

LET KIDS BE KIDS *Recreational Therapy is Fun!*



Pet Therapy is Always a Big Hit at Allendale!



Winter Carnival!

IT WAS AMAZING TO SEE THE BULLS!



Candy Making!



MS. MAGGIE'S CLASS CELEBRATES LITERACY!



Movie Night!



ALLENDALE ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1088
Grand Avenue & Offield Drive
Lake Villa, IL 60046

**SCHEDULE YOUR CORPORATE
VOLUNTEER DAYS**
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develop@allendale4kids.org



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Allendale's Repurposed Wood VOCATIONAL PROGRAM *Transforms More than Fallen Trees* -Joanne Levine, Lekas & Levine PR

Lake Villa Campus – That buzzing sound recently heard throughout Allendale's Lake Villa campus? That was the sound of transformation at work. Literally, it was a large hydraulic sawmill cutting fallen trees into slabs—the first step to turning those dying white oaks into timeless handcrafted furniture. In a deeper sense, it echoed Allendale Association's mission of helping youth who have experienced various forms of trauma and adversity find their strength and capacity, transforming over time into healthy, independent adults.

The new repurposed wood program is a collaboration between Allendale—a not-for-profit facility for kids with serious emotional, mental and behavioral challenges—and Jeff Clark, owner of Old School Timber Works Company in Libertyville. Clark is passionate about repurposing Illinois' urban hardwood, as well as teaching life skills to at-risk youth.

Woodworking has long been a part of Allendale's Career and Technical Education Program, which helps students develop vocational skills. Its woodshop instructor, Rob Serdar—a third-generation carpenter—was seeking ways to develop the program when the opportunity arose.

(Continued on the next page)

ALLENDALE WOODSHOP REPURPOSED WOOD PROJECT *(continued)*



Jeff Clark demonstrating his sawmill to Allendale Woodshop Teacher, Rob Sedar and his students at the Lake Villa Campus. We are grateful that Trustee, Rob Holt introduced Jeff Clark to Allendale!

“OUR HOPE IS TO EXPAND OUR STUDENTS’ IMAGINATIONS & CAPABILITIES WHILE PROVIDING LOCALLY-SOURCED, HIGH-QUALITY WOOD PIECES THAT WILL BRING EXPOSURE TO ALLENDALE AND GIVE STUDENTS A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME EXPERIENCE!”

– Rob Sedar, Allendale Woodshop Teacher

In addition, Clark—whose company provides onsite milling services, sells repurposed lumber, and creates custom wood pieces—believes students will benefit from a better understanding of responsibly sourcing their lumber. The process is known as Tree to Table—i.e., repurposing fallen lumber into furniture and goods rather than dumping and chipping it.

“Over a billion board feet of quality urban hardwood is wasted every year in the U.S.,” notes Clark. “These kids were part of a sustainable process in which they created beautiful white oak lumber, saving and repurposing a worthy asset—maybe that’s a life lesson that goes beyond milling lumber?”

One day in December, Clark brought his sawmill to Allendale’s 120-acre wooded campus. He cut several downed white oaks into slabs, while the woodshop students cleaned, transported and stacked the slabs in preparation for the next step: curing them in Allendale’s new kiln.

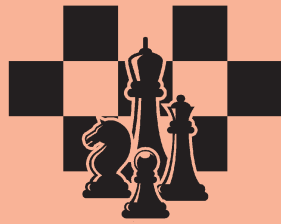
The kiln—a large space filled with fans and dehumidifiers that dry out the wood—was funded through a grant provided by Grace Bersted Foundation, Bank of America, N.A., Trustee. The grant also provided for initial supplies needed to get the program running.

Days after the event, students were still talking about it—and itching to get their hands on the wood. Since then, they’ve used it to make several pieces of furniture and decorative home signs. Clark is slated to share tips and techniques in upcoming classes.

As the students’ skills advance, Sedar says, they’ll start building more elaborate tables, shelving and benches, as well as cutting boards, Charcuterie platters and decorative wood signs. Some of the benches will be placed around campus and donated to the Village of Lake Villa. In addition, creations will be sold at Allendale’s community craft and floral sales, perhaps as early as spring.

The proceeds will not only fund the purchase of ongoing supplies, but benefit the students’ vocational stipends. Meanwhile, as salvaged wood products become increasingly popular, the kids are gaining the skills to secure a place in this growing field—along with an appreciation for the environment and perhaps a lifelong passion that will serve them well.

CONGRATS TO OUR TEAMS



CHESS!

On Tuesday, January 21, 2020 the ALLENDALE CAAEL CHESS TEAM participated in the Northern Division CAAEL Chess Tournament. The team ended up winning both the team title and an individual title. They won 17 out of 18 matches with one match ending in a tie.

Along with winning the team title, Daniel D. won the individual chess title as well. Other chess members included: Bradlee, Kendal, Tyler, David, and Jason.



VOLLEYBALL!

The Volleyball season has come to an end with Allendale winning the Northern Division by going 8-0 on the season. But more than that, the team came home with the Sportsmanship Trophy for their work the entire season. This year we had a total of 22 students participate on our ALLENDALE VOLLEYBALL TEAM!

CAAEL is an independent organization, operated by Special Education Professionals to serve students in alternative school programs. Currently, 40+ programs in Northern Illinois are CAAEL members, participating in interscholastic athletics and academic competitions.

YOUR SUPPORT MAKES A DIFFERENCE



Youth in our new AUTISM PROGRAM are enjoying and greatly benefitting from new items donated to us by generous individuals, corporations and foundations. We are truly grateful!

WAIT...WE WANT DONOR’S TRASH?

Well not exactly... but we do want any life insurance policies you’re planning to discard. **Why?** We’ve added an attractive option for our donor’s consideration called **Life Settlements.**

This proven technique offers policy owners the ability to appraise and sell their unneeded, unwanted or unaffordable life insurance policy for its fair market value.

Recent examples include:

- **Insured owned a \$2,000,000 policy worth \$68,000 if cashed in and sold for \$660,000**
- **Another was preparing to cancel his policy for \$105,000 but chose to examine settlement and received \$960,000**

Results like this can help us to renovate a new Games Room that the kids can use, fund start-up costs for our new Autism and Community Support programs, purchase supplies for our School Classrooms and complete the Therapeutic Recreation program that provides creative, active, fun and therapeutic experiences, opportunities and events for kids.

Our in-house resource has 40 years of experience and would be pleased to chat with you in confidence about your situation.

Call us at (847) 245-6203 for more information!

inspireplay! OUR PLANS FOR A NEW GAMES ROOM!



IT’S YOUR TURN BE A GAME CHANGER FOR ALLENDALE!

For over 50 years,  Allendale Trustee, Bernie Rinella and his wife, Gloria, have been crucial **Game Changers** for Allendale!

The only way that they would let us honor them and their incredible years of service is to raise funds for a project that will benefit the kids!

It’s truly a privilege to build a **New Games Room** at our Lake Villa campus as a lasting tribute for all that they have done and continue to do for Allendale!

50 + YEARS OF SERVICE IS EXTRAORDINARY!

- **Bernie joined the Board of Trustees of the Allendale Association in 1967.**
- **Allendale has served over 40,000 youth and families during their tenure.**
- **The Rinella’s have personally contributed/solicited for nearly \$2,000,000.**



JOIN IN ON THE FUN & GAMES - DONATE TODAY:
<https://allendale4kids.org/volunteering-fundraising/i-want-to-donate/>

ALLENDALE...HELPING KIDS & THEIR FAMILIES... *learn. grow. heal.*