

DANBURY

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VILLAGE CELEBRATES FIFTY YEARS OF OPERATION

On Saturday, September 18th, Voyager Village officially celebrated 50 years since the signing of its Covenants that officially brought it into existence. Members were invited to a cookout celebrating 50 years of operation featuring 1970's pricing on all food and beverages, live music, and a fireworks display over the Championship Golf Course. General Manager and Golf Course Superintendent Steve Johnson lent a hand on the grill for the event, and was proud of both the massive turnout and the staff working the event.

"We were expecting to sell maybe 200 burgers. I think we wound up doing much closer to

double that number. Overall it was a wonderful time," Johnson said.

Voyager began as the ambitious plan of one man—N.E. "Ike" Isaacson. On September 25th, 1969, at a special session of the Burnett County Board in Grantsburg, N.E. Isaacson and Associates, Inc. outlined to the assembled Board members ambitious plans to begin a multi-million-dollar development in early 1970. After long and hard-fought efforts to gain support for the development, on September 23rd, 1970, the Covenants were officially signed, and Voyager Village came into existence.

Although technically 51 years since the Covenants were signed, the COVID-19 pandemic postponed many of the celebration activities initially planned for last year.

"Things just weren't feasible," said Brandon Johnson, Marketing & Communications Coordinator. "We had many big events planned that would involve large crowds, and once COVID-19 really hit hard we had to re-evaluate everything. Resources had to be diverted."

Staff at Voyager Village hopes to keep the organization going strong and continue what Isaacson started for another 50 years.



ASK THE BOARD PRESIDENT

As a member-owned and operated community, we elect seven POA members to represent the membership and work with the Voyager Village management team to make decisions about how our community is operated. In this new column, we invite our members to submit comments, questions, and concerns to our current sitting Board President, Dave Heiss.

Dave and his wife Diane have been residents of Voyager Village for 26 years. In 2016, Dave retired as the Regional Director for one of the world's largest Optical Lens Manufacturers. Throughout his career, he was responsible for approximately \$500 million in revenue and managed multiple levels of managers primarily in Sales and Account Management. He was also involved in the region's goals and budgets for both the Sales and Operations Departments. Prior to that, his previous management experience includes Senior Level positions responsible for International Sales and Marketing, Plant Management, Business Development, Customer Service, and New Product Start-Up. While working full-time, Dave and Diane lived up here part-time but have since decided to make the move permanently and now call Voyager Village home year-round. Dave has been a member of the POA Board of Directors since June 2019 and has held the position of Board President since June 2021.

Forms for submitting questions and comments for consideration in this column can be found on our website at <https://www.voyagervillage.com/member-resources/> or at the POA Office. Members can anonymously submit positive feedback, questions or concerns they may have, ideas they have for the future of Voyager Village, or any other input they'd like to share. Each month, we will select a few items that have been submitted to Dave and publish them and his responses in our monthly publication. We're excited to hear from you and to give you a new outlet for hearing from the people you voted for to represent the membership.

BEHIND THE CURTAIN: A LOOK AT THE WOMAN BEHIND THE ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR

The Voyager Village Arts & Crafts Fair has been a local draw in the Voyager area for over 40 years. Beloved by locals and out-of-state visitors alike, the fair this year had over 120 booths of vendors and great weather all Labor Day weekend.

For show director Danette Nelson, it's another successful fair for the books.

"Lots of people came out and enjoyed themselves," Nelson said. "Whether it was eating some great food, enjoying listening to Mike play guitar and sing, or buying arts and crafts."

Nelson first became involved with the fair three years ago.

The fair's status was in jeopardy after the previous organizers decided to retire from their roles, and that's when vendors called Nelson at Wisconsin Indian Head County (WIHC).

"Crafters called me and said to please get ahold of Voyager Village and take over the fair. The event was already a great success from all the hard work the previous volunteers and organizers had done over the years, so it was very easy to pick up a show that was so well run," said Nelson.

