PATHFINDER MAGAZINE

"Hi, Neighbor!"

ADULT DAY SERVICES

THE WALKABLE VILLAGE

ANNUAL REPORT OF GIVING FOR 2016
Author William A. Guillory, PhD., wrote in *Diversity—A Unifying Force* that “Differences are an inherent part of life ... the more we learn to accept the differences in others, the more we experience the quality of relationship we desire. Quality relationships, based upon respect, trust, and equality, provide the foundation for unity.”

This unity, a sense of shared purpose, strengthens Pathfinder, our beautiful planned community that welcomes people with and without intellectual disabilities in a small rural community, and brings together different talents and ideas.

In an everyday sense, people experience community and it is very natural for each one of us to be friendly and extend a hand to others. It means saying, “Hi, Neighbor!” and learning from someone who may be different.

This past year, we saw this sense of neighborliness grow through our expanding Adult Day Services program. This community-based option provides habilitation services for Village residents and adults living at private homes. These folks are busy, serving customers who come to the Café for a break, or waiting on patrons at our two weekly Pathfinder Produce markets. They are also out in the community, providing vital volunteer services to businesses and non-profits.

2016 was a year of accomplishments for Pathfinder, and the progress we made in "creating community, one relationship at a time" could not have happened without the loyal support of our families, donors and organizational partners. In 2017, we hope to have your continued help and trust as we approach key investments in our infrastructure, workforce, and program development. As always, we are grateful for your generosity, commitment, and involvement.

Thank you, neighbor!

Paul C. Landers, M.Ed.
President & CEO
Pathfinder Village
It's Thursday morning at the Pathfinder Village Commons, and Glenn Prentice, Brandy Mockovciak, and Chris Scott await the arrival of a tractor trailer, brimming with fresh produce. As they wait, the team sets up and scrubs tables, and checks shelves of bulk foods, cheeses, and honey. The three are members of Pathfinder's Adult Day Services program (ADS); helping at the market is just one of the ways they serve neighbors from the community each week.

“I feel good about the market,” said Brandy, as she steadily works. “I like to help customers. My favorite part is packing their baskets.”

Once the produce is delivered, the team kicks into high gear inspecting and placing produce in display bins. Everyone is eager for the one o’clock opening—this week is special as it’s the market’s fourth anniversary. The volunteers lay out festive mini-cupcakes and place prices on the bins. Chris Sullivan, who loves to cook, sets out recipe cards and sautés veggies for customers to try. Even with the extra tasks, the team finishes up in time to enjoy lunch before the customers arrive.

The ADS program started in November 2015 as an extension of the pre-vocational classes taught by Transition Coordinator Stephanie Jones Sitts at Pathfinder School. Senior Director of Program Services Tina Heyduk said, “In 2015, we had several school students who wanted to continue their pre-vocational training after graduation. We worked with the State Office for People with Developmental Disabilities to open a program to meet what we saw as a growing need in our region.”

“It’s really two programs in one,” she continued. “The Day Habilitation without Walls program helps people with intellectual disabilities build a foundation, focusing on 'soft skills,' like the social aspects of working, and learning to navigate within one's community. The Community Pre-Vocational Program is the next step up, and helps people learn 'hard skills,' like time management, working with co-workers and supervisors, and setting priorities. Through volunteerism, members gain transferable skills that are used often in community employment.”

IT’S SHOWTIME

Back at Pathfinder Produce, everyone is at his station before the doors open. Pathfinder’s office staff filter in to take shifts at the register, and friends from the community help pack bags. Customers enjoy their experiences in the bright, friendly market.

"This is a great benefit for me and the area," said Jeanette Roche, a NYCM Insurance employee who has been a steady customer since the market opened. "The produce is clean and the pricing is great. The people who work are always nice and helpful."

