

Top stories in this newsletter



Director Update



Pioneers Answering the Call



Your Support



Good Day Pioneers,

As we start 2021, our **110th year of Pioneering**, I wanted to call attention to some thoughts of how New Vision Group Pioneers is preparing for this momentous year.

We will continue to work with our local community leaders, domestic shelters, Homeless Shelters, Food Pantries, and Schools to provide needed items as they are requested.

This time, we will be concentrating on how to commemorate our **110 years of volunteerism** in our communities by ordering and delivering **110 items** of food, backpacks, hygiene kits, clothing, etc. to where it is needed.

We will endeavor to have pictures of our volunteers with **110 items** placed in our newsletter(s) and Facebook pages so you may see the fine work our Pioneers Volunteers are doing.

By the end of 2020, we logged over 195,547 hours that our volunteers spent making Face Masks, Gowns, Shields, purchasing food for distribution to their local food banks, pantries, and bagged lunches to kitchens, and in some cases setting up food lines for hospital personnel.

We are holding regular on-line ZOOM conference call meetings to keep in touch and to discuss the happenings in the communities in our chapters.

Looking forward to 2021, we hope to be coming out of pandemic mode and to getting back to personally seeing all of you during our individual projects.

I am immensely proud of my fellow Pioneers who continually exhibit the spirit of giving and **“Answering the Call of Those in Need.”**

For now, please stay safe and stay in contact with your local leaders to assist you with any Pioneers questions and volunteer opportunities.

Paul Redline

Director
New Vision Pioneers

Pioneers Mission

Pioneers is a network of volunteers who effect immediate, tangible change in local communities.

Pioneers Vision

To be recognized as a world-class leader in volunteerism. To be respected and valued by our members, strategic partners, global community and our industry. We are committed to the diversity and growth of our members and strategic partners in improving the quality of life in our communities.



New Vision Pioneers Chapter Activities

HAPPY 110TH ANNIVERSARY PIONEERS!

Since 1911, when the Telephone Pioneers of America organization was formed, employees and retirees of the telecom industry have been volunteering and Answering the Call of Those in Need in our communities.

110 years later, our Mission has not wavered. Even during a pandemic,

Pioneers were finding creative ways to serve their communities!

See the wonderful work being done by Pioneers in the New Vision Chapters covering Maine to West Virginia and beyond.

Each year, Pioneers across the United States and Canada are awarded funds through a grant from the Pioneers Foundation. The Fund was recently renamed to the **Pioneers Don MacKenzie Charitable Foundation Fund**. See the following Press Release.

In 2021, Chapters of the New Vision Group of Pioneers will be utilizing their portion of the Don Mackenzie Foundation Fund along with Pioneers member's dues and donations to celebrate Pioneers 110th Anniversary of Answering the Call of Those in Need.

The Chapters are already hard at work determining the best use of their grant funds and some have already started their projects.

Our Fall newsletter will highlight all of their accomplishments so stay tuned!

If you would like to get involved, just reach out to your local chapter or send us an email at info@Newvisionpioneers.org and we will get you in touch with your local Chapter.

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT INFO: LAURA WHITLOCK, MARKETING DIRECTOR

lwhitlock@pioneersvolunteer.org 720-988-9690

**PIONEERS, A VOLUNTEER NETWORK, RENAMES CHARITABLE
FUND TO HONOR PIONEER**

GREENWOOD VILLAGE, CO. JANUARY 22, 2021.

The Pioneers Board of Directors and Executive Director, Charlene Hill, today announced the renaming of the TelecomPioneers Charitable Foundation Fund to the Pioneers Don MacKenzie Charitable Foundation Fund in honor of the former President of the Telephone Pioneers of America and Pioneers advocate, Donald MacKenzie.

The Pioneers Don MacKenzie Charitable Foundation Fund (Foundation) provides grants for educational and charitable community service projects that make a significant impact in local communities and generates substantial recognition for the Pioneers. The annual Foundation grant awards are determined by the prior year's investment earnings.