Nelson is the office manager at WIHC, a non-profit organization that has been promoting tourism for Northwest

Wisconsin since 1937. Nelson says that within her role, she has brought attention to all that the beautiful Northwest Wisconsin has to offer. WIHC has been doing fairs for over 40 years, and Nelson and her sister used to work with her mom in running them. But she also gets to work with a surrogate family, so to speak; after so many years of working shows, she considers many of the crafters like family.

Family is a key aspect of Nelson's life. When asked what people might not know about her, Nelson replied, "My age... just kidding. Probably that we have five children and already have seven amazing grandchildren."



WEBSTER MIDDLE SCHOOL'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

Students in Webster Middle School's grades 5-8 and community members come together on October 8th to provide and participate in unique, positive, and uplifting experiences that give students an opportunity to make a difference within the community. If you have any projects in Voyager that students can be a part of, reach out to Tiffany Fesenmaier, either by stopping at the POA office or by email:

tiffany@voyagervillage.com

COFFEE WITH MANAGEMENT

Join us on Wednesday, October 13th for our final Coffee with Management for the 2021 season. Ryan Christopherson, our Golf and Recreation General Manager, will be this month's guest speaker. He'll be at the Clubhouse at 8am on Wednesday morning to talk with membership and answer any questions you may have. Voyager Village will have hot coffee available for those that would like to join. We hope to see you all there!

OCTOBER EVENTS AT A GLANCE

- Game Night: 7pm every Monday at the Lodge
- Cornhole: 3pm every Wednesday at the Clubhouse
- Ryder Cup Golf Tournament: October 2nd and 3rd
- Solheim Cup Golf Tournament: October 2nd and 3rd
- Coffee with Management: October 13th, 8am at the Clubhouse
- Monthly Board Meeting, October 21, 3pm-6pm at Kilkare Lodge
- Fall Fest: October 22nd and 23rd at the Clubhouse
- Fall Dinner Series, Oktoberfest Themed Dinner: October 28

Webster Middle School's Make a Difference Day! Grades 5-8

Card making



Raking leaves

Wood stacking



Classroom help

Trash clean up



AND MORE!

FIRST RESPONDERS CHARITY GOLF EVENT



Steve Austin, left

The Six Million Dollar Man, Steve Austin, may not be "bionic", but when it comes to his heart he's anything but "stone cold". Steve Austin is the organizer for our local First Responders annual golf tournament and dinner fundraiser. Voyager Village was proud to host this event on September 11th, and recognizes that this event is the highlight of the summer for many in the community.

The fundraiser is to support the 14 volunteer first responders that service the towns of Webb Lake, Jackson, Scott, Rusk, and Swiss. These groups are made up of volunteers who are the first to come to any 911 calls and emergencies. Answering about 155 calls a month, the work is often high-stress, high-stakes, and entirely unpaid.

Austin said that when he first heard about how these volunteers were unpaid and often had to cover their own insurance and training, it struck

a cord within him. "I live here now," Austin said. "And I want to be able to live comfortably here because of them." Austin quickly began planning what would become the fundraiser for the first responders, and eight years later it has become a permanent part of the local community. Austin said that the first year he was able to raise about \$2,000, an amount that grows each year. This year, the community raised \$48,660. The money raised goes towards insurance, training, but most importantly equipment for the EMTs and first responders. Austin said that medical supply bags alone can cost upwards of \$12,000 per bag, and that thanks to community donations, there are now 14 volunteer members in our area that are carrying these bags.

Austin wanted to shout-out Dan Winters, owner of 7 Corners Printing and Promotional Products, and a partner who

works with the fund raiser to print out sponsored signs for the event. Lee Tischler and Ron Solomonson were two other names that Austin mentioned; Tischler and Solomonson are members of the Tuesday Night Men's Club at Voyager, and stepped up this year when Austin needed help. Austin also wanted to thank Voyager Village for hosting the event and providing second-to-none dinner and drinks.

"Ryan Christopherson goes above and beyond with hosting this event," Austin said of Voyager's Golf & Recreation director. "He makes us all feel like it's important to him that we succeed in this."

