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A Quarterly Publication from Ottawa Friendship House

Winter 2014

# Handshakes & Hellos



Printing of this publication has been graciously donated by:  
Your friends at Ottawa Friendship House appreciate your support!



## Upcoming Events

### March 20, 2014 Annual Fundraiser

JJ's Sports Pub & Grill  
104 W. Main Street, Ottawa

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Tickets: \$20 advance/door

Your ticket donation includes entry to the event plus unlimited beer, soda and appetizers. A variety of local gift baskets, donated by our friends and supporters, will be up for bid. The evening includes raffles, a 50/50 drawing, entertainment and more. All proceeds remain local and help support the agency.



### >> April 15, 2014 Open House

Spend the day with us. Enjoy tours, great food and fellowship while learning more about the agency. A special dedication is also planned.

### >> June 13, 2014 Lawn Party

A new event for 2014, we are hosting a high-end fundraising event at the lovely home of one of our proud supporters.

### >> August 23, 2014 Concert at Covel Creek

We celebrate five years of musical excellence in 2014. We also welcome The Chicago Brass Quintet back to our picturesque stage!

contact us

**815.434.0737**

friends@ottawafriendship.com  
www.ottawafriendship.com

## Welcome Letter



It is with great pride that I write this brief note introducing you to "Handshakes & Hellos," our new community newsletter.

Perhaps you envision Ottawa Friendship House as a quaint little campus that's tucked away in a rural corner just south of town. And while that may ring true, our hope is to become a bit more visible in the community... regardless of where we call home.

We're an organization committed to helping our consumers gain independence. What better way to do so than by introducing them to our community and sharing news from within our agency that you might not otherwise hear?

For instance, did you know that several area businesses partner with us to offer employment services? Or that we offer a yearly concert on one of the area's most beautiful, natural amphitheatres?

So we hope that you'll take the time to say "hello" to this publication and to those individuals who utilize our services. In return, we offer a warm "handshake" as our thanks for your support, for being a friend of Ottawa Friendship House.

- Beth Mangold, Executive Director

>> On December 26, 2013, Ottawa Friendship House was deeply saddened by the passing of Ed Whitney, the President of our Board of Directors.

>> Ed made a point to attend every special event our agency hosted. We always knew when he'd arrived by that great laugh he had as he was sharing a story or two. Sadly, we had no way of knowing that our annual Christmas Luncheon just days prior would be the last we would share a laugh with our friend and longtime supporter.

>> Ed's love for this agency - and our love for him - could be seen every time he set foot on our campus. When he stopped in, he was always surrounded by the consumers. He would strike up a conversation to find out how they, or their families, were doing. Ed knew just about everyone.

>> The same warmth he offered our consumers and staff could be seen in his leadership of our Board. He led with compassion and commitment to improve the quality of the lives of men and women with developmental disabilities. He was deeply moved by the generosity of those within our community who shared the same compassion and support for Ottawa Friendship House.

>> Our agency certainly benefitted from his leadership and commitment. Ed leaves behind a dedicated group of directors who will continue to support that same vision. He will truly be missed.

## Tribute

Beth Mangold  
Executive Director  
Bob Agostinelli

Daniel Reynolds  
President  
Arnold Bandstra

Rich Brooke  
Randy Gregor  
Katie Heft  
John Houlihan

Bonnie McGrogan  
Secretary  
Brian Hughes

Kathy Geiger  
Treasurer  
Richard Myers

### >> Second Cup on 1430-AM WCMY Thursday, March 13, 2014 @ 10:40 a.m.

Join us for an "on air" segment featuring Richard, this issue's featured consumer (see his story on the next page). He'll be joined by staff members Beth Mangold and Melissa Hulse who will also fill you in on the March fundraising event.



## OTTAWA FRIENDSHIP HOUSE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**FROM SHELTERED TO COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT:**

Richard is a man with autism and mild intellectual challenges. Richard, now in his sixties, grew up in a time prior to mandated special education services. His family had strong work ethics, and he realized from an early age that a person's worth is often measured by their employment.