MacKenzie was the founder and visionary of the Pioneers Foundation. He served as CEO of the Pioneers Foundation, which funded The Telecom Pioneers Charitable Foundation Fund. The fund grew over the years with the intent and purpose to help Pioneers answer the call of those in need. Since the inception of the fund, over \$1.2 million have been distributed to aid community volunteer projects across the United States and Canada. During his career, MacKenzie worked for New England Telephone and then AT&T in their marketing and regulatory departments. He also held senior management positions at several Bell system companies and was chairman and CEO of the NYNEX Information Resources Company. MacKenzie joined Pioneers, where he served in several leadership roles for many years, including President of the Telephone Pioneers of America (dba, Pioneers, a volunteer network) from 1994-95.

Former co-board member and friend Hal Burlingame fondly recalls MacKenzie's passion and commitment to Pioneers.

"When Don got you on the line to get deeply involved with Pioneers, you could never say no," Burlingame said.

MacKenzie's vision and legacy continues to improve the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. In 2020, the fund distributed \$102,346.00 to Pioneer projects.

Pioneers is a network of volunteers in Canada and the US who effect immediate, tangible change in local communities. Our network of volunteers donates over four million hours of volunteer time annually. Founded in 1911, Pioneers focus their efforts in five major areas: helping military families, protecting the environment, education, life enrichment and health and human services.

For more information, contact us via email at info@pioneersvolunteer.org.

Alexander Graham Bell Chapter (AGB) #15 – Washington D.C./ N. Virginia/suburban MD

Operation Renewed Hope Foundation ORHF)

In March, Susie Shaw, NORVA Council President, was contacted by Debra Snyder, President and CEO of Operation Renewed Hope Foundation. She was looking for support partners in furnishing their 2nd rental property for veterans and their families. Debra was primarily looking for help with the purchase of appliances. One of those appliances was a stackable washer-dryer unit for the homes main level. Turnaround time was short as the ribbon cutting ceremony was scheduled for March 9th. NORVA Council pledged \$800 and was able to pull in a couple of Pioneers partners to make the purchase. After a field meeting with Debra to take measurements and verify type of hookup, NORVA Council was able to shop, purchase, and arrange for delivery and installation of this appliance ahead of the ribbon cutting ceremony. Susie was able to attend the COVID safe ceremony and thank Debra for her tireless work to end Veteran homelessness in the Washington Metro Area. This was the 3rd opportunity that AGB was able to answer the call of those in need.

Here is a link of all the photos of the house and renovations:

[2019 - Operation Renewed Hope | Flickr](#)



Dedication of the Home



Pioneers on hand to celebrate



Pioneers donated
Washer/Dryer



New home for Veterans

Alexander Graham Bell Chapter (AGB) #15 (cont.)

Montgomery County Council

Covid-19 has forced us to create new ways of approaching our community. It's no longer hands on, it's now with social distance and a required mask. We've had to be creative with how we serve. If there was ever an urgent time to serve it is now!

We've continued our efforts to support the "newly homed" (formerly homeless) through the County program with our laundry baskets on wheels (New Home Basket) overflowing with items to assist in their new beginning.



We couldn't forget our first responders in Montgomery County! The Burtonsville Fire Department and the Silver Spring Manor Care nursing staff were given handmade "Thank You" cards and cookies and a large fruit basket to show our love and appreciation! They have gone above and beyond during the pandemic and we just wanted to send "Paper Hugs" and send "Kudos" for their tireless commitment to the care and safety of the community ♥!



Alexander Graham Bell Chapter (AGB) #15 (cont.)

Washington, D.C/ Council

The Washington DC Council was overwhelmed by the contributions for the Ladies of Charity and Children of Mine Community Center in southeast, DC. which was started by the late Ms. Hannah Hawkins. More than 300 bags of Easter Candy were collected by Pioneers and distributed by the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality. This event was just another exciting opportunity to fill the hearts of some of our young people since this pandemic has ruined so many of the regular Easter activities. All of the Families were surprised and delighted.



