

# THE SEASON OF GIVING

"Giving is not just about making a donation. It is about making a difference."

This November, with the help of our community and membership, Voyager Village was able to give back and donate a large sum of food to the ICAA Food Pantry at Caring Hearts Thrift Shop operated by Josie Penberthy. Donations help families in need throughout Burnett County by supplementing the diets of low-income households by providing them with emergency food and nutrition assistance at no cost. The Food Pantry was especially important during the last year as COVID-19 forced many Wisconsinites to stay home. During the height of the pandemic, Caring Hearts Thrift

Shop hosted food distribution events that helped over 700 families each month. Food Distributions continue to take place on the 1st Thursday of each month with the help of Webster Lions Club, Webb Lake Community Club, and Lakeside Church Women's Group.

In addition to the Food Pantry, Caring Hearts Thrift Shop sells gently used items including clothing, household items, seasonal decorations, furniture, children's toys, and much more. They also provide free items to those in need. Just last month the gave away free coats, mittens, hats, boots, and scarves to prepare Burnett County residents for the cold weather. If you are interested in learning more about Caring

Hearts Thrift Shop, the Food Pantry, or how you can get involved, they can be reached at 715-349-8155. Donations can be dropped off at their location in Webster – 26356 Lakeland Ave S, Webster, WI 54893.

Thank you to everyone who helped us make a difference to families in need this holiday season. Together we donated over 400 non-perishable items and raised over \$200.





## SEEKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS!

The board of directors has decided to reinstate the nominating committee. We are asking for volunteers to participate on this committee. The primary responsibility is to solicit qualified candidates to run for the Voyager Village

Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact Tiffany in the POA office for an application.  
Tiffany@voyagervillage.com or 715-733-7004



## Member Maintenance

Offering driveway plows, yard cleanup, tree pruning/removal, home wellness checks, and snowman building services to all Voyager Members this winter. Submit a work request form through our website on the Member Resources page to schedule your member maintenance services, or pick up a form from the POA office.

# ABOVE AND BEYOND: Suzie Daley

by Tiffany Fesenmaier,  
Membership Coordinator



During my first week at Voyager Village, I remember hearing this voice in the hallways outside the POA office, over and over, that was so distinctive and every time I looked up to see who it was, the person was gone. A sweet, higher pitch, almost loving voice that you just had to know who it belonged to.

About a month went by without hearing my mysterious stranger, and I had forgotten about it. During that time the staff here kept talking about this woman who had fallen ill and was in the hospital. They were all so worried about her, but I had no idea who she was. Then, one day, the voice was back saying "hello" in the doorway of the POA office. I lifted my head up immediately, and there stood this sweet blonde, brown eyed woman and I finally put a face with the voice. The girls in the POA office jumped up immediately to greet her and welcomed her back with big hugs. Her smile was bright, and the voice matched exactly who I was seeing.

Her name is Suzie Daley, and she is the recipient of the Above and Beyond award here at Voyager Village.

Born In South St. Paul, she was raised with two sisters, one older and one younger. She attended school in Cottage Grove. She was an avid swimmer and competed all through high school, attending state and winning. During high school she was also a manager for the boy's swim team. Suzie said, "I was always happiest in the water than on land, I just love the water and still do to this day."

One day, after high school, she

was hanging out with a couple of her guy friends, who were going to the recruiting office for the Marines. They talked about all the different challenges that were involved and how hard the Marines were, to which Suzie replied each time:

"I can do that."

The guys laughed and dared her to join, and she was not turning down that dare. She signed up but was only 17 so she needed her parent's permission, and they were not happy about this at all. Finally, after much discussion they agreed, and she said it was the best decision she ever made. She was in the Marines for 6 years. While in the Marines she also volunteered for search and rescue. They needed "jumpers" so of course she volunteered.

"They created in me so much of who I am today," Suzie said. "They tear you down and then build you back up so you can learn to face the world head on."

Her working career brought her to many different job opportunities, but she has the best memories of working at Land O Lakes, because this is where she met the love of her life: JD. While she told me the encounter of meeting her husband her face lit up as she fondly spoke of him.

"I opened a door and hit him by accident and said "oops" and kept walking."

He was smitten with her immediately, unbeknownst to her. A friend spoke to her about setting her up with someone that worked there, and her response was, "As long as it not that idiot I hit with the door the

other day."

So began the happiest years of her life. Together for 26 years, married for 25, they had a wonderful life together, traveling and taking on new adventures. She said that JD nailed everything he did in his life, whether it was sports or day to day operations.

