# TRINITY Family Newsletter

**Summer 2018** 

Serving the family and friends of Trinity Services, Inc.

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#### Don't miss...



Trinity's 29th Annual Dinner Dance and Auction—Saturday, Sept. 22. Details on page 6.

#### Mission

To provide the highest quality, person-directed services and supports to people with disabilities and mental illness so that they may flourish and live full and abundant lives.

#### **Message from the Director**

Dear Friends,

For the last several years, Trinity Services has made a commitment to maximizing the principles and practices of positive psychology. We do this with the people we serve and support, as well as our staff and system partners.

We work to elevate everyone's psychological capital with four elements of well-being—hope, self-efficiency, resilience, and optimism. Some folks refer to it as HERO.

One resource Trinity uses is *Flourish* by Martin Seligman, a wonderful book that fleshes out the research behind well-being. This year, 91 Trinity colleagues gave their own interpretations of Seligman's five elements of well-being in a new High Tide Press book, *Beeing a Leader: Insights from the Trinity Beehive*.



Employees wrote leadership narratives that describe these elements in action in the workplace. The result is a useful, uplifting primer on how positivity and service can enrich the lives of a person receiving services, and a person who serves. The five elements of well-being (aka PERMA) include:

**Positive Emotion** – having a pleasant life, with positivity and optimism. (continued on pg. 2)

## **Sweet land of liberty**





Michael and Valerie pose for a picture (left) before a dance performance (above) of "Yankee Doodle Dandy." The duo was one act among many in the annual Trinity South talent show. This year, it was performed in May, as usual, in Wilmington. And, due to its popularity, the show made an encore performance at Trinity's Cherry Hill Conference Center in Joliet.



#### **Message from the Director** (continued)

**Engagement** – being committed to issues that matter most to us (work, family, friends, faith, hobbies, causes).

**Relationships** – developing quality relationships; it is one key to happiness.

**Meaning** – a sense of living for something more important than oneself; it is one key to satisfaction and peace.

**Accomplishment** – thriving when accomplishing or achieving goals.

You may order the book at www.cherryhillhightide.com. Or, call Terra at the Cherry Hill Bookstore: 815-723-4896.

Sincerely,

Thane A. Dykstra, Ph.D.

## In Brief

#### Fun and creativity at Roxy event

A Paint Night fund-raiser for Trinity programs will be held from 6 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 30, at the newly-renovated ROXY venue in Lockport. The fund-raiser will offer a fun, sociable way to learn or practice basic painting techniques. Tickets and more information are available by calling Leah in the Development office at 815-717-3750.

#### **Go Southwest for Cheers & Beers**

The folks in Trinity's Southwest program encourage everyone to come down to Southwest Illinois for a fund-raiser to benefit its programs and services. Cheers and Beers, the ALFA

Oktoberfest, will kick off at 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29, at the beautiful Trinity Gardens and Farmstead, 11858 Zimmerman Rd., Mascoutah.

The event will feature authentic Bavarian food, drink, entertainment, and atmosphere.

Dinner will be from Mascoutah's renowned German restaurant, Toemer Topf. A beer trailer will provide wine,

tastings, and a free stein of beer. Also featured are Bavarian beverages and pretzels, and Charlie Wyhaupt's polka music.

Tickets are \$45 a person, \$85 a couple, or \$340 for a table of eight. Order yours today at alfafoundationinmas-coutah@gmail.com. Reservations are required.

## A warm welcome

Knitters who attend Community Day Services in Joliet found a new way to serve the community. They now make colorful hats to welcome newborn babies.



So far, they have delivered dozens of hats to Advocate South Suburban Hospital in Hazel Crest and Silver Cross Hospital in New Lenox. They get free yarn and string from the yarn exchange at New Lenox Public Library. Pictured at

the library are Karilyn (above), and Kelley (below).







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## Happy retirement!



Janine shows the gifts and cake her friends provided to honor her retirement from the Wilmington-area Community Day Services program.

#### Right: Hayrides are a fun part of the Red Berries and Bluegrass fest held in Mascoutah in May. The fest is open to the whole



Above: Friends from Trinity's Northwest program escape the summer heat in a swimming pool during

their summer camping trip in Michigan. Clockwise

from bottom left are: Darryl, Justin, Carly, Lydia,

Dwayne, Josh, and Darnell.