TerriLynn Nuts & Chocolates

Pioneers are NUTS about TerriLynn nuts and chocolates and you will be too once you taste them. Pioneers receive a percentage of all sales to support their community projects.

Order now! <https://nvpioneers.terrilynn.com/>

Genesee Chapter #37 – Rochester NY and Washington State

President Wordene Day reports that with Covid most of the employee members are working from home and their life members are being socially distant, so only a few projects have taken place over the past year. Hopes are high that in the second half of 2021, they can once again begin efforts to help out in their communities.



During Christmas, Genesee Chapter was able to collect items from employees who brought them to a central location for Pioneers volunteers to deliver to the Golisano Children's Hospital. This is a hospital for children fighting cancer. They have a long time relationship with Golisano and were able to collect and deliver 86 Gift Bags with Toys along with \$25 Gift Cards.



Genesee partnered with CP Rochester and collected 100+ gifts for children which were delivered outside the facility by Santa. The children sang songs for Santa through the glass door. Staff later picked up the gifts Santa left and distributed them to the children.

In February 2021, Chapter volunteers assisted the Salvation Army and Food Link to distribute bags of food during an outdoor drive-through distribution which is open every Tuesday. Volunteers loaded groceries into 300+ cars in a 3-hour period.

Genesee Chapter is in the planning stages of how to best use the Donald Mackenzie Foundation Fund grant to celebrate the 110th Anniversary of Pioneering. Some suggestions are to donate 110 pairs of socks to each of their homeless shelters for both women and men and as summer approaches and to donate 110 fresh vegetables to the Food Shelters were discussed. All great ideas! If you want to get in on the volunteer action, contact Wordene Day at irishdene@gmail.com

Thinking ahead for the future days when we can once again help more!
May everyone stay Safe and Healthy.

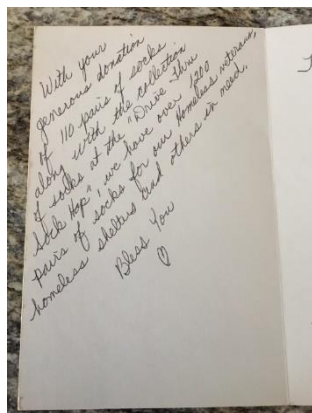
Jasper Keller Chapter #33 – Maine/New Hampshire/Vermont

Did you know that socks are the most asked for and needed items at a shelter?

Keller Pioneers know it and they continue to support shelters and those in need with Sock donations. In recognition of the Pioneers 110th Anniversary of serving their communities in 2021, the Keller Chapter has donated 110 pairs of socks to various organizations in the areas they serve.



Madison, Maine
American Legion
Auxiliary accepting
sock donations for
the homeless
“Sock Hop”



(L-R) Harriet Bryant, Treasure American Legion,
Mary Provencal, Keller Chapter President and Dennis Corson, Partner



(L-R) Skip Gleason, Mary Gleason, and
Mary Provencal, Keller Chapter President
presented 110 pairs of socks to be
distributed to those in need at the
Anson, Maine food pantry.

Cindy is presenting 110 pairs of socks to Jim Blanchett of Bangor Area Homeless Shelter (BAHS).

Geaghan's Pub in Bangor Maine hosted the monthly BAHS dinner which was a wonderful corned beef dinner. Pioneers were on hand to donate socks at this event. The smallest item such as socks is a great asset to assisting an individual in need.



(L-R): Cindy Black President
Bangor LMC, Jim Blanchett
Bangor Area Homeless Shelter
(BAHS)

Jasper Keller Chapter #33 – Maine/New Hampshire/Vermont (cont.)



(L-R): Mary Provencal, Keller Chapter President, presented 110 pairs of socks to Richard Compagnon, Manager of the Mid-Maine Homeless Shelter, Waterville, Maine. Their motto is "A shelter that rebuilds lives with a hand up, not a hand out." Richard could not thank her enough.



(L-R): Joy Randlett, Mary Provencal, Stacie Paradis, Kim Paradis, Jenny Jeffers, Maureen Fogg.

