



VILLAGE OF PROGRESS

SERVING ADULTS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES FOR OVER 50 YEARS

The Village View - Summer 2024

Volume LV Number 3



Director's Note:

I'm very excited to share with you something that's been in the works for several years.

Those who know about the Village of Progress know that one of our core goals is creating ways to integrate the community with those who have developmental disabilities. Taking the Village into the community, as we say. Over the years, the Village has done this by bringing groups to restaurants, sporting events, parks, libraries, and recreation centers. And we do it through our Village Bakery, our Cleaning Service, on-site work opportunities, the bike club, and others.

It's not just a way to let men and women with disabilities see more of the world around them (though that's clearly part of it). We also do this to introduce the community to people with disabilities; giving the public the opportunity to see them for who they are – men and women who simply want to be accepted, heard, and respected. Men and women who each have their unique hopes, fears, and dreams.

In other words, we want in the community to think about men and women with disabilities as unique and varied as everyone else. As we say in our values statement: "We believe that interaction with the community, even one person at a time, has value in changing perceptions about those with disabilities."

For many years the Village has dreamed of creating a community where people with and without developmental disabilities can live together. I'm excited to report that the dream is now becoming a reality.

The community is called "Hill Street Neighborhood" and will be located on the North-east area of Mount Morris, IL. Here's a drawing of the proposed site. It's comprised of 12 single and double-occupancy duplexes (24-30 individuals), a community building, and a 4-acre park.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

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

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Director's Note Continued:



Unlike most providers of housing for adults with disabilities, each tenant will be able to select their own personal service providers based on their individual needs.

The community building will have an office for a full-time staff person to assist the residents when they encounter unexpected difficulties. The building will also be available for telehealth conferences, meetings with residents' social workers and care providers, etc. There will also be a community room where classes can be offered on a variety of subjects (gardening, basic home maintenance, laundering, etc.) or for club meetings, or birthday parties.

Our hope is that letting each resident with a disability have a voice in shaping their own unique array of support services will allow them to live as interdependently as possible. And creating a community that is integrated with people who do not have disabilities will make that life just a little more like our lives. After all, for most people with disabilities the greatest gift they can receive is the opportunity to live as 'normal' a life as possible.

Brion

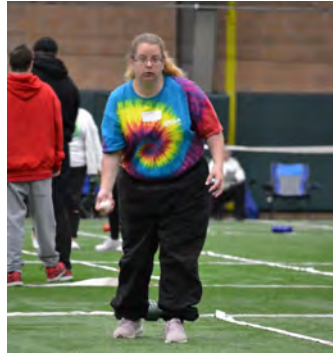
Bocce 2024

Our trip down state at ISU for Special Olympic Bocce consisted of Sylvia and Megan receiving 1st place medals and John earning a second place medal.



During our trip we attended opening ceremonies, tried Dippin Dots ice cream and visited souvenir stands. We enjoyed eating in the cafeteria and sleeping in the dorms at ISU—just like full time students.

Everyone always enjoys the energy that is created at the events and meeting new friends.



New Additions



Eddie Vonasch:

Eddie became part of the VOP team in July, joining us one day a week through our attendance grant. He lives in Oregon with his mom, stepdad, and sister. Eddie enjoys exploring Oregon, spending quality time with his family, browsing the internet, and bowling.

Kolby Harrolle:

Kolby relocated to Oregon in June and joined the VOP five days a week in July. He has a passion for art and drawing, enjoys watching anime, playing video games, and loves to go bowling.



IMPORTANT DATES AT

**THE VILLAGE OF
PROGRESS**

**JOHN HERRMANN
GOLF PLAY DAY
7/15/24**

**TOSOC
TOUR OF SCENIC
OGLE COUNTY**

**A CYCLING EVENT
AT THE VILLAGE**

**SEPTEMBER
9/28/2024**

**ANNUAL
BANQUET**

**OCTOBER
10/9/2024**

AT 6:00

**ST MARY'S LEARNING
CENTER IN OREGON**

**ANGEL
BALL**

DECEMBER 12/07/2024

AT 5:30

**RIVERS EDGE
EXPERIENCE
IN OREGON**

The Village Bike Club

This summer we will log over 600 hours in our Village Bike Club. Over two dozen volunteers ride specially designed side-by-side tandems with individuals from the Village. Our bike club is immensely popular and a great way for the community and the Village to regularly engage in a shared activity. Our fleet has recently increased due to a generous donation from some local cycling enthusiasts to include six 21 gear tandem bikes, a trailer and one tandem electric. We want to offer a special thank you to all the volunteers that make this program possible each year. Our folks are sad as each season draws to a close.

Additional volunteers are always welcome and ride schedules are flexible. We are also looking for subs and folks that just ride for part of the season. Call 815-732-2126 and talk to Sherri for more information about cycling.



Local VOP Scholarships Awarded

For over 25 years the Village of Progress Foundation has presented two educational scholarships to folks in Ogle County. Applicants must be a resident of Ogle County and a high school senior or full-time college student who either has a disability or is majoring in an area that serves those with disabilities.

One of the scholarships, in the amount of \$1,000, is made through a gift from Larry Young & Friends Charities. Larry Young & Friends Charities partners with the Village of Progress Foundation to help make our annual golf outing a success. Larry Young also serves on the Foundation's Board of Directors.

This year a scholarship through the Larry Young & Friends Charity was given to Sarah Stevens. Sarah is a senior at Oregon High School. She will be pursuing a degree in the allied health science with the goal of becoming a cardiovascular perfusionist. Sarah wrote that she has a deep passion for helping others and tries to use every opportunity available to impact the lives of others.