# community, and

hosted by Trinity

Gardens and Farmstead.





Above, left: Participants follow instructions for making assistive technology at Trinity's 2nd Annual Technology Enhancing Capabilities (TEC) Conference. TEC Lab manager Richard Harrington (right) demonstrates how to make a sensory board with inexpensive, easy-to-find materials. He and lab co-manager Connie Melvin coordinated the conference.

## **TEC Lab progresses** with help from Will **County foundation**

The Will County Community Foundation awarded one of its 2018 grants to Trinity Services. A generous contribution of \$15,000 is supporting development of the Technology Enhancing Capabilities (TEC) Lab. The grant was partially funded by The Rink Family Grant Fund.

Trinity is outfitting the lab with supplies and equipment that range from hand tools to devices and materials that support mobility, better lighting, communication, food prep, laundry, medication routines, etc.

Trinity staff are assessing individuals, training staff, and creating solutions, with an eye to low-tech, inexpensive options whenever possible. The target activities can be anything from from getting dressed independently to completing tasks at work. An assistive technology loan pool allows a person to try products before investing in them.

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## AroundTown





#### Art for sale

Mara sells her handmade bookmarks at this year's Red Berries and Bluegrass fest in Mascoutah. Her Trinity friends were also there, selling arts and crafts, such as barn quilts (background) and nautical paintings.

## Follow the clues!







Members at The Branch (above left, clockwise from left) Mark, Andrew, Greg, Chris, and Johnny work on a series of hidden riddles in honor of Sherlock Holmes Day. The gamers navigated a booby-trapped room (right) to uncover hidden treasure. And, they followed clues to find a key and "deactivate a bomb". Top right: Charlotte, Ali, and Sam celebrate after solving the riddles.

## Fun and competition at Trinity Triumph 5K run/1K walk









Families, friends, co-workers, and individual runners shared their joy at Trinity's annual 5K run and 1K walk in New Lenox. Despite heavy rain early in the day, the weather cooperated for a wonderful race and celebration.





## Upcoming Events

Paint Night at The ROXY fund-raiser

#### Sept. 22

29th Annual Dinner Dance & Auction

#### Oct. 12 and 13

Petals & Twigs fall Spooktacular

#### Oct. 19

Trivia Night fund-raiser

#### Dec. 1

"An Evening of Holiday Music" Concert Gala and Dinner

#### **Holiday Office Closings**

Sept. 3

Labor Day

#### Oct. 8

Columbus Day

#### Nov. 12

Veterans Day



## **Numbers Tell Stories**

#### Medical appointments in a year

Trinity serves over 600 individuals in residential settings. Whether the person lives in a CILA (Community Integrated Living Environment) or an apartment, they regularly access high quality health care. A critical role of Trinity staff is ensuring that access.

The staff accompany a person to appointments and urgent care. They make sure medications are taken properly and other self-care tasks are completed. And, they track and record all healthcare efforts from start to finish.

In one year, Trinity staff ensure that individuals make it to approximately 6,453 medical appointments. That includes appointments for lab work.

These activities come with costs. Trinity pays for transportation—fuel and mileage, vehicle purchase and upkeep, insurance, staff time, and so on.

Unfortunately, some persons served at Trinity incur emotional costs. They may experience significant anxiety during a trip to the doctor due to a crowded waiting room, noisy activity, and other stimuli.

In the delivery of health care, Trinity staff exercise compassion, good listening and speaking, attention to detail, good driving, and excellent followthrough. In addition, they use skills directly related



to the needs of persons with developmental disabilities and mental illness. These are critical competencies that medical personnel often lack.

#### A responsive medical home

The costs of "going to" healthcare can be avoided with on-site healthcare. To offer this option to persons it serves, Trinity recently opened a medical clinic in Joliet and one in Des Plaines.

Trinity's nurse practitioner and physician provide annual physicals; treatment for minor injury or illness; follow-up for a minor medical condition, emergency room visit, or hospital discharge; referral to a specialist; routine immunization; and, seasonal immunization (such as a flu vaccine).

Eventually, it may be possible for every person served in a residential setting to have the option of a "medical home" at Trinity.