Keller Chapter Members and Partners inventoried and packed Plunge Pails with sweatshirts and food items for the Special Olympics Penguin Plunge 2021 fundraising event. This was a great project done over several days to help the athletes do their plunge individually this year because of Covid-19.



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Order now! <https://nvpioneers.terrilynn.com/>

LH Kinnard Chapter #7 - Pennsylvania – Harrisburg/Lancaster

Happy Birthday Pioneers! 110 years and still going strong, wow! The Pioneers organization turns 110 this year. 110 years of Service to our Communities by Answering the Call of Those in Need. Kinnard volunteered with cleanup of flooded areas, sent Hug-A-Bears to areas that were hit by natural disasters, donated books and supplies to schools, demonstrated their compassion for physically challenged youth and adults at Jamborees and many other needs that came their way. To celebrate the Pioneers 110th Birthday, they will be donating 110 items to Food Banks, Soup Kitchens, Weekend Backpacks for children and I am sure there will be many more opportunities to celebrate this special birthday. Here is to 110 more years!

LH Kinnard Chapter is asking for your help and support to “Answer the Call of Those in Need” for the communities the chapter serves.

- **Do you knit?** They need **Hats with Hugs** for cancer patients
- **Do you sew?** They always are looking for additional volunteers to join some of their Club members who are sewing **Hug-A-Bears** or **Lap Robes** for Hospitals, Nursing Facilities or State Police units.
- Do you support your **Local Food Bank or Pantry?**
- Deliver **Meals on Wheels?**

Maybe you are volunteering in other ways that your local Pioneers Chapter can assist with. Let us know what you are doing to support your community.

There is also another way you can support Kinnard Chapter if volunteering is not an option, and that is through financial support. Your financial donations help defray the cost of Chapter Projects such as: Backpacks for Students, Veterans, our Military Troops and the Sports Jamboree. Donations may be made to **TP Kinnard Chapter** and sent to Sue Epler, LH Kinnard Chapter President, 415 Arlington St., Reading PA 19611



Donations of Backpacks
for our PA Troops 2020



Items in Troop Backpacks 2020

2021 Lottery Calendars are now available. The Calendars are \$30 for the year and the winning numbers are chosen by the PA Lottery drawing at 7 PM each night. Contact Sue Epler at eppie221@aol.com or call 610-376-3749 if interested. Visit the Kinnard Chapter website and click on the Fundraising tab to see other Fundraising efforts like Devil's Club Soothing Rubs, BJ's, Flower Petals, and more.

Reach out and join them in Answering the Call of Those in Need in your community. Your Chapter Officers, Sue, Arlene, Jerry, Sarah and Nancy look forward to hearing from you in 2021.

Spring is Fiddlehead Season!



What Are Fiddleheads?

Fiddleheads are the tightly coiled tips of Ostrich ferns. These delicate delights are available only in early spring when ferns grow their new shoots. The young fern fronds are mainly available by foraging or may be found in your grocers produce section in early spring.

Simple is best when cooking fiddleheads so you can fully enjoy this unique springtime vegetable. This recipe calls for just fiddleheads, garlic, salt, and butter, and the savory richness of the garlic highlights the fiddleheads' grassy flavor.

Ingredients

- 1 pound fiddlehead ferns
- 1 tablespoon fine sea salt, plus more to taste
- 2 teaspoons butter or vegetable oil
- 1 clove garlic or small shallot peeled and sliced thinly

Directions:

1. Trim the fiddlehead ferns, removing any brown ends or mushy parts. Rinse them clean in cool water. Only do this right before cooking them—the added moisture will make these delicate fronds spoil if done too far ahead of time.
2. In a large pot, bring 2 quarts of water to a boil. Add the salt and the cleaned fiddleheads. Cook for 1 minute.
3. Drain and rinse with cold water until the fiddleheads cool off (or dunk them in a bowl of ice water to cool them).
4. Drain the fiddleheads and lay them out on layers of paper towels to pat them dry.
5. In a large frying pan, heat the butter or oil over medium-high heat. Add the blanched fiddleheads. Cook, stirring frequently, until they start to brown on the edges, about 5 minutes.
6. Add the garlic or shallot and cook, stirring constantly, until the garlic is fragrant and just starting to color, about 1 minute.
7. Salt to taste and serve immediately