Voyager Village would like to thank Austin for all the work that he does for such a great cause. If you want to be a part of this annual event, consider joining Austin's "Silver and Gold" donation clubs, or by lending a hand and volunteering.



A WALK ALONG THE JOHNSON TRAIL

by *Tiffany Fesenmaier,*
Membership Coordinator

There are so many hidden treasures in Voyager Village that I was unaware of. Not only in the magnificent beauty of the golf course, trails and lakes. but in the beautiful people that also call this place home. Last weekend, I was fortunate to go on my first Nature Walk on the Johnson Trail. The day was beautiful and the sun could not have been more welcoming. I believe there were around twelve of us total, and with the guidance of the walk's organizer, Steve Johnson, we were off.

As we made our stops to listen to what Steve had to say about different plants, trees, mushrooms, wetlands and even down to a very tiny little Maple Leaf that was just popping out of the ground, I noticed how every word he spoke was absorbed like oxygen. I started to find myself interested in nature in a way that I have

never seen before.

So, who is Steve Johnson besides my General Manager here at VV? He graduated from UW-Stevens Point in the early 90's with two majors in Urban Forestry and Forest Management, and a minor in Natural Resource management. He is married with three wonderful kids and one spunky dog named Ralph. He loves the outdoors and hunting, and anytime he can spend with his family and kids. He came to VV back in March of 1996, and has made our golf course into something spectacular. One man from Hazeltine golf club that runs the golf course said "what Steve does is not easy to do, but the way the golf course looks here is almost magical".

The Johnson Trail was named after him 3 years ago and it was something that meant more to him than words can express. He

loves all the trails here, and to have a trail named after him was nothing but pure honor. He has been giving Nature Trail Walks for about 6 years, and Tom Heenan said to me that he has gone on quite a few and they are so informative and fun.

As the walk came to an end, Steve's buddy and partner in crime Betty, who we will be writing about next month, had a fire going with s'mores on the table. Steve also had brought apples and Peppers from his own garden to share. As I watched him stand there and engage with everyone, I thought how lucky VV is to have such a good, genuine man that truly embraces everyone and everything that Voyager is. Thank you Steve for being *you!*

Starting next month Steve will be bringing back another talent of his: his "Out and About" blog! Stay tuned!



PHOTO CONTEST VOTING

Public voting has officially begun for the top 3 submissions to our photo contest for the months of May, June, and July. We've received so many amazing photographs from the community. Congratulations to Steve Johnson, whose submission was voted by the public as April's top entry. Also congratulations to the runner-up, Susan Vander Linden, who submitted a photo of a dew-covered cobweb.



Steve's winning photo from April

NANCY'S CORNER



by *Nancy Brandt, POA Office Manager*

Hello everyone! What a great summer we have had here at the POA office. So many changes have happened. Linda Nordstrom, who has been here for 36 years, retired this past Friday September 17th, and honestly it was very sad to see her go. What a gift she has been to Voyager Village all these years, building the POA office into what it is today. So many of you stopped by to say goodbye, giving her many great gifts and cards, and reminding her of how she touched your lives in one way or another. Linda felt so much love and appreciation from all of you, so thank you for taking the time to show her that. We wish her nothing but happiness and joy with her family and hopefully many new great adventures.

We also have some new additions to the POA office. Kamee Cole is our new Accountant and she has been knocking it out of the park. Her

knowledge and ability to problem solve is exactly what VV has been looking for. Her attention to detail is also a great addition and keeps us all on track! We feel very thankful that she chose us to continue her career with.

Tiffany Fesenmaier is a new addition and replacement of Linda as the new Membership Coordinator and she loves being reminded "boy do you have big shoes to fill", so make sure you stop by and say that to her!

Tiffany brings an upbeat personality and a smile that makes everyone feel welcomed when they come to the office. She is excited about owning this position and maybe making some new positive changes.

Gail Salo is our new office assistant. Gail is highly motivated and eager to lend a hand. You may see her in the Golf Shop, hostess in the restaurant or helping out with events. She is rock star and we are excited to have her on board.

