#### • • • TOMATO TIME! • • •

With BLT season fast approaching, we are sure you're asking yourself where you can find the area's best tomatoes. Each year NORTHWEST PRODUCE operates a 15,200 square foot greenhouse producing around 2800 tomato plants. These vine-ripened, chemical free beauties are grown with love right here on the VNU campus, then made available at local grocery stores and restaurants April through November. Just look for the NORTHWEST PRODUCE sticker, and enjoy these fantastic tomatoes guilt free, knowing that you are supporting the individuals at VNU. Go ahead and indulge in an extra BLT, we won't tell!



#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR

<u>Panthers in the Park- Date to be announced soon</u>
The VNU Panthers softball team will take on the Sheldon high school softball team, The Dingers.

Run, Walk & Roll- See inside for more details

Independence Day Celebration- July 3rd

Bring the family out to the Village for food vendors, carnival games, live music, inflatables and much more!

Benefit Golf Outing- July 16th

Enjoy a day of golf at the Landsmeer Golf Club in Orange City. Spots limited.









villagenorthwest.org

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VILLAGE NORTHWEST UNLIMITED // SPRING 2018



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#### INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Resident Outings
- 2018 Run, Walk &Roll
- NCC Students Give
   Back
- Wacky Wednesday
- Northwest Produce
- Upcoming Events

### • • BUSY, BUSY, BUSY! • •

With recent changes to the requirements of our Day Programs, we have been creating new options and opportunities for our consumers to enjoy the communities around them. Just a few of these opportunities include washing up on the shores of the Iowa Great Lakes near the Maritime museum in Arnolds Park to take a look at

the "Classy Lady" and other vintage memorabilia. Staying with the theme of summer dreams during the winter we were able to take a tour of Parks Marina and climb aboard a few boats to imagine the upcoming summer. A visit to see puppies was a must. What an enjoyable afternoon playing with 10 new puppies! Some of the other new experiences include-visiting the Dickinson County Nature Center and the Sanford Museum and Planetarium.

We encourage our consumers to not only enjoy their community but become an integral part of it, and what better way can there be for this than through volunteering? We have many volunteer opportunities available for our con-

sumers to help out in the community, a few of which are: helping at the Upper Des Moines Food Pantry in Primghar, the Humane Society in Spirit Lake, along with Love INC., and Kaden's Kloset in Sheldon. There is so much to see and do in Northwest Iowa and we are just beginning to explore it all. These are just a few of the many highlights which have been keeping us "busy", as we strive to assist individuals in finding purpose and dignity in their communities.

#### REGISTRATION FORM RUNNER/WALKER

To guarantee a shirt, participants must register by May 18!

Name:
Address:
City/State/Zip:
Phone:
E-mail:
Age (on race day)
□ Male □ Female
☐ 5k ☐ 10k ☐ 1 mile ☐ Donation Only
Shirt Size (circle one): S M L XL 2XL
Amount Enclosed:
Payment Method:  ☐ Check (payable to Village NW Unlimited)

Send checks and completed entry form to: Village Northwest Unlimited 330 Village Circle Sheldon, IA 51201

In consideration of your acceptance of this entry, I hereby, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, waive any and all rights and claims for damages I may have against individuals associated with this event, its agents, representatives, successors, and assigns for all injuries suffered by me in said event. I attest and verify that I have full knowledge of the risks involved in this event, and I am physically fit and have trained to participate in this event. I also agree to permit the use of photos taken at the event for publicity purposes.

Date:			

Register online at allsportcentral.com

Signature:

Can't participate? Event donations can be made at - Bit.ly/VNU-2018RWR

# • • 13TH ANNUAL• • RUN, WALK & ROLL

Join us for our 13th annual Run, Walk & Roll event scheduled for Saturday, June 2nd at 8am. We are always excited to welcome the returning participants and for those who have not participated in the past, we encourage you to join us and bring the entire family!

This fundraising event is for all ages and abilities and includes a 1 mile walk/roll (this route is wheelchair accessable), 5k run & 10k run. In 2017, we had 406 participants raising over \$94,000. All money raised stays at the Village to support our residential, social, therapeutic and vocational programs we offer for all residents.

All 5k and 10k participants can pick up their packets, which include bibs, t-shirt, timing chips and maps, from the Wansink Center at VNUbetween 4:00 pm-5:30 pm Friday, June 1 stor 6:45 am-7:30 am Saturday. 1 Mile participants can check in Saturday morning.

#### THANK YOU SPONSORS!





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## • STUDENTS • • GIVE BACK

When MiKayla Landsness and the LPN class at NCC visited in 2017, Mikayla was impressed by what she saw here. "Everything about VNU is impressive, and the new houses were really great." Mikayla told us as she reflected on her visit. "I love volunteering and knew I wanted to do something." However, busy with her many duties including being an R.A., Student Government President, and all that comes with being a college student, volunteering wasn't going to fit into the schedule. She had an idea to hold a bake sale and donate 100% of the proceeds to VNU. So the nursing students all got involved either providing (or buying) the goodies, as well as advertising about where the proceeds of the bake sale would be going. "The Student Government group decided they would match the proceeds dollar for dollar." Noted Mikayla. The bake sale, held this March, was a big success.

"We are blessed and encouraged by the generosity of everyone involved at NCC. We want to thank Mikayla, everyone in the nursing program, and all those in the student government for thinking of and serving the individuals here at VNU. What a fantastic group of young people who are already making their mark on the world. We wish them all the best as they launch their careers beyond their education at NCC." Commented Ryan Haack, Director of Development.













### · WACKY WEDNESDAY •

Two staples this time of year are the annual "Wacky Wednesday" event and the "St. Patrick's Day Bake Sale". The events, are put on by the VNU Advisory Council to support the lowa Association of Community Providers, as they continue their efforts to advocate on behalf of individuals with disabilities. The Advisory Counsil is made up of VNU consumers and staff.

Wacky Wednesday was a fun afternoon of skits, games and a talent show. As a bonus, there was an opportunity to buy cans of silly string and soak members of the VNU Cabinet. Not coming as a big surprise, Barry W. CEO, was a popular target. The Bake Sale included all kinds of goodies from cookies, cakes, bars and pies. Not only did staff and residents have a great time, but they raised over \$1,000.