Note: I like the milder flavor of shallots than garlic, which can overpower the flavor of the fiddleheads. *DF*

Liberty Bell Chapter #6 – Pennsylvania (Philadelphia)/Delaware



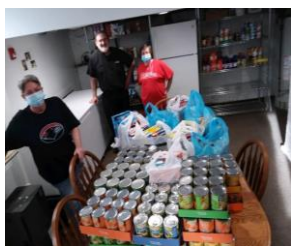
For the second year in a row, the Liberty Bell Chapter #6 "Easter Bunny" made the rounds of the Plymouth Rd Neighborhood in Media Pennsylvania. West Council Pioneers, Madge Philion, her husband Bob, daughter, Nicole and Debbie Kelly visited 25 homes in their neighborhood. Gift bags filled w candy were delivered by our Bunny, even one



The Headquarters, Southern and West Councils partnered with Our Lady of Angels school to provide two "Anywhere Carts". These Device Smart Charging Carts, will allow for 64 units to be charged at one time. This will provide the students with the capability to charge their "chrome books" as needed in school.



Headquarters Council, has supported St. Matthews Catholic Church's Christmas Program for many years. In 2020, as part of the Church's Christmas 'Toy Drive' the Council provided 25+ stuffed animals and other toys.



Northeast Council delivered 300+ food items to St. John the Baptist Food Bank in the Manayunk section of Philadelphia.

J. Henry Butta - Maryland Chapter #44 – Maryland

• Frederick Life Member Club - Support of Our Homeless

During Covid 19 our homeless population has become more vulnerable than ever before. The needs of those shelters who support the homeless population are greater than ever. The Frederick Life Member Club has supported various shelters in their community making a difference for those that live there.

Frederick Rescue Mission provides services including food, shelter and clothing and is always in need of socks, especially during the winter months. The Frederick Life Member Club recently donated **86 pair of men's, women's and children's socks** to the Mission.



Frederick Community Action Food Bank supports 600 to 800 households throughout the county each week. The Frederick Life Member Club contributed nonperishable items including breakfast foods, pasta and canned meats.



Alan Linton Cold Weather Shelter is an emergency overnight shelter which provides shelter to both men and women. This year due to covid 19 restrictions they have only been able to provide shelter to about 50 men and women, which is about half of their usual clients. The Frederick Life Member Club donated paper dinner supplies, instant coffee, soup and laundry supplies.



J. Henry Butta - Maryland Chapter #44 – Maryland (cont.)

• Westminster Life Member Club

Members of the Westminster Life Member Club made a much needed food delivery to **Shepherd's Staff** in Westminster, MD.

Shepherd's Staff is a Christian Outreach Center supporting those in need in Carroll County, MD by providing a wide range of programs and services which includes a food bank.



Strawberry-Rhubarb Cobbler

Ingredients

Fruit

- 4 cups diced rhubarb, room temperature
- 1 quart strawberries, washed and sliced, or thawed if frozen
- 1 cup sugar
- 3 tablespoons quick-cooking tapioca or 3 tablespoons cornstarch

Topping

- 2 cups Unbleached All-Purpose Flour
- 3/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 8 tablespoons (113g) unsalted butter, melted, cooled
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- coarse sparkling sugar, for garnish

To prepare the fruit:

- Preheat the oven to 350°F. Butter a shallow 3-quart baking dish or 9" x 13" pan. Spread the rhubarb in the dish or pan.
- Pour the sugar and tapioca over the strawberries; stir well and let the mixture sit for at least 15 minutes, so the juice from the berries will soften the tapioca. Once rested, pour the berries and sugar over the rhubarb in the baking dish.

To make the topping:

- Whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder and salt.
- Add the milk, egg, and vanilla to the melted butter; whisk the mixture together and pour into the dry ingredients.
- Stir the batter together until it's evenly moistened.
- Spread the batter over the fruit in the pan, and sprinkle it with sparkling sugar.
- Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, until the fruit bubbles at the edges and the top is golden brown. Remove from the oven and serve warm.