As a young adult, Richard literally grew up with Ottawa Friendship House from its small beginning of ECHO school to the development of an adult day program with the first working contracts. He was one of the first to receive a paycheck for his work. The self-esteem that comes from that paycheck was certainly reflected in his life. Richard eventually was able to move into the residential program. His weekly paychecks allowed him to purchase things in his life that he needed or wanted.

Over the last 46 years, Richard has been working within sheltered employment at the agency. A review of his job performance showed that Richard's skills continued to grow. His quality of work, physical stamina, use of tools and punctuality indicated that he met competitive standards. He also had above average performance in the areas of independence, understanding instructions, safety habits, and motivation to work. Plus his assembly skills were outstanding.

Consumer Spotlight



Richard will be the first to tell you that he is happiest when he's working. He often has to be persuaded to use his vacation time. And although Richard loved working in the workshop, he was quite vocal about his desire to work in the community. His job performance indicated that he would indeed be a good candidate for community employment.

Richard will be the first to tell you that he is happiest when he's working. He often has to be persuaded to use his vacation time. And although Richard loved working in the workshop, he was quite vocal about his desire to work in the community. His job performance indicated that he would indeed be a good candidate for community employment.

Matching his skill sets to the right job was certainly a challenge. Thankfully Ottawa Friendship House embarked on a partnership with Zip Pak in the spring of 2010. Together, they brought an enclave of workers on site to assemble spools for the zipper portions of a zip lock bag. The enclaves were made up of a variety of workers who showed quality of work, stamina, use of tools and expressed a true desire to work. Richard appeared to be the perfect candidate for an enclave position.

Richard has now worked at Zip Pak for the last couple years. He could not be happier working in the community. He loves that he gets an hourly wage and is the first to ask to work when overtime is needed. >>

December 1, 2013 - January 31, 2014

**Christmas Mailing**

- Robert and Kathleen Agostinelli
- Dennis and Carol Armstrong\*  
*honoring David Armstrong*
- Karen Armstrong
- Barbara Beer
- Robert and Jean Behler
- Rex and Christine Benson
- Mark and Emily Bickel
- Bill Walsh Toyota
- Rosanne Bonini
- Frank and Kristine Borkowsky
- John and Jacqueline Bottarini
- William and Nadine Bowers
- Peg Breslin
- Garth Brewer
- Jim and Erna Brusatte
- M.D. and Frances Cappellini
- Herbert and Beth Carlson
- James Carlson
- Robert and Lou Anne Carretto
- Robert and Nancy Carter\*  
*honoring Romi Halterman*
- Jack Cassidy
- Cimco
- Patrick Coffey
- Timothy and Karen Conness
- Peter and Cathy Cook
- Jeffrey Crowhurst
- John Crowley
- Michael and Barb Crowley
- Matthew and Gail Daleo
- John and Lisa Dammann
- Amar Dave
- Richard DeAngelo
- Winford and Johnna DeClue
- Deer Park Community Mission
- Cheryl DePaepe
- Robert and Vicki Donahue
- Rudy and Alice D'Souza
- Mervin and Phyllis Eastwold
- James and Alice Ebner
- Elk Digital Printing
- Richard Escutia
- Clifford and Carol Espevik

Richard and Zip Pak are truly a match made in heaven. If Richard had his way, he would be working seven days a week. The more he works, the less dependent he is on others for support. Richard has certainly achieved his dream of working in the community and having a great paycheck!