## A world of fun at golf classic

Trinity staffers don costumes from various countries for the 2018 Tom O'Reilly Memorial Golf Classic in May. Trinity gratefully acknowledges the volunteers, sponsors, and

the day a huge success.



#### **Department Contacts**

Network I 815-485-6197 Stephanie Leigh Network II 815-476-5405 Anita Goulding Network III 815-485-6197 Mickey Gossen Network IV / Behavioral Health 815-485-6197 Mike Mecozzi Network V 815-485-6197 Lisa Dillon Network VII / Trinity Northwest Jennifer Hodges 847-299-2200 Network VIII / Southwest Illinois Mike Lowry 618-566-4200 Staff Development 815-722-0166 Trina Sieling Network X / North Central Illinois Jennifer Price 815-941-1503 815-485-6197 Thane Dykstra

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Use Trinity's Amazon Smile link: https://smile.amazon.com/ ch/36-2194838 to donate every time you shop!

## Bursts of color to celebrate a 50th

Participants in the New Lenox Woodworks program are completing a large, colorful project with the Frankfort Chamber of Commerce.

When completed, they will have made 55 Adirondack chairs for a variety of people to paint and display in downtown Frankfort.

This art installation celebrates the 50th year of the Frankfort Fall Festival. This year's fest, "Escape to Paradise", runs Sept. 1, 2, and 3.

The chamber shared this news on its Facebook page, highlighting the wood-

shop and Trinity. You can see it at https://www.facebook.com/pg/FrankfortFallFestival/posts.

On a July day, six participants joined folks from around town to paint some of the chairs outdoors.

Above right: Jacquie and Dennis add splashes of color to a white chair. Right: With the finished product are Dennis, Bobby, Mike, Mo, Mike, and Tom.





## Revel, feast in classic elegance

Moonlight Serenade is the theme for the 29th Annual Trinity Dinner Dance and Auction on Saturday, Sept. 22, at the Odyssey Country Club in Tinley Park.

The event features an elegant dinner, live music, dancing, and socializing. A silent auction will feature dozens of wonderful items and experiences. Your generous donations can help make it a success.

Talk to your friends! Ask a neighbor, a loved one or a favorite business owner to buy an ad in the program book. Ad prices begin at just \$50.

We are happy to accept a wide variety of new items, such as a gift certificate from a restaurant, spa or hair salon. Also popular are frequent flyer miles; tickets to a sporting event; an art piece; or a themed basket (such as

gardening, golf, baby, fitness, housewarming, Christmas, etc.).

You can enter to win a \$2,000 travel voucher for just \$5! Winner



need not be present to win. For more information about the raffle or to purchase an ad, please call Anthony in the Development office at 815-717-3750.

## ShopTrinity

#### **Petals & Twigs**

A gift shop in a Victorian home offering home décor, candles, and much more. 815-485-5976 www.petalsandtwigs.com

#### **Trinity Barkery**

Home of Fritters for Critters, the yummy, all-natural dog treats. 815-476-5104 www.frittersforcritters.com

#### SafeNow

Human-safe, earth-friendly, purposedriven cleaning products for all your household needs. 815-723-0898 www.besafenow.com

#### **Cherry Hill Books and Media**

Resources for leadership and best practices in the workplace. 815-723-0898 www.cherryhillhightide.com

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## Let's dance!





Tearing up the floor at the annual spring dance are, above left: Scott and his friend, and above, right: Sonia and Ashley.

## Bark Bash a waggin' good time

will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 21, in Wilmington.

Hosted by Trinity Barkery, the event will feature a costume parade and contest, and a talent contest. Come and show off your awesome pet or that special trick!

The location is next door to AJ's and just over the Kankakee River Bridge on Route 53.

Pets and their owners receive a free \$10 Trinity Barkery store voucher and a treat bag. The fun also includes a Poker Run (that is, four stations with

> fun activities), games with prizes, autumn

The annual Halloween BarkBash food and beverages, and a raffle for a pet gift basket. Sign up early and

> receive your free raffle ticket.

Free pet photos will feature a fall background setting.

To purchase raffle

tickets, at one dollar each or six for \$5, call or stop in at the Trinity Barkery, 240 W. Baltimore St., Wilmington. Or, call: 815-476-5104, or email: slewis@trinity-services.org.



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