With all of that being said, I feel we have a great new staff here in the POA office and look forward as always to making VV a great place to be! For all of you snow birds that might be getting ready to leave make sure you stop by and say goodbye, and if we don't see you before you leave then have a great winter and we will see you next year!

RECREATION RECAP



by *Ryan Christopherson, Director of Golf and Recreation*

We have been busy here in September, but also starting to slow down. It has been a great summer that has been very busy on and off the golf course with great turnout for all our events. Thank you to everyone who has come out to support us during the year, without you, we wouldn't have been able to have such a great year. I would also like to thank all the golf shop

staff that has helped this busy year, they are awesome!

Our 1st Responders fundraiser has compiled their numbers and they have raised just over \$46,000! This is a big help to our community and a huge "thank you" to everyone who helped make that event a success. A special thank you to Steve Austin, Lee Tischler and Ron Solomonson for their planning to make everything possible.

We hope everyone had a great time at the 50th Anniversary Celebration. We had to move that event a couple times due to the pandemic, but I think it was worth the wait! Don't forget "Game Night" has started at The Lodge at 7pm every Monday night. Be sure to come check it out. A great time! Bean bags or "cornhole" has started outside on Wednesday's at 3pm. Come out and have some fun!

A SUMMER DINNER SERIES RECAP



by Brent Linnemeyer, Food & Beverage General Manager

This summer, our Food and Beverage team introduced a monthly dinner series event for our members, with September marking the final installment of our summer series at Killcare Lodge. September was by far our most well-attended event, with the focus being on bourbon. The event kicked off with a bourbon class featuring a guest speaker: Emory Blackstone, with Four Roses Bourbon.

Attendees had the opportunity to learn about the history of whiskey and the story of Four Roses. The business was founded by Paul Jones Jr., who produced and sold whiskey dating back to the 1860's. In 1884, he moved his thriving business to Kentucky where he opened an office in a section of historic Main Street called "Whiskey Row". In 1922, the Paul Jones Company purchased what was known as the Frankfort Distilling Company. 21 years

later, the company changed hands again and was now owned by Seagram, whose



primary focus was to acquire the most noted and recognized name in the business at that time—Four Roses' Kentucky Straight Bourbon. Even though Four Roses was the top selling bourbon in the U.S. in the 30's, 40's, and 50's, Seagram made the decision to discontinue the sale of Four Roses in the United States, and Four Roses was moved to the rapidly growing European and Asian markets.

Years later, one of the world's most legendary Master Distillers, Jim Rutledge, worked tirelessly to return the Four Roses brand back to the states—a dream that would become a reality in the hands of a new owner. In 2002, the Kirin Brewing Company, Ltd. purchased the Four Roses Bourbon brand trademark and production facilities. The new acquisition was named the Four Roses Distillery LLC. Shortly thereafter, Four Roses was once

again sold in the United States and quickly earned the reputation of being one of the most notable names in the bourbon world.

Voyager Village's Executive Chef Geoffrey George, prepared a three-course dinner starting with a green salad topped with chevre cheese, candied walnuts, dried cherries, and a house vinaigrette. The highlight of the meal was the smoked pork chop with bacon bourbon marmalade, maple glazed pecan coated sweet potato cakes served with a side of seasonal vegetables. A smoked black forest cake with warm orange sauce was served for dessert. Our Food & Beverage team wants to thank everyone who made these events so successful, including both guests and the staff that helped ensure the events went off flawlessly. We hope to see some familiar and new faces as we continue the dinner series.

WORD FROM A&E

from Tom Heenan, chairman of Architectural & Environmental committee

It is with great sadness, yet much gratitude, that we said goodbye and happy retirement to Linda Nordstrom, Membership Specialist and secretary to the A&E committee. Linda was our living archive of Voyager Village. If we were ever lost or confused, she always brought everything back full circle. We will all miss her knowledge, support and wisdom. Good Luck to you Linda and may you enjoy the next chapter in your life, you deserve it so much!

We have a lot of new owners/members join Voyager Village and many new questions

come with that pertaining to what is ok and not ok to do with your new property or home. Of course, our first answer would be to make sure you read your covenants and if you have any questions to reach out to us or the POA office and we will certainly help in any way we can!