In 2015, JD fell ill. Doctors kept telling them that it was just the flu. JD passed rather suddenly shortly after and Suzie demanded an autopsy. It was found that JD was suffering from Lyme carditis. She was adamant that we talk about this. Lyme carditis occurs when Lyme disease bacteria enter the tissues of the heart. This can interfere with the normal movement of electrical signals from the heart's upper to lower chambers, a process that coordinates the beating of the heart. The result is something physicians call "heart block," which can vary in degree and change rapidly. Lyme carditis occurs in approximately one out of every hundred Lyme disease cases reported to CDC. But she wants you to know more importantly that between 1985 and 2019, only eleven cases of fatal Lyme carditis were reported worldwide. It can be treated but it is often overlooked, and she really wants people that are feeling sick with flu symptoms to always be checked for Lyme disease because they have similar symptoms and can often be missed.

Suzie had a place at VV and after JD passed away, she moved here full time. At Voyager, she feels the closest to JD and can see him everywhere. She began working for VV in 2017 for the Golf Shop doing the Bev Cart. She began a great working relationship with Ryan and then started working in the golf shop as well. "Ryan makes you laugh and leaves you in stitches everyday," she grinned.

From there she started working for Steve Johnson in the maintenance department with the grounds crew. "I adore that man, sometimes more as a friend then a boss." To her, the grounds crew is "like working with older brothers."

Suzie also works with Betty and the trails committee, grooming the trails. Suzie said, "When



Betty comes to you and says you are doing something you just do it"! She began working alongside Dave Swanson and the two of them coordinate all grooming for the trails.

The other part of Suzie that most of us might not know is her love for all animals. She has a big heart for dogs that are surrendered due to being old or have medical needs and became a foster/rescue home for these animals. To date she has taken in 186 dogs since she began this journey.

Today she is settled into her new home and is naming the deer that come visit her, loving the bunnies, reading 3 different

books, enjoying a good glass of sweet red wine or craft beer, and sitting down by her firepit. She said she has found her forever home here at Voyager and loves being a part of this community. When I asked her what she would like to be remembered for, she smiled and said with her sweet voice and beautiful smile, "Just being a nice person."

Thank you, Suzie, for all that you do to make VV a great place to live, work and making us shine. You are truly a treasure to many here and we appreciate all that you give and do to make others feel like they are welcomed here and part of our community!



## ASK THE BOARD PRESIDENT

This month, Voyager Village Board President Dave Heiss answers two questions regarding changes in Voyager Village.

**Why have the board members voted to raise the yearly assessments again? Many members live in areas not on a lake or on the golf course where an increase in dues would be desirable. When was this announced and decided on?**

The \$10/month increase was approved by the Board of Directors at the October meeting in the open session. It is the first increase in dues since 2019. It was announced to all members in a mailing sent out in November. The mailing included all of the 2022 fees. The increase is necessary due to the effects of increased cost of supplies, services and wages. These are increases that have been substantial in 2021, and will continue next year. The 2022 annual budget, including the increased 2022 assessment and fees projects a loss on operations and a minimal profit after projected land sales. A profit is required to fund annual capital improvements so we don't deplete Voyager's cash position as we try to maintain

Voyager's facilities. All P.O.A. members pay the same assessment fee, and all amenities are available equally to all members.

**I would like to receive a dock slip in Voyager Village but there never seems to be enough. I've heard that the board has been discussing adding more slips, how close is this to being finalized?**

You are correct. We are in the process of determining the ability to add more docks starting next year. A comprehensive analysis of the need has been submitted to the DNR. This analysis projected Voyager New dock additions over a number of years. Voyager, via its GM, Board representation, and new Lakes Committee, is currently also in discussions with leaders of several of the local Lakes Associations to consider the phasing in of new docks over a shorter period of time (1-2 years). Lake water quality, erosion of shoreline and lake boating activity levels are all important considerations for all parties when adding docks.

Got a question? 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.

## WORD FROM A&E

from Tom Heenan, chairman of Architectural & Environmental Committee

Wow has 2021 gone by in a flash! We have put a lot of time and effort as a committee in recognizing that all of us need to be proactive following the covenants that are in place. We have a team that is following up on any infractions and making sure they are corrected. We also are working hard at educating and teaching the new home/lot owners about the covenants when they become members. With that being said, we have been busier than ever before. We are striving to have more pride in our community and making this a wonderful place to be. From all of us here at the Architectural and Environmental Control Committee, we wish you Happy Holidays and look forward to a great 2022.

Regards,  
Tom, Earl, Bryan, Scott



## JOIN THE A&E COMMITTEE

The Architectural and Environmental Control Committee is currently looking for new alternates to be on the A&E committee. The Architectural and Environmental Control Committee ("AECC") is established for the purpose of protecting and preserving the values, amenities, and qualities of Voyager Village. Architectural and environmental control shall be administered by the AECC. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact the Tiffany in the POA office for an application. [Tiffany@voyagervillage.com](mailto:Tiffany@voyagervillage.com) or 715-733-7004



## A HUGE WELCOME!

If you've visited the Clubhouse in recent months, you may have noticed a new face at the Bar & Grill. We recently welcomed a new member to our Food & Beverage Management team, Joe Evans. Joe and his family traveled over state lines to join our team as the Assistant F&B General Manager for Voyager Village Bar & Grill.