HG McCully Downstate Chapter #81 - New Jersey (downstate)

On Saturday, April 3rd, Pioneers and Partners (including the Easter Bunny) organized the Annual Easter Egg Hunt for the Columbus Park Community in Burlington, NJ. They had a total of 39 children who came out and had a great time!



- Trenton-Burlington Life Member Club**

Trenton-Burlington Life Member Club purchased and donated 1811 snack items which will be packed and donated to the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen for distribution to their clients.



www.trentonsoupkitchen.org

HG McCully Upstate Chapter #12 - New Jersey (upstate)

- **Essex-Hudson Council and Life Member Club**



The McCully Upstate Essex-Hudson Council Pioneers partnered with St. James Social Services of Newark, NJ. This agency has been in the forefront serving the community during the pandemic. They serve hot meals daily, distribute clothing monthly, and provide fresh produce every other week. The Pioneers assembled Survival Kits/Covid-19 bags containing: mask, hand sanitizer, gloves, sanitizing wipes, disposable hygiene kit, and socks.



The Essex-Hudson Life Member Club donated hygiene products such as toothpaste, soap, deodorant, disposable razors, rain ponchos, and more to St. John's Soup Kitchen in Newark, New Jersey. St. John's Soup Kitchen feeds 300+ meals a day to those in need.



Essex-Hudson Life Member volunteers delivered 20 hygiene kits (10 male and 10 female) to Angela Spence, Nurse Manager, Behavioral Health, East Orange General Hospital. The kits will be distributed to patients as they are discharged.



Essex-Hudson Life Member, Christine Williams, Pioneers partners, Cynthia Wellington and twin grandsons, Shariff and Shakir Robinson, delivered 20 hygiene kits and 20 Covid-19 school kits to Pamela Johnson, Founder & Executive Director of Jersey City Anti-Violence Coalition. JCAVC's mission and vision include empowering citizens to build a peaceful community, improve the quality of their lives and build a community that is free of violence. JCAVC core programs are Anti-Bullying, Peer Mentoring, Violence Interruption, Family Support Services, Anti-Violence Prevention, Intervention & Mediation.

The Essex Hudson Life Member Club answers the call of those in need in Essex and Hudson counties in New Jersey.



• North Jersey Club



The **North Jersey Club** has one more Pandemic Food Project to complete. Margaret and Damon Rovelie are following up on their project in the Hackensack schools. It is almost completed!

The North Jersey Club made a donation of food items to the **Power of One** who conducted their delivery of groceries and their weekly drive-through bringing smiles to many families. A thank you to Mr. Garcia of the Cuellar Family Passaic Clifton Shop Rite for his contribution of \$102.48 which was the difference between the \$200 stipend and the cost of the tuna purchase. Volunteers Dorothy and her son Michael purchased 104 items for the moms and children at Grandma's House. Thank you to Dorothy and Michael for shopping, bagging, delivering and unloading your purchases at Grandmas House.

Mc Cully Upstate continues to be in their communities despite the continuing virus. Thank you for all you are doing in your personal communities with organizations and churches.

From the Pioneers Spring Kitchen.....

Potato and Ramp Soup



What are Ramps? Ramps are a species of wild onion (*Allium tricoccum*) native to the woodlands of North America. They look like scallions but have broad leaves and a purplish stem. Ramps are among the first plants to appear in the spring, typically showing up in the Appalachian region in mid-March and around the Great Lakes in early April.

