing favorite puzzles that people have assembled! The frames are made from miscellaneous scrap wood but John makes sure every piece fits together like a glove! It meant a lot to Silvia & Rachel that John made the frames for them!



WANT TO WIN \$100

The Village of Progress Foundation has weekly \$100 drawings for all eligible Village of Progress employees. To be eligible you must be a VOP employee and you must be vaccinated against Covid 19. The following folks have had their names selected and won \$100.



Donna Mattison



Mark Probasco



Niki Hunt



Jason Kump

Village of Progress & Foundation Donations:

Dave & Joan Abbott •
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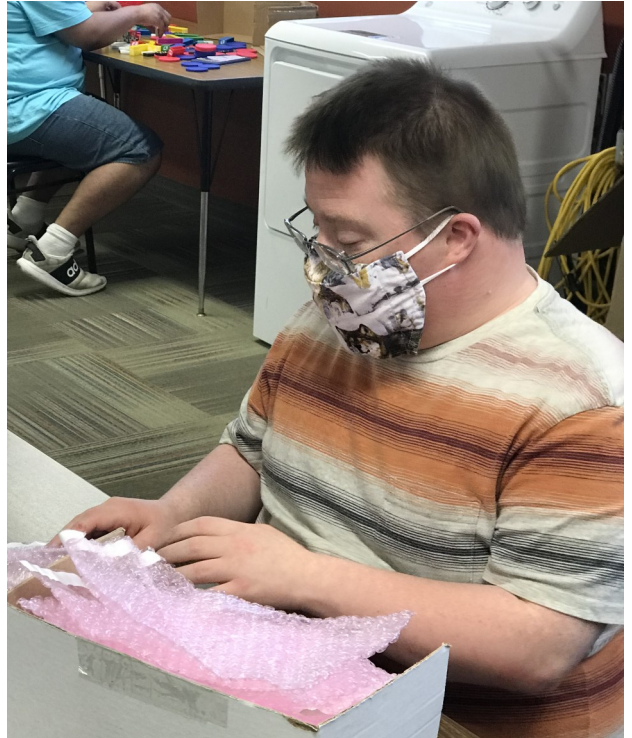


Darlene King •
 Kiwanis of
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 Byron



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IN HONOR OF: Robert
Groenhagen

**THANK YOU.... Our ability to maintain
meaningful and effective programs for
Ogle County adults with disabilities
depends on your donations &
volunteer efforts!**



2021 Sponsor Form

This is a unique and affordable opportunity to sponsor an event that promotes our community, the businesses that make us strong & the Village of Progress. We hope you will consider sponsoring this year— hundreds of cyclists touring our town on September 25, 2021. Help us make them feel comfortable.

SPONSOR FORM—ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK FOR _____

Business Name: _____

Contact: _____

Business Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

**Business Sponsor
or Individual
Sponsorship \$100**

Mail your sponsorship checks to :
**Village of Progress -
 PO Box 418
 Oregon, IL 61061**

Your company name or logo (whichever you prefer) will appear on a large sponsor board where the ride begins and on the back of the long sleeve shirt. Sponsors will also be recognized on Facebook and in newsletters. Logos can be emailed to: segan@villageofprogress.org.

In addition sponsors are encouraged to welcome cyclist on their business signs. Cyclists are encouraged to stay in the community after the event.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS SCENIC BIKE TOUR

TOSOC


tour of scenic ogle county

September 25, 2021

ROUTE 1 :: 10 MILE ROUTE
ROUTE 2 :: 32 MILE ROUTE
ROUTE 3 :: 62 MILE ROUTE



Register online at www.active.com and search TOSOC Bike Ride.

 Check us out on Facebook by searching TOSOC Bike Ride


All proceeds benefit the Village Of Progress, a non-profit agency providing training opportunities to individuals with developmental disabilities.



REGISTRATION

ONE REGISTRATION FORM PER RIDER.

Form may be duplicated; copies must include sign waiver form on back.

 Register online at www.active.com and search TOSOC 6th Annual Event. Additional fee will apply.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: (____) - ____ - ____ Age _____

Emergency Phone (____) - ____ - ____

Email to receive map and link _____

Choose Route: 10 Mile 32 Mile 62 Mile

Registration Fees:

Pre-Registration for Adults
by 09/15/2021 - \$30.00 _____

Registration for Adults
after 09/15/2021 - \$40.00 _____

Children (12 and under)
FREE, but registration and waivers required _____

High Quality Long Sleeved T-shirt: \$30.00
 S M L XL XXL _____
Adult Sizes only. Guaranteed for pre-registration only

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

I have signed the waiver on the back of this form.

Make checks payable to 'Village of Progress' and mail to:

Village of Progress
P.O Box 418, Oregon, IL 61061

Questions? tosoc@villageofprogress.org



**It's a rare gift to
be able to show off
our community
and do good
in the process.**

**Thanks for your
support!**



Deanne and JR making cookie pucks together at The Village Bakery.

THE BAKERY IS OPEN
MONDAY THRU FRIDAY
6AM - 3PM
SAT & SUN 7AM - 3PM



The Village is funded in part by the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708 Board), United Way, Etnyre Foundation & Rochelle Area Community Foundation



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