Sarah's reference commended her for her great enthusiasm, mental toughness, resilience, and determination, which will help her overcome many obstacles.

The second scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000 is made through the generosity of the Pete & Wanda Cacciatore Family. The Cacciatores have been long time supporters of the Village of Progress.



Pictured: Sarah Stevens, Oregon High School Senior with Larry Young, Board Member of The Village of Progress Foundation.



Pictured: Grace Pfeiffer, Davis Junction, IL with Wanda Cacciatore, Board Member of The Village of Progress Foundation.

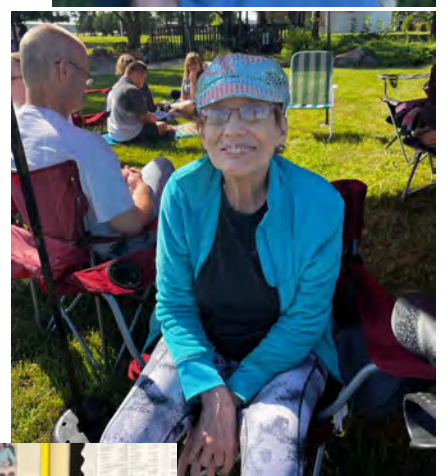
Wanda was a member of the Village of Progress Board of Directors for 10 years beginning in 1988 and has served on the Foundation's Board for over 25 years. Her husband, Pete was also an enthusiastic supporter of the Village. Pete passed away in the fall of 2014, leaving behind a legacy of commitment to the Village and its mission.

This year a scholarship through the Cacciatore Family was given to Grace Pfeiffer.

Grace attends the University of Wisconsin Platteville. She is participating in Palmer 3+1 program and she plans to pursue further training in functional medicine. Functional medicine focuses on the root cause of the patient's illness to facilitate healing. Grace has been fighting the effects of Lyme disease since the age of 13. She reports having wonderful doctors that have walked alongside her during her health challenges.

To learn more about scholarship opportunities visit the news and events section at www.villageofprogress.org.

Summer Celebration



Village of Progress Donations

Deck donations will be honored in the next issue along with photos!

Nareman Abdallah • Rehanna Abdallah • Mary Agre • Marian Baker • Kevin Brehm • Sally Bruch • Constellation, Employee Giving Matching • Larry & Deb Drew • Kristen Eckardt • Kevin Erickson • Don & Nancy Etnyre • Dennis Flanagan • Scott Fletcher • Eunice & Brian Fry • Dave & Cynthia Gesin • Jeff & Michele Glen • Beth Glendenning • Todd & Carrie Groenhagen • Jason Hammer • Brett Herrmann • Karen Hilliard • Chuck Kereven • Mike Kohlstedt • Bill & Marge Lindenmier • Mark &



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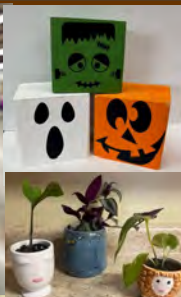
In Honor of: Bob Groenhagen

In Memory of: • Darlene Burke • Joan Glendenning • Larry Hackbarth • Donald Huntley • Lisa Iverson • Frank Reeverts • Bill & Tammy Sigler • Fran Strouse •



THANK YOU.... Our ability to maintain meaningful days, celebrate with special treats and create effective programs for Ogle County adults with disabilities depends on your donations & volunteer efforts!

Join us at the River's Edge Farmer's Market in September, located behind the Oregon Fire Department. We've been diligently working in the garden, cultivating fresh produce, propagating and planting a variety of plants, and crafting unique items in our woodshop. Come see the fruits of our labor and support our efforts!



The Village is funded in part by the Ogle County Community Mental Health (708) Board & United Way.



Scan URL code & register to ride in TOSOC

September 28, 2024

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Oregon IL 61061
Permit No. 17

Village of Progress
PO Box 418
Oregon IL 61061
Return Service Requested

The John Herrmann Golf Play Day

Congratulations to team Cacciatore's for winning first place at The John Herrmann Golf Play Day!

Enthusiastic golfers and supporters helped us raise over \$20,000 for the Village of Progress Foundation. Generous sponsors and 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. We would like to give special recognition to the Cacciatore team, the Gray Hunter Stenn team and Donna Bauer all who won prize money and graciously donated winnings back to The Village of Progress.



We can not brag enough about our top notch sponsors and donors, they make the difference every year in how successful our golf play day is at raising funds for the Attendance Grant Program.

Anderson-King LTD • Assured Partners • Byron Wealth Management • Cacciatore Family • Crisham Family Dental • Constellation • Country Financial– Mike Guzman • Gary & Susan Davis • Don & Nancy Etnyre • FN Smith Corpora-

tion • Doris & Gary Ferb • Gallagher Global Brokerage • Bill Geist • Gray Hunter Stenn LLP • Larry & Joyce Groenhagen • H.A. International • Harvard State Bank • Herrmann Family • Dan Manning • Martin & Co. Excavating • Chris & Traci Mueller • Northern Illinois Football Officials • Butch Peters •



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A huge shout out to Jim Kaufman at SuperValu in Oregon. He made our pick-your-prize and beer wagon raffles a huge success by hand selecting wonderful beers and wines.

The golf play day helps fund our Attendance Grant Program which is a unique benefit provided by the Village of Progress. The Attendance Grant Program lets individuals who are on the state's waiting list attend the Village on a part-time basis—free of charge. To learn more about the Village of Progress, the Attendance Grant Program, or our John Herrmann Golf Play Day visit our website.





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. Over 300 hundred cyclists will be touring our community on September 28, 2024. 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/Family Sponsorship \$150

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.