Now that spring has arrived, the ADS members are growing produce at the Village’s Button Greenhouse and three hoop houses, expanding the varieties of fresh items for customers. And with the success of the Edmeston market, last fall the ADS program joined with the local United Methodist Church and other Bassett Healthcare 5210 Program Partners to open a second produce market in Morris on Fridays.
“I help set up, clean, and put bins out,” says Chris Sullivan, whose parents frequent the Morris market. “I like to wait on customers. I really like working at the Morris Market. It’s fabulous."

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES
The person who oversees the daily flurry of ADS activities is Manager Mike Cornell, who tracks the schedules of nearly 40 volunteers, organizes transportation and staff support, and cultivates leads to create even more opportunities with Pathfinder’s neighbors and business partners. Each day, his teams gather at Butler House, a welcoming 19th century Victorian home, which most recently served as Bassett Healthcare Network’s Edmeston clinic. This hub was updated last autumn with a new kitchen, windows, and furnishings, so volunteers may use the space between appointments in the community. Every morning by nine, volunteers are heading out to help at one of over a dozen non-profits and family-run businesses in a three county area.

A typical week sees ADS volunteers pitching in at Prolifiq Sign Studio, 'Shears to You' hair salon, Norton’s Gas, and the Baptist Church in Edmeston. Other "AD-vocates" head westward to New York Pizzeria and Chase Health in New Berlin; still others head east to lend a hand at the Cooperstown Bat Company, and the Susquehanna Animal Shelter.

ADS volunteers also help at the Pathfinder Bakery, the West Exeter Church, the Burlington Flats Food Bank & Pre-School, the Edmeston and Pittsfield Fire Departments, and The Root Farm in Sauquoit, an equine assisted therapy and agricultural center, where volunteers clean offices and help with poultry and equine care.

“Our tasks vary depending on organizations’ needs; at many sites we help with vacuuming and dusting,” said Mike Cornell. “At other sites, we organize and set-up systems. At the Burlington Flats Food Bank, we pack bags for people who are coming for supplies, we stock shelves when a shipment arrives, and we check expiration dates on food. We make sure things are easy to find. We also help with bulletins and clean their gym and pre-school classroom.”

PATHFINDER ★ VILLAGE
ADULT DAY SERVICES ARE CENTERED AROUND:
★ Person-Centered Planning: Individually tailored plans are set that address each participant’s unique personal and social needs, aspirations, and choices.
★ Self Advocacy: Each participant experiences true self-direction of services.
★ Small Group Tasks: Focus and flexibility are ensured by creating opportunities for individuals and small groups.
★ Active Community Engagement: Social growth through volunteer opportunities is emphasized.
★ Engaged Direct Support Staff: Highly trained Direct Support Professionals anchor the program and serve many roles, including ISP coordinators, family liaisons, and community facilitators.
“We like to directly work with people as much as possible,” he added. “Andrew goes to Prolifiq Sign Studio each Monday, and as he’s cleaning, the owners and staff always ask about what’s new with him. They appreciate the help he’s providing.”

The volunteers focus on abilities as they forge partnerships and serve others. “On the days we go to Chase Health, a skilled nursing facility, we help seniors get to the activity room, and then help with their enrichment programs. On Fridays, we also care for their therapy animals. One woman, Cassie Lamont, absolutely loves the dove they have. She independently cleans the cage, feeds it, and gives it fresh water. It’s a really great experience for her.”

The partnerships also provide individuals with opportunities for skills growth, which is key for moving on to community-based employment.

“Other volunteers, Jonny Beck, Cori Donohue, and Brandy help with office duties at Norton’s Gas, where the staff is converting to all electronic files. The three volunteers are busy shredding and helping to purge old documents.”

“The Cooperstown Bat Company reached out to us last summer, and the owners held interviews for Andrew and Lee Oliver, who wanted to help at the company,” said Mike. “They did well during their interviews, and now they greet customers and help organize the company’s visitor wall, which has a pin for each Little League team that comes into the busy store. Eventually, they may assist with the finishing of the baseball bats that are made there.”