- Fern Matt Fleming Memorial Fund
- Financial Plus Credit Union
- Lawrence and Anna Mae Frattini\*  
*honoring Mandy*
- Frederick and Barbara Frisch
- Kathleen Geiger
- Dorothy Gemberling
- Alan and Barbara George
- Patricia Gerding
- Gladfelter Funeral Home
- Keith and Jane Goetz
- Ronald and Judith Goodchild
- Robert and Margaret Green
- Jerry Halterman
- Kay Halterman
- Handy Foods
- Thomas and Sandra Heimsoth
- Herman's Package Store
- Joe Hettel
- Brian Hughes
- Michael and Mary Hughes
- IIP Insurance
- Illinois Valley Business Equipment
- Larry and Gayla Johnson
- Donald and Judith Kiesig
- Stephen and Laurie Killelea
- Nick and Linda Kinsella
- Walter and Amy Kistenfeger
- Laborers International Union
- Edward and A Lambert
- Claire Land\*  
*honoring Greg Mackey*
- Suzanne Lehmke
- Eleanor Lewis
- Gloria Lichtenwalter
- Liebhart Construction
- Donald and Virgene Lockas
- Loyal Order of Moose
- Barbara Lyons
- Miford Mackey\*  
*honoring Greg Mackey*
- Carol Ann Maloney
- Richard and Beth Mangold
- David and Maribeth Manigold
- Marseilles Bank
- Tim Martin
- David and Billie Matteson
- Jane McCormick
- John and Mildred McDonnell
- Medi Rx Pharmacy
- Traci Midnight
- Steve Miller
- Donald Morehead
- Lawrence and Ruth Monheim
- Jon Anthony and Mary Morgan

- Thomas and Nancy Mulkey
- Robert and Cindy Mundt
- JR and Mary Novotney, Jr
- Donna O'Connor and Kathleen Stefanel
- Rosemary Oldenburg
- Louis Olivero
- Boyd and Phylis Palmer
- Amanda Paterimos
- James and Karlene Perona
- Pipefitters Association, Local 597
- Margaret Reagan
- Dan and Linda Reynolds
- Thomas and Mary Rooney
- Kenneth and Jerre Ross
- Kathleen Salela
- Frank and Nancy Santoro\*  
*honoring Bobby Schwerdtfeger*
- Donald and Dorothy Sapit
- Jay and Michelle Sarver
- Nancy Schmidt
- Susan Scidmore
- Darrell Seigler
- Joseph and Pamela Shanley
- Steve and Pamela Shanley
- Dickson and Carolyn Shipman
- Ronald and Margaret Slack
- Richard and Irene Snyders
- Sons of Norway
- Denise Sorn\*  
*honoring Gary Provance*
- Larry Speed and Jeannie Eltrevoog
- William and Patricia Spicer
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- John and Dorothy Stevenson
- Marlene Stillwell
- Roy and Janet Swanberg\*  
*honoring Romi Halterman*
- John and Mary Kay Teasant
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- Mary Walsh
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- Carolyn Welch Trust
- Barbara Wheatland
- David Wilcoxson
- Women of the Moose
- Carole Woods and Victoria Stalker
- Peter and Evelyn Zabawa
- Tom and Leslie Ziel\*  
*honoring Dickson and Carolyn Shipman*

**Memorials**

- In Honor of Ed Whitney*
- Robert and Kathleen Agostinelli
- Daniel Aussem
- Frank and Kristine Borkowsky
- Elizabeth Brimhall
- Richard Brooke
- Keith and Sharon Burman
- Gary and Deb Dahl
- John and Lisa Dammann
- Dan and Beth Dammann
- Susan Darif
- Kenneth and Judith Harmon
- Thomas Hoffman
- Tom and Vicki Katrein
- Nick and Linda Kinsella
- Suzanne Larson
- Richard and Beth Mangold
- Edmund and Sharon Marco
- Dean Pfalzgraf
- Dan and Linda Reynolds
- Village of Naplate
- Kay Halterman and Judith Wunderlich
- City of Marseilles

*In Honor of Valentine Polancic*

- Thomas and Cathy Ciszewski
- William and Genevieve Hall
- Bernice Hilton
- Mucci and Kirkpatrick
- Dennis and Sharon Rossiter
- Larry Speed
- Dyle and Margaret Stokes
- Veronica Williams

**General Donations**

- Christ Episcopal Church
- Bradley T. Fedorow Perpetual Trust
- John and Jan Guyette
- Kohls
- Randy and Marian Watland

**HOW TO HELP:** Want to be included in an upcoming list of contributors?

Donations are always welcome. We will gladly accept a check by mail or in person at 1718 N. 2525 Road. In fact, give a call first and we'll be happy to show you around: 815.434.0737. Or contribute online at [www.ottawafriendship.com](http://www.ottawafriendship.com).