Ingredients

- 4 to 6 slices bacon
- 4 cups ramps (including the green tops, chopped)
- 4 to 5 cups red potatoes (diced)
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup heavy cream
- Salt (to taste)
- Black pepper (to taste)

Directions:

1. In a large skillet or Dutch oven, fry the bacon until crispy, remove from the pan and set aside.
2. Add ramps and potatoes to the bacon grease in the skillet. Sauté on medium-low heat until the ramps are tender.
3. Sprinkle with flour and stir with a wooden spoon until the flour is absorbed.
4. Stir in chicken broth, bring to a boil, reduce the heat, and simmer until the potatoes are tender.
5. Stir in the heavy cream and heat thoroughly without boiling.
6. Add salt and pepper to taste.
7. For a chunky soup, leave as is or blend a portion of the vegetables and return to the broth.
8. Serve hot or cool to room temperature, cover, and chill thoroughly to serve cold as you would a vichyssoise. Serve with crusty artisan bread and butter if desired. Enjoy!

NOVA 5 Chapter #5 – Manhattan and the 5 Boroughs



The Safe Start Domestic Violence Shelters in Brooklyn, N.Y. provide healing environments for families and individuals leaving a dangerous situation. These shelters give survivors of abuse and their children the space to heal. These domestic violence shelters are short term residences.

The survivors of domestic violence often need much more than just a safe haven to work through the harmful effects of domestic violence and the Nova 5 Pioneers are always ready to help.

Gateway Life Member Club visited the Safe Start Domestic Violence Center. They donated school supplies for the children. The volunteers included Linda Rubin – President of Gateway LMC, Dorothy Huguley – Treasure and Yasmin Ali – Education Chair.

On our second visit to the Domestic Violence Shelter we were accompanied by Nova 5 Chapter President, Lynette Anthony. We delivered 45 sets of Dishes along with Linens and other necessities that will be given to the families when they leave the shelter to move into their own apartments



If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic violence, reach out to a shelter near you.

Old Dominion Chapter #43 (ODC) – Virginia (except N. Virginia)

The Old Dominion Chapter Pioneers are eager to continue the projects they have been doing for almost 110 years. (Helping Those in Need). During the pandemic, they have curtailed some activities, but still continue to service their communities in Virginia by making masks, buying cleaning supplies and food for the less fortunate. ODC continues to meet monthly via conference call to keep in touch with each other, plan and share activities they have been doing in each area of the state. Many thanks to the six Council Presidents who have been ordering items needed for projects in each area.

A big part of ODC is taking care of their Veterans. They work with Veterans Hospitals all over the state. Some of their projects are putting Wreaths on graves of the deceased Veterans, buying and delivering supplies for homeless veterans. The Richmond Council and Chapter have purchased and donated new sheets, water sandals for showering, clothes and food. The Roanoke Council worked with local schools and classrooms to make Valentines which are delivered to Veterans and they sponsor a Valentines Breakfast for a group of Veterans that go to the VA Hospital to meet and discuss employment and activities they would like to do. We are excited to continue our military projects in 2021. ODC has also partnered with Operation Home Front helping families staying at home during a deployment. ODC Dictionary Project was extremely successful in 2020 with the help of Ruritans and Kiwanis. They were able to buy \$19,212.00 worth of Dictionaries.

ODC is very proud of Jim Glass who takes care of the Talking Books Repair Project. If anyone would like to help with this project in the Roanoke, Virginia area, please contact Linda Dudley 540 774-2420 and leave a message. To learn more about the Talking Book Program, go to the National Library Service <https://www.loc.gov/nls>.

During 2021, New Vision and ODC Pioneers will be celebrating by donating 110 items to local agencies and programs throughout the state of Virginia. Funding for this project comes from the Don McKenzie Pioneers Foundation Grant. If you would like to volunteer with the Old Dominion Chapter#43 Pioneers or have an organization you would like the ODC Pioneers to consider supporting, please let us know and we can get you started on a project or discuss your needs.

Linda Dudley
ODC Pioneers President





Lunchroom Brownies

Ingredients:

1 c butter softened
2 c sugar
4 eggs
4 tsp vanilla
1/2 c cocoa
2 c flour
1 c chopped walnuts

Directions:

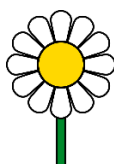
Mix butter & sugar till combined. Add eggs one at a time and combine with sugar mixture. Add cocoa & flour to egg mixture and combine well. Add nuts if desired.