LOOKING AHEAD

As Pathfinder’s fastest growing service, the ADS program is helping address the day programming needs for individuals with intellectual disabilities who live within 30 miles of Edmeston. Presently, OPWDD has indicated there is a lack of these services within the northern Unadilla Valley region.

To better support the program, Pathfinder is purchasing an additional site to establish a neighborhood center in the hamlet of Edmeston. Within walking distance to the bank, post office, library, and stores, the new site, a former church, will present new opportunities for inclusion and independence.

“The new setting, a 1950s country chapel, will be an extra hub for the ADS program, but it will also support programs for our neighbors, like club meetings, and fitness and continuing education classes,” said Pathfinder’s Chief Executive Officer Paul Landers. “Another tremendous tie to our community will be in creating a Human Services internship program with Edmeston Central School, which is just down the street, so that juniors and seniors may learn through hands-on experiences about career options in a growing employment field.”

“The new site will cement our relationship with neighbors…we’re revitalizing a downtown building that has been under-used. We’ll open it up to work toward goals that reflect the values and potential of our community,” said Mr. Landers.
Over the next year, the ADS program will explore new partnerships and other ways to expand services. One possibility may include directly assisting neighbors, like seniors, with food deliveries and other supports.

"There are many ways that our ADS volunteers make a difference each day, and make meaningful connections," said Mr. Landers. "With our creative and dedicated team, we’re enthusiastic about growing partnerships, helping communities, and discovering the potential of individuals who have a wealth of talents to share."

The Gift of Siblings: J. Couper Lord Endowment to support Pathfinder’s Mission

Sisters Lisa Gillespie and Barbara Edwards of Southampton announced to an enthusiastic audience a $1.2 million gift to Pathfinder Village during last fall’s Pro-Am Awards Banquet. The gift, made through a bequest from their brother, J. Couper Lord Jr., was used to create an unrestricted endowment to support Pathfinder’s mission.

J. Couper Lord Jr. was an avid golfer and businessman who passed away in 2004. His bequest was made in remembrance of their sister, Ruth (1958-1995), who lived at Pathfinder for many years. The gift also honors the many contributions of the siblings’ mother, Barbara Hartley Lord, who was a lifelong advocate of charities and community organizations.

At the presentation, Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Gillespie lovingly spoke of Ruth, who had Down syndrome and health challenges, and shared how her indomitable spirit helped her to achieve her goals. Ruth’s spirit led other family members to dedicate themselves to serving others, through careers in medicine, teaching, and special education.

“Our brother, Coupie, who shared a special closeness with Ruth, also helped others. But he chose a different path. Through his estate, he established a lasting gift to support people with disabilities and the continuing work of Pathfinder Village,” said Mrs. Edwards.

“Ruth and Coupie’s story is one of faith, family, and loyalty,” said Pathfinder’s CEO Paul Landers, in thanking the extended Lord Family. “Pathfinder is one of the most admired residential communities in the world through its innovative programs, setting, and commitment to its mission, ‘that each life may find meaning.’ The Lord Family understood the value of our inclusive community not only for Ruth, but also for others. This remarkable gift will continue Pathfinder’s tremendous work, which has always been focused on ‘better before bigger’ as it has served families since 1980. Building our endowments is vital to our sustainability; this lasting gift will be invested in our infrastructure, help us develop our workforce, and enhance programs and services for the people we support.”
JOIN US! The Kennedy Willis Center at Pathfinder Village, in collaboration with key non-profit partners, state legislators, the Otsego County Chamber of Commerce, BOCES, area colleges and others, will convene its 2017 Human Services Workforce Summit. Our keynote speaker will be Hamdi Ulukaya, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Chobani, Inc.

The Summit will showcase exemplary national and state programs that are working to address the issue of underemployment through the development of career paths for youth and unemployed workers in rural areas. The Summit also will provide a foundation for policy development, inform joint career education opportunities among workforce partners, and provide valuable networking opportunities for renewed attention to the issues of health and human services workforce vacancies and underemployment in our region. To learn more, visit pathfindervillage.org/research-center/workforce.
Kennedy Willis Center Funds

These funds were established in tribute of the following people and organizations by generous donors so that the Village's outreach and education center may assist families, friends and professionals who seek hands-on education, counseling, or research information on Down syndrome.