While the summer has come to an end, we are welcoming all the beautiful colors that surround us here at Voyager. Unfortunately, the turning leaves are yet another reminder that the summer boating season is coming to a close. While preparing to take your boat/pontoon out by the first weekend in October, remember that some of you have dock slips that are in the water all year long and if it stays warmer

a little longer you are more than welcome to keep your boat in. But mother nature can be cruel as well and it can get cold fast!

Finally, we have recently had complaints of individuals hunting within Voyager Village. Voyager takes the position that no hunting is allowed on the common area within Voyager Village, period. Please adhere to this policy because when you shoot a gun, you never know where the bullet will end up. These are serious policies put in place for the safety of others. Please adhere to all Wisconsin DNR Rules and Regulations regarding hunting, and remember to exercise safe firearm safety at all times.

1ST ANNUAL VOYAGER CAR SHOW

Dodge, Ford, Chevy – Oh my! Sunday, September 19th marked the first kickoff for Voyager Village's Annual Car Show. Cars and trucks, old and new, came from near and far to participate in this unique event. Jim Minor and Steve Rogers, two community members, are the sole reason we had such a big draw.

With it being the first event of its kind at Voyager Village, they didn't know what to expect. To their surprise, there were over 40 vehicles that participated. Car lovers traveled from Webb

Lake, Spooner, Siren, and there were many vehicles owned by our very own Voyager Village members.

People's Choice Best in Show went to the 1963 Pontiac Bonneville Convertible owned by Dan Grobowski. It was a tight race with Don Bistodeau's classy 1940 Ford coming in second and Ed Norstrom's outstanding Pontiac GTO taking the third-place win.

We hope to see you all next summer for the Second Annual Car Show as we continue to grow this great event!



1st Place



2nd Place



3rd Place

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERING

"What we develop will be much more than a conventional subdivision. It will be a complete recreational and residential system that will provide persons with a unique homesite and a wide range of recreational activity."

Those were the words of N.E. Isaacson, developer of Voyager Village, spoken on September 25th, 1969 at a special session of the Burnett County Board in Grantsburg. During that session, Isaacson laid out his vision for what would become Voyager Village, his single most expansive and unique project at the time. On that day, Isaacson planted a seed; a new, orderly way to bring people and land together.

Now, five decades later, that seed has grown. We all can enjoy Isaacson's realized vision, where people from all walks of life can live, play, and gather in a landscape that has remained mostly unchanged from that Isaacson saw when he first arrived here. In that regard, Voyager Village has remained the same; a departure from the vacation and recreational sprawl that has risen in many other countrysides.

Despite much of Voyager Village remaining the same, there has been much that has changed in our fifty years of operation. Isaacson likely would not have predicted tossing Boccee balls around would rise to become so loved, or that a tradition of sticking a few lightbulbs in some

pumpkins would grow to as big as it is. There truly is a little bit of something here that everyone can enjoy, why despite how different things are to Isaacson's time, the core principle of Voyager Village has remained faithful to that enduring vision we carry inside all of us.

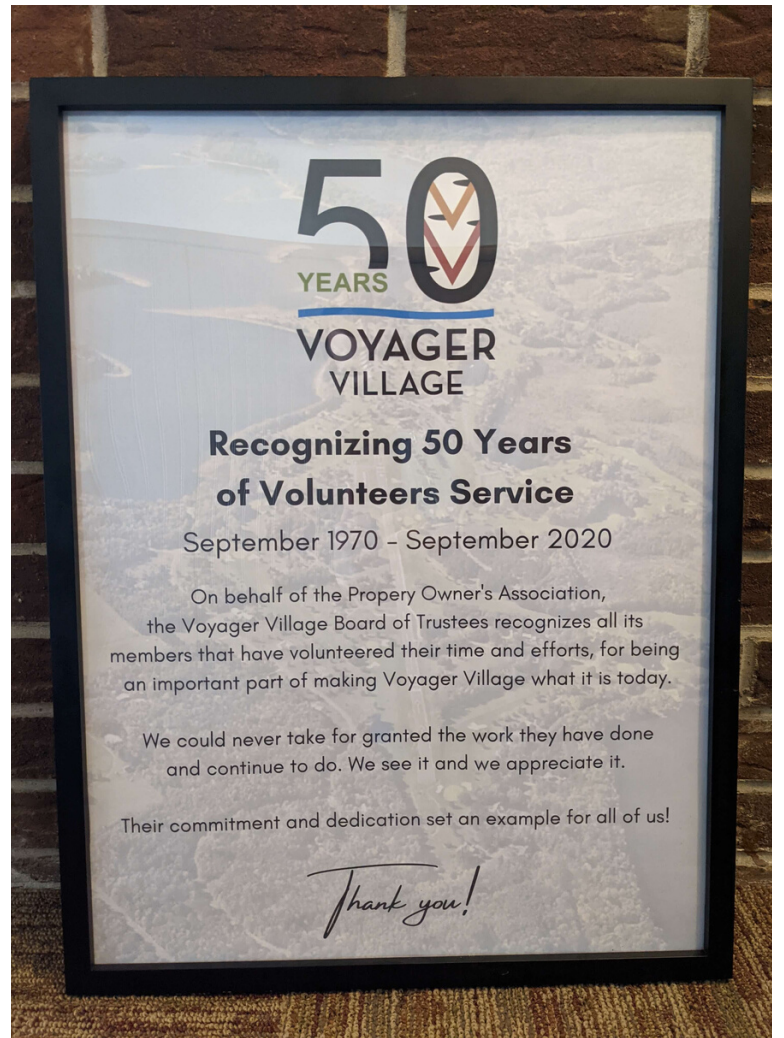
Like any seed, Voyager Village is a community that must be tended and nurtured. That is why in September of 2020, the Voyager Village Board of Trustees officially recognized 50 years of service from the most important tenders of our Village: all of the Volunteers who dedicate their time into improving the community around them.

Whether it's folks lending a hand for annual Village events such as the Arts & Crafts Fair, the employee appreciation golf tournament, the course cleanup, or Fall Fest; starting something they are passionate in like the ski club, the Voyager Birdwatchers, or our various sports leagues; serving on a committee or on the board of directors; or taking part of extensive projects within the village such as the Chalet renovation or the 2005 Golf Course renovation, Volunteers have consistently been the life blood of our organization. The spirit and community within Voyager Village is what truly makes us shine as something "more than a conventional subdivision" as N.E. Isaacson dreamed. We have so much to

be proud of today because of the sweat and tears shed across 50 years by Volunteers. You are all recognized.

To truly grasp the dedication members of our community have to Voyager, one has to look no farther than the 2005 golf course renovation. This massive \$100,000 project included new forward tee boxes, replacing golf green, and a complete renovation of an entire four holes. A total of 48 volunteers showed up to help with the project and logged an estimated 2,435 hours of labor, saving the project tens of thousands of dollars if it were to instead be contracted out.

Isaacson planted the seed of Voyager Village knowing that he would never be here today, sitting in the shade of the tree he left us. It is our duty to ensure that this seed is nurtured and continues to grow, so that when we are long gone our grandchildren can remember what we did here to ensure Voyager Village's success. While the idea of volunteering your time at Voyager might be uncomfortable at first, it's important to remember that only in our moments of discomfort do we find our wisest teachers. Only in environments of tremendous pressure can diamonds be formed. And only by working together, can we ensure Voyager Village will be here for another fifty years.



VOYAGER VILLAGE

15TH ANNUAL FALL FEST

OCTOBER 22nd - OCTOBER 23rd

A FREE EVENT FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

- Costume Party
- Scavenger Hunt
- Hayrides
- Pumpkin Judging
- Lighting of the Pumpkins
- Bonfire and S'mores
- Face Painting
- Goblin Target Practice
- Pumpkin Putt-Putt
- BINGO
- Giant Pumpkin Pinata
- Pie Eating Contest
- ... AND SO MUCH MORE!

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