



OMRO HERALD PHOTO

A TRISHAW MODEL is showcased during Omro's Fourth of July parade last Wednesday. Omro Care Center and Future Omro Chamber: Main Street are currently collaborating on fundraising for a Cycling Without Age trishaw.

New 'Cycling Without Age' trishaw part of July 4 parade

By Tony Daley

The Omro Care Center has partnered with Future Omro Chamber-Main Street to fundraise, participating in what has become the global "Cycling Without Age" phenomenon.

Started in Denmark in 2012, Cycling Without Age has grown internationally, with the trishaw, or bicycle driver and two passengers.

Thousands got to see the trishaw in downtown Omro last week.

This specialized bike, a primary tool for providing senior citizens with certified pilot-guided rides, can enliven relationships and shared stories among riders and pilots.

Efforts to raise funds to purchase a trishaw bike for the local area began in earnest this July 4 when a Cycling Without Age representative brought the trishaw to be part of the parade.



POLICE BEAT

Please note: any citizen(s) having information on incidents that are reported herein or any others are encouraged by the Omro Police Department to contact officers, investigators, or administrative staff at (920) 685-7007.

Monday, July 2

- **CITIZEN ASSIST** — 1600 Block Huckleberry. Investigation continues after police checked a garage and a vehicle that had both been broken into. Numerous items were taken.

- **ORDINANCE VIOLATION** — 300 Block S Webster. A resident was given until July 16 to clean up junk in a yard.

Thursday, July 5

- **AGENCY ASSIST** — When a motorcycle left the road, Omro personnel provided assistance as needed to the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office. The driver, who refused ambulance transport, was cited for operating the vehicle without a motorcycle endorsement.

Friday, July 6

- **WELFARE CHECK** — 600 Block Elm. A reporting party called police, hearing children yelling. The responding officer found that the commotion was over a bat inside a residence.

Saturday, July 7

- **WARRANT ARREST** — 1200 Block E Huron. A male party was advised by police that he had a warrant out, confirmed at this location. Police took the subject to jail.

- **SUSPICIOUS** — 800 Block Harrison. Police were unable to find a person or persons of interest after a complainant told authorities someone was

"monkeying around" in a backyard.

Sunday, July 8

- **AGENCY ASSIST** — At the request of Adams County authorities, Omro police made contact with a possible sexual assault victim, and passed on pertinent information to the jurisdiction.

Fire/Emergency Medical Services runs

The Omro Police Department is reporting 12 Emergency Medical Services runs for this past beat interim.

Special note from the desk of Omro Police Department Chief Joe Schuster

Chief Joe Schuster is reminding citizens to exercise caution during the closure of the car bridge at the west end of Omro.

The closure is due to the latest phase of the ongoing Department of Transportation reconstruction and enhancement project of WIS-116. The car bridge closure started at 7 a.m. on Monday, July 9.

Detouring is in effect and will be "strictly forced," say Omro police.

The car bridge will allow northbound traffic regular motorists only.

Emergency services, fire, and first responder traffic will not be affected. Such vehicles can go both ways.

There will be no delay of emergency services. At this WIS-116 work-site, when you get over the bridge, drivers can turn right onto west River Drive and then take a left along Cedar Street.

Spruce Street is shut down.

Omro police advise citizens to proceed with caution and plan for delays relating to this bridge closure which is expected to last around a month, to around August 9, pending conditions such as those weather or other, project-related factors.

Volunteerism shapes communities while enriching lives of volunteers, service recipients

By Tony Daley

Part of "helping people to help themselves," a credo that drives ADVOCAP's mission across Green Lake, Winnebago, and Fond du Lac counties, is founded on volunteerism.

Whether the ADVOCAP program is "Foster Grandparents reaching out to help kids succeed," or the "Retired and Senior Volunteer Program" that assists those 55 and over to find meaningful volunteer opportunities while taking care of unmet needs, the commitment, passion, and intent of individuals who care enough to want to do enough is a volunteerism crux.