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*Temporarily restricted funds
Walking is the perfect way of moving if you want to see into the life of things. It is the one way of freedom. If you go to a place on anything but your own feet you are taken there too fast, and miss a thousand delicate joys that were waiting for you by the wayside.

— Elizabeth von Arnim

From its earliest days, it has been common for walkers to "see into the life of things" at Pathfinder Village. The campus, arranged around a "Merchants' Square" and a "Residential Square," is on a scale that promotes walking, offers common spaces for all to visit, and allows people with disabilities to make choices and independently navigate their community.

"I like to walk. I usually go two times around the square after lunch. It's how I stay in shape, I like to get out," said Anja Eriksen, who enjoys the freedom the Village layout builds into her routines.

J.T. Fadale, a Pathfinder day school student, has realized greater growth through the walkable campus: "We stopped by to visit one day, and we were amazed to see J.T. walking by himself back to school," said his father, Sean Fadale. "There's a level of independence here; he can transition between buildings and tasks independently. It's something we would have never, ever envisioned before."

The benefits of walking are well-documented for all; it's a low-impact way to control weight, strengthen one's heart and muscles, and stabilize blood sugar levels. Walking is key for those with disabilities, a segment of the population that is at higher risk for obesity and related health issues: According to a 2014 Honors thesis by Mary K. Walkup of the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, "only 24% of those with ID (intellectual disabilities) are physically active three to four days per week compared with 51% of the general population."

Ms. Walkup cites that the lack of motivation, fitness education, role models, and transportation to gyms or parks may lead to inactivity, and adds that "...the main source of exercise for those with ID comes from walking" as it "can be done independently, without other facilities or equipment...."

"As Pathfinder continues self-assessments in support of Home and Community-Based Services, we believe the tenets of individual choice, access, and rights align well with our planned community," said Paul C. Landers, Chief Executive Officer. "Our setting offers variety, so people may select activities and venues. You can walk without hindrances from the school to the art room, or from a home to the gym, all with a sense of autonomy and ownership. To walk here is an affirmation, and opens up vistas for everyone."

At Pathfinder, it isn't just residents and students who benefit from walking through the campus. For two years, participants in the Village's training program, Dash to the Splash, have met several times a week for eight weeks to walk together. Others from the public come to walk to help heal from illnesses or surgeries. According to the history, "Milestones, Miracles & Magic," written in 2000 by David Lewis of the Cooperstown Graduate Program, Pathfinder's walkable design was influenced by early American villages, where access "to neighbors and stores was necessary for convenience, safety and independent living."

Marian Mullet, Pathfinder's first administrator, told Mr. Lewis, "In 1976, when..."
we created the idea for the Village, we asked the maintenance men to cut some 2x4s into blocks. 'Home' 'School' and 'Meeting House' were printed on each, and visitors were invited to move them around to make a village. The models were useful in helping us conceptualize the Village."

The resulting design offered "the freedom to come and go," within a safe setting, said Mrs. Mullet.

Indeed, Pathfinder's founders hit upon a plan that ties into the American Institute of Architects' principles for liveable communities: to design on a human scale; to encourage mixed-uses; to create vibrant public spaces; to conserve natural landscapes; and to form a neighborhood identity.

**AHEAD OF THE CURVE**

Although Pathfinder's planners didn't realize it then, they had hit upon a concept, "walkability," that would come to the fore years later among community developers. That quality is now highly desired in urban real estate markets, and is seen as a selling point as people buy homes. In a recent preferences survey from the National Association of Realtors, 60 percent of respondents said they "favor neighborhoods with a walkable mix" of houses and amenities, over living in communities that require extensive driving. Trade articles also cite that consumers choose walkable neighborhoods to "be part of a lively community," to reduce commutes for work, school, and recreation; to avoid vehicle costs, and for the health benefits of walking.