Icing:

Mix together
1/4 Cup softened butter
1/4 Cup milk
4 Tbs. cocoa
3 Cups powdered sugar
Dash of salt

Pour in 9X13 pan.
Bake 20-25 mins at 350 degrees.
Check at 20 mins.

Frost with Icing once brownies have cooled.



RADA Cutlery & More – Made in the USA – Superior cutlery, food and other home products. Pioneers receive a percentage of all sales to support our community projects.

Order now! <https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=781229.dc074>

Paumanok # 85 – New York – Long Island

Paumanok Chapter, servicing Long Island New York, will be providing the Sheriff's Department with **Brighter Tomorrow Bags**. These bags are given to children of Domestic Violence to make their transition of being removed and placed in a new environment, just a little easier. The bags contain coloring books /word search, crayons, a stuffed animal, drink and a snack. They will also be providing non-slip socks to nursing homes and regular socks to various shelters on Long Island. Clothing and food donations were made to Echo Arms Adult Home, Lighthouse Mission and The Eastern Farm Workers Association.

- **Sagamore Club**

Diana Carranante, Sagamore Club President, partnered with **Sharing Table** to serve her community's needs.

Their motto is, "Take what you need, leave what you can – if you can." It's an idea borrowed from Mary Kate Tischler, who set up Long Island's first sharing table in Seaford in 2020. Diana has a table in her yard that invites those in need to come and take whatever they need, no questions asked.

LINK: Ctrl/Alt & [Click here to view an Amazon Wish List of items the organizers say every sharing table needs.](#)

To watch the **Sharing Table** newscast, press CTRL/ALT and click here <https://cbsloc.al/3py6rL4> The video will start after a short Ad.



Thomas Sherwin Chapter #14 – Eastern Massachusetts

Thomas Sherwin Chapter Volunteers purchased and donated food items to the Middleboro Council on Aging Day Program. Coffee, cold beverages and lots of snacks were delivered.



Cute Hug A Bears, made by Pioneers Life Member Joan Marino, were donated to the Courtyard Nursing Care Center in Medford, Massachusetts.

In 1911, the first meeting of a group of telephone employees was held at the Somerset Hotel in Boston Massachusetts and they decided to call themselves the *Telephone Pioneers of America*.

Eleven years later, in 1922, the Pioneers divided into Chapters and the **Thomas Sherwin Chapter** was one of the first 14 chapters chartered.



In honor of the Pioneers 110th Anniversary this year, Sherwin Pioneers will be purchasing and donating much needed items to the **Wish Project** helping families in the Chelmsford, Lowell and Lawrence Massachusetts cities & towns.

To see more Sherwin Chapter Pioneers volunteer activities, visit their Facebook page:

[\(6\) New Vision Pioneers - Thomas Sherwin Chapter | Facebook](#)

William J Denver Chapter #20 – Central & Western Mass/Rhode Island/Northeast NY

The Denver Chapter is a longtime supporter of Jeremiah's Inn located in Worcester Massachusetts. In March the volunteers donated and delivered coffee, creamer and sweet treats to Jeremiah's Inn. This donation will provide 3,000 cups of coffee and 300 cookies to residents of the shelter.



Chris Casino setting up for the Spaghetti 'n Meatballs To-Go dinner at the First Baptist Church in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. All of the current guests at the Family shelter plus over 20 other individuals picked up a meal to go. They are hoping to return to on-sight dining by their next meal service.



This Spring the Denver chapter will honor Pioneers 110th Anniversary funded by the Pioneers Don Mackenzie Foundation Fund grant. They will be supporting their area communities with Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and Personal Hygiene Kits.

The chapter has ordered 330 kits from KITS FOR KIDZ. The distribution this Spring will be **110 PPE kits in Massachusetts, 110 Personal Hygiene kits in Rhode Island and 110 Personal Hygiene kits in Eastern Upstate New York.** Volunteers from all three states will distribute the 330 KITS to area schools, shelters and food pantries supporting those in need.



Are these projects you would like to be a part of?

Do you have a special Project, Program or Organization you would like to support through Pioneers community efforts