Both the Foster Grandparent Program and the Retired and Senior Volunteer (RSVP) Program are funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), demonstrating connectedness among diverse outreach

partners strategically collaborating on achieving community betterment through expanded resource opportunities.

Yet apart from the essential altruistic rewards of giving, volunteerism yields benefits quite aside from acts of generosity in the social sphere.

Volunteers are themselves rewarded and enriched.

Aside from linking agencies, organizations, and groups to help reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency, ADVOCAP reaches volunteers of all kinds who readily learn they can reshape and give purpose to their own lives through service.

ADVOCAP helps facilitate what volunteers may want to engage in as part of an ADVOCAP service.

ADVOCAP can also complement volunteers' own, current service objectives, whatever their affiliation, because ADVOCAP

nurtures and cultivates the general volunteer experience.

When Volunteer Development Specialist Julie Hendrix and Volunteer Services Director Deb Tauer spoke to the *Omro Herald* from ADVOCAP's Oshkosh office last week, the theme of volunteerism was woven among programs ADVOCAP does, and the need for stepping up service delivery into rural communities.

The mechanism for this kind of strategic outreach, where rural residents might not even know of benefits and resources available to them, comes back to the amazing asset of volunteerism and how to maximize opportunities to make a difference.

"We have so much available for volunteers," says Julie. "And when someone contacts us, the process is super-simple. Facilitating volunteers — it's what we do! Our job is making sure volunteers are happy, if not in their current position, then by helping them find something better suited to their needs."

ADVOCAP's mission is founded on collaborative, complementary efforts.

These efforts embrace communities in a holistic way, where ADVOCAP works, as Julie says, hand-in-hand with other groups and individuals, manifesting synergy that helps everyone.

This kind of synergy also enhances individualized volunteer experiences, which are lifestyle choices that help evolve volunteers' sense of accomplishment and purpose.

"If the volunteer is happy doing what they want to do," Julie says, "then whoever they serve is

happy, and the volunteer reaps the benefits, too."

The joy and exuberance of volunteerism then generates a "butterfly"-like effect, where one small draft of giving expands with increasing power among more people able to share in the delight of volunteerism.

"The happy volunteer talks to others, who may want to become involved," Deb adds, who herself used the butterfly metaphor when writing an introductory letter for RSVP, ADVOCAP's "Retired and Senior Volunteer Program," which works to meet community needs in such areas as companionship for older adults, food distribution to sites such as pantries, and providing real "make a difference" assistance through one-on-one help for kids in grades K-12.

Julie focuses on programming assets that now need more of a push into rural areas.

These are the kinds of communities where residents might wind up disenfranchised from the kind of resources that may more cluster in urban settings.

Considering ADVOCAP's outreach into rural areas, there are, Julie and Deb concur, still many folks who just do not know what's available for them.

On the side of volunteers, there are also many who may not realize what service opportunities await.

"We want people to know that being a volunteer not only enriches others but also your own life," Julie says. "As someone who volunteers, I know that it makes you a better person. And as you get older, you look for ways to

contribute to your community to still have an impact in what you do, and volunteerism is an important vehicle for that."

Volunteerism, then, is not only about sharing and shaping tomorrow. It helps form friendships and camaraderie, while changing lives, while staying active and promoting spiritual and emotional health.

Across rural areas in Winnebago, Green Lake, and Fond du Lac counties, communities with unmet needs exist.

Addressing those needs through service support, assistance, and contacts keeps driving ADVOCAP and its volunteer personnel at schools, community centers, agencies, thrift stores, senior living facilities, nutrition sites, and more.

About ADVOCAP's current volunteer roster, she says, "I love to see the numbers in volunteerism tripled. With more volunteerism there's more to serve."

"We know that we can make a difference," Deb adds, "by having volunteers getting out there, making connections, and changing lives."


From young adults to mature individuals, volunteers open new doors of experience.

Volunteerism promotes growth and enrichment, adding to a sense of community and shared qualities of life.


And, during the process, there is a repayment in dividend through responsible action, giving, and kindness.

Deb adds, "Volunteerism changes lives — for everyone."

To volunteer with ADVOCAP call (920) 426-0150.



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