To help achieve that end through the U.S., there is now the Blue Zones Project, which aims to redesign communities so walking is naturally integrated into lifestyles. In 2015, U.S. Surgeon General Vivek Murthy also issued a Call to Action, area residents. In 2014, Splash Path proceeds helped create a public walking trail directly east of the Streck Health Center and Grant's Soccer Field. The trail was used by the Edmeston Central School Cross Country Team for training in 2016, and was the site of a ten-school meet in September. With funds raised during the 2016 Splash Path, along with grants from the Edmeston Rotary Club and Rotary District #7170, Pathfinder's Community Walking Trail will be improved in 2017 with several pieces of fitness equipment, benches, and amenities to enhance users' experiences.

"**Step It Up,**" with these goals:
- to make walking a priority;
- to plan communities so people of all ages and abilities may walk easily and safely; and
- to promote walking where people live, work and learn.

To continue its development to help support walking and the fitness goals for people with intellectual disabilities, Pathfinder has leveraged its own resources and programs. In 2013, the Village started its successful paint run and walk, the Splash Path 5K, which has grown into an inclusive day-long event that encourages walking and running through the campus by area residents. In 2014, Splash Path proceeds helped create a public walking trail directly east of the Streck Health Center and Grant's Soccer Field. The trail was used by the Edmeston Central School Cross Country Team for training in 2016, and was the site of a ten-school meet in September.

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Program Coordinator Jessie Sayers congratulates the first graduating class of Otsego Academy during the May 2016 Commencement Exercises.

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**Scholarship Funds**

Pathfinder scholarships help individuals with tuition payments, allowing them to continue on their paths of growth and independence. Our “work horse” fund is based on proceeds from The Otesaga Hotel Seniors Open & Pro-Am. These funds include:

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JOIN US IN COOPERSTOWN!
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017
OTESAGA HOTEL SENIORS OPEN & PRO-AM
AND THE CHOBANI TENNIS CLASSIC

The Pathfinder Village Foundation announces two tremendous tournaments for September 5, 2017 that support our Scholarship Endowment. The Otesaga Hotel Seniors Open marks its 35th year, and begins with its traditional Pro-Am at the incomparable Leatherstocking Golf Course.

On the same day, tennis enthusiasts will play in a round robin tournament, the Chobani Tennis Classic, at the Cooperstown Country Club to raise additional funds. After a fun day on the lakeside courts, participants are invited to the awards banquet at The Otesaga Resort Hotel. Register today!

For Information visit the web: pathfindervillage.org/get-involved/tournaments
or www.otesagaseniorsopen.com

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Foundation Elects New Trustees

The Pathfinder Village Foundation announced in early 2017 that four new members were elected to the Board of Trustees. The Foundation raises funds and awareness for Pathfinder Village, a renowned planned community that offers an array of quality services to people with developmental disabilities.

“My fellow Trustees and I are pleased to announce the newest members of the Foundation Board; these members bring tremendous talents and experiences that will help position the Foundation as it raises funds, works with other organizations, and builds awareness of Pathfinder Village,” said Kathleen Gozgian, Cooperstown, Foundation Board Chair. “These individuals are recognized for their expertise and leadership in community non-profits, and are committed to serving individuals with disabilities.”

The four new Trustees are:
Victoria Johnson, Edmeston, a school nurse who is a founder and past president of the local youth sports commission. She has volunteered for area soccer organizations, and helped raise funds to build Grant’s Field at Pathfinder Village.

Deborah Cox LeCates, Cooperstown, is a former Director of Admissions at the John Carroll School, Bel Air, MD. She presently is a full-time parent and volunteer who supports youth soccer and swimming groups.

Carolyn Lewis, Cooperstown, is a Regional Development Manager for the Friends of Bassett at Bassett Healthcare Network. She volunteers for her church, the Village of Cooperstown, and in support of youth baseball. She has served in key economic development posts for SUNY Oneonta and Otsego County.