Born and raised in Escanaba, Michigan, Joe was born to bleed white and green. A proud alumnus of Michigan State University, Joe graduated with a degree in Hospitality & Business

before immersing himself in the food and beverage industry. Before joining our team, Joe was the General Manager of Champ's Kitchen + Bar in East Lansing. Prior to that he was the Assistant General Manager and Kitchen Manager of Boston's Restaurant & Sports Bar for several years and spent many years as the General Manager of Steak 'n Shake. Joe recently went back to MSU to pursue a master's degree in Health Care Management.

We asked Brent, the Grill's Food & Beverage General Manager,

what he is most excited about with Joe joining our team and he said, "Joe brings lots of relevant experience that Voyager Village will benefit from with structure and consistency. His skillset compliments the rest of our management team." Joe said he's most excited about "transforming the restaurant" as he takes the reins as the new Assistant Food & Beverage General Manager.

Help us give Joe and his family a warm welcome as they settle down and put down some roots in the Danbury area. We are so lucky to have them all here.

*Date night drinks are on us!*

Receive two complimentary glasses of champagne or house wine with the purchase of two entrees

*Redeemable on Wednesday nights*

**VOYAGER VILLAGE Grill**

*Coupon must be shown at time of purchase. Not valid with any other offers. Limit one coupon per table. Expires 12/31/21.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- December 4th – Golf Shop Holiday Sale, 2pm-6pm, Pro Shop
- December 9th – Dinner Series Event, 5:30pm, Kilcare Lodge
- December 11th – Golf Shop Holiday Sale, 2pm-6pm, Pro Shop
- December 12th – Wine & Cookie Decorating, 12pm, Bar & Grill
- December 13th – Bar & Grill CLOSED
- December 16th – Board Meeting, 3pm, Location TBD
- December 17th – Ugly Sweater Party, 7pm, Bar & Grill
- December 24th – Tom & Jerry Party, 11am, Bar & Grill
- December 25th – Bar & Grill CLOSED
- December 26th – Sleigh Rides at the Clubhouse, snow and weather dependent
- December 31st – New Year's Eve Party, More Details to Come

# CLEAR FOR LANDING

by Chuck Losinski, chairman of the Airport Committee



*This group visited from South St. Paul and are all first time visitors. They brought their putters!*

Greetings from the Airport Committee! Our committee consists of seven people and one board liaison. We are a standing, chartered committee of the POA. The past 18 months has brought a great increase in airplane activity to Voyager. We estimate we've seen a three-fold increase in fly-in visitors since 2019. Many are visiting Voyager for the first time and are flying in to enjoy golf and trails with the majority coming to visit the restaurant. Voyager gives private pilots a reason to fly and a convenient, fun, and picturesque destination! If you want to engage in a conversation with a visiting pilot just ask them, "where'd you fly in from?"

The Airport Committee is the advisor to the Voyager POA Board by helping to promote the airstrip's use to the broader flying community and to encourage runway safety and upkeep which includes the medivac helipad. We promote the airport through multiple channels including Facebook groups, our own Facebook page, email blasts and word of mouth (note hats below).

Many airstrip projects have been completed this year: Runway resurfacing and painting, pilot camp site, and tree obstruction removal. Visiting pilots notice and appreciate the improvements.



*First pilot to land after the runway resurfacing was from Red Wing and brought his grandson for Sunday brunch and a round of golf on the par-3. He hadn't visited for many years. They were given Voyager Village Airport hats as a reward for being first in!*



*This family flew in for golf multiple times this summer.*



*Three generations flew in for lunch on their way back to the Twin Cities from camping on Park Point in Duluth.*



VOYAGER VILLAGE WANTS YOU TO HELP PICK OUR

*Above and Beyond*  
*Nominees*

Send us your nominations for someone who goes above and beyond in our community, and they might be chosen for our Above & Beyond feature!

WWW.VOYAGERVILLAGE.COM

VOYAGER VILLAGE

## NOMINATING FOR ABOVE AND BEYOND

Our "Above and Beyond" column was established to help inspire our readers by sharing the stories and accomplishments of our community members that go "above and beyond". The subjects of our articles are individuals who have made outstanding contributions in their daily lives to our area and

demonstrate positive behaviors that we would like to recognize. However, our writing staff by no means can see everything that goes on, and so we invite you to submit nominations for our column to recognize. Please submit details about their efforts via the form on our website, [www.voyagervillage.com](http://www.voyagervillage.com).

In describing the rationale for why we should consider them for our monthly column, please include how the nominee goes "above and beyond". In our everyday life, it seems that

negativity tends to grab the attention more than positivity; lets give the recognition that the shining examples of our community deserve! Nominations do not need to reside in Voyager Village but should be local. Nominations might include local businesses, charities, volunteers, veterans, whoever you think goes above and beyond.

## PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

The winners for the final month of our 2021 Monthly Photo Contest have been selected through public voting! After a close race between our three contenders, Michael Hussey's photo of a loon visiting a kayaker on Birch Island won first place! The runner-up was Gail Mentzel with her gorgeous shot of the skyline. You can stop into the POA office to receive your prizes.

Thank you to everyone who submitted entries this year!



Runner-Up, by Gail Mentzel

## WEEKLY WINTER ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

**Sunday:** NFL Watch Party - Broadcasting all games, all day + food and drink specials! Giveaways during Packers and Vikings games and free shots at every touchdown. Broasted Chicken Special, 4pm - Quarter or half chicken served with coleslaw and choice of potato.

**Tuesday:** Corn Hole League (Open House), 3pm  
DJ Trivia, 6pm

**Wednesday:** Date Night, 4pm - Join every Wednesday evening for our Surf & Turf special!

**Thursday:** Wing Night, 4pm - 99 cent bone-in wings served with choice of two sauces. Trivia/Pictionary (alternating every week), 6pm

**Friday:** Friday Night Fish Fry, 4pm - All you can eat beer battered or broiled haddock served with coleslaw and choice of potato.

**Saturday:** Meat Raffle., 3pm  
Prime Rib Special, 4pm - 12oz or 16oz prime rib served with choice of vegetable and choice of potato.

## NANCY'S CORNER

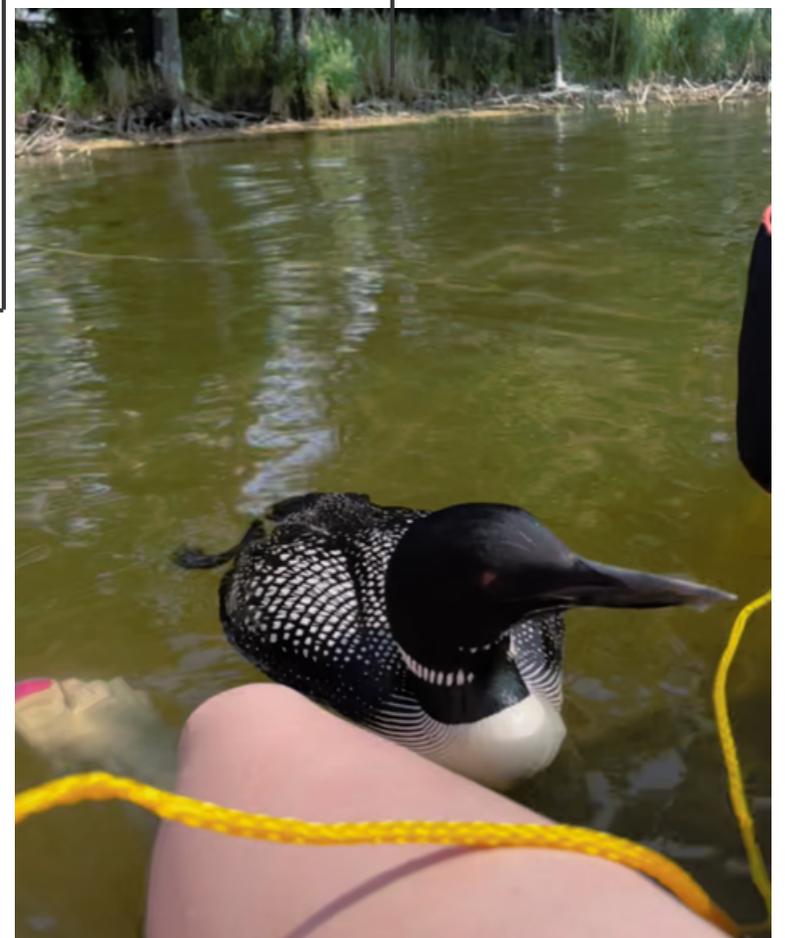


by Nancy Brandt, POA Office Manager

Well, we are in the last month of 2021. What a crazy year it has been. From reopening businesses, to changes in staff, saying goodbye to members who have sold their homes, to welcoming new home owners. So many new faces, and the POA office has been busy with many questions and meet and greets. As we look forward to 2022, we are so thankful for all the members here at WV and for all the support that you give us here in the POA office and beyond. We want to wish all of you a wonderful Holiday Season, and hope that 2022 brings you nothing but happiness and time with family and friends.

Best wishes,

Nancy, Kamee, Tiffany and Gail



1st Place, by Michael Hussey