Thomas Novack, Norwood, New Jersey, is a Managing Director on JP Morgan’s Investment Banking Management Team, and joined the firm in 1973. Mr. Novack is active as a Pathfinder Village parent and has supported campaigns and program initiatives for over a decade.

Foundation Trustees oversee fund raising and community education efforts, planned giving campaigns, and special events that benefit Pathfinder’s scholarship program. The Trustees also supervise the Foundation’s named funds and endowments. Trustees are elected to three-year terms, and may serve up to three consecutive terms before transitioning off the Board. Peter Macarthur of Cooperstown recently completed nine years’ service; Philip Lewis and the Honorable John Lambert, both of Cooperstown, will transition off the board by mid-year, each having served three terms.

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Tennis Finalists: Charles Kieler, Clay Wilcox, Chris Clark and Waldie Johnston were the Flight A Finalists at the 2016 CHOBANI Tennis Classic.
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As one explores Pathfinder Village, there are frequent reminders of how individuals found and "created meaning" by becoming part of our unique community. Through a shared passion to support those with intellectual disabilities, donors have opened doors for residents' growth and independence, and have added their own chapters to the Pathfinder story. In late 2016, one of these chapters came full circle with the passing of Michael A. Nicolais, 91, of New York.

Mike’s influence and legacy are present as one walks through our community: He and Margaret, his wife of 63 years, provided key gifts to build the Library at Village’s education and research arm, the Kennedy Willis Center. Most recently, they provided a lead gift for the $1.4 million William F. Streck Health Center, which opened in 2015 to serve the healthcare needs of neighbors from throughout Otsego County.

Understanding the ties between academic research and quality outcomes, in 2011 the Nicolais Family provided funds for an independent study on the beneficial connections that are created for people with disabilities who access services through planned communities. A white paper based on this study by Dana Hart, PhD. of Utica College was published in 2016 in the *International Journal of Business and Social Sciences*, and will influence new generations of human service policy makers and administrators.

A longtime member at New Jersey’s famed Baltusrol Golf Club, Mike loved to golf with friends and business associates. He sponsored Pro-Am teams each year at the Otosaga Hotel Seniors Open, a benefit four-day tournament that supports Pathfinder’s Scholarship Fund. Through Mike’s and other donors’ commitments, this unique event has raised over $2.7 million for scholarship awards and will celebrate its 35th year this September.

Mike and Margaret became supporters of Pathfinder in 1984, just as it was evolving from a collection of homes into a thriving neighborhood. At that time, Mike was the President of The Clark Estates, the management firm that oversees many Otsego County private holdings and non-profit organizations, like Bassett Healthcare Network and the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Through his leadership and keen interest in the work of non-profits, Mike grew to love Cooperstown and its surrounding rural communities. Mike and Margaret became close friends with Pathfinder’s founding CEO Marian Mullet, and offered support to subsequent Pathfinder leaders following her retirement in 2000.

Family members and colleagues remember Mike as a "true New Yorker" who loved to walk the city streets and ride the subways. The son of Italian immigrants, Antonio and Luigina (Toglia) Nicolais, Mike was known for his remarkable qualities of openness, acceptance, and his genuine interest in the lives of all he met. He enjoyed visiting Pathfinder as his busy schedule permitted, and was a presenter on *Why We Give* at the 2003 Pathfinder Village Foundation’s Donor Appreciation Dinner. He attended the donor preview of the Streck Health Center in November 2015, just one year prior to his death.

Mike was born in 1925 on Staten Island, and after completing high school, served with distinction for nearly three years in the U.S. Army during World War II. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, and was awarded a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He next attended Wagner College on Staten Island, and graduated *magna cum laude* in three years. Both he and Margaret, also a Wagner graduate, were awarded honorary degrees in 2014 for their longtime support of the private, liberal arts school. Both the college’s president’s residence and Business School are named to honor of Mike and Margaret.

Upon graduation, Mike joined The Clark Estates as a junior accountant in 1949. He steadily rose through the ranks and was recognized throughout his career for his business and investment expertise. He worked there for 42 years, and served on many corporate and non-profit boards. In 1993, he started a second career as a financial manager with the independent investment firms, Carret Asset Management and Wall Street Access.
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### Community Walking & Fitness Trail
- Edmeston Rotary Club
- Rotary District #7170

### Horticultural Hoop Houses
- American Heart Association, Greater Utica Division
- The John Ben Snow Memorial Trust
- The Otis Thompson Foundation, Inc.

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Recent improvements include new hoop houses, the Bakery & Café Project, and the completion of the Streck Health Center. 2017 projects include additions to the Program Office and Walking Trail.
Pathfinder Village Program Support Funds

These funds support beneficial enrichment and educational programs at Pathfinder Village:

- 5210 Community Wellness Fund*
- Barbara J. Allen Fund
- Wells P. Allen, Jr. Chair
- American Legion of Sidney Fund
- Marie S. Amish Chapel Fund
- Art, Music & Recreation Funds
- Audubon Society Fund*
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*Temporarily restricted funds
The Splash Path 5K & Fun Walk is a community event that raises funds to benefit Pathfinder programs that, in turn, benefit our entire community. In its first year, event proceeds went to building the Pathfinder Community Walking & Fitness Trail; the 2016 proceeds are being invested in fitness stations and other improvements at the Walking Trail. Additionally, 2016 funds were also donated in support of Edmeston’s Community Pool Fund, a recreational resource that improves the quality of life in our hometown. Splash Path 2017 is on May 20; register at splashpath.racewire.com.

This year’s event will support community wellness and inclusion programs, emanating from Pathfinder Village.

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Above left: Pathfinder Village's CEO Paul Landers starts the 2016 Splash Path on his pace bike.

Right: Nick Crowder's family finishes the 5K hand-in-hand.
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Register online now at splashpath.racewire.com
Splash Path is on Saturday, May 20, 2017
Youngsters visit with Grant Stubbs, Andrew Hyman and Linda McCord at Hudson House during Pathfinder’s community Trick-or-Treat event.
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... that each life may find meaning.
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Pathfinder launches #DsRocks Awareness Project

Pathfinder Village has launched its #DsRocks Project to highlight global Down syndrome awareness. The Project is a Facebook Group through which people may show support for those with Trisomy 21 with caring, positive messages on hand-painted stones. We hope that you will join us in this fun celebration!

**How to take part:**

1. Find or purchase some smooth, palm-sized stones.
2. Have fun. Be creative with your project to show support for the Down syndrome community.
3. Paint your rock & label with #DsRocks so people know where to find us online. Be respectful when placing rocks.
4. Join the #DsRocks group on Facebook. Then take a digital picture of your rock, and upload it to the page.
5. You may then keep your rock to share with friends or at work, OR
6. Place your #DsRock in a community setting so that others may find it.
7. If you find a #DsRock, repeat Step 4. Then keep or re-hide for others to find, photograph, and post.

As people find #DsRocks, they will post new pictures. As stories evolve, community awareness of the abilities and personal stories of people with Down syndrome will grow through people’s common experiences.
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<th>Gifts-in-Kind &amp; Pathfinder Village Volunteers</th>
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<td>Able Movement</td>
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<td>Jane R. Whitbeck</td>
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<td>Wigel’s Auto Parts</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Douglas B. Willis</td>
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<td>Marty &amp; Martha Winsor</td>
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<td>YMCA, Norwich</td>
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<td>Tass Zambrano, It Works</td>
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<td>Karen Zaleski</td>
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<td>Zoé Fitness</td>
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"It is not more bigness that should be our goal. We must attempt, rather, to bring people back to ... the warmth of community, to the worth of individual effort and responsibility... and of individuals working together as a community, to better their lives and their children's future."

~ Robert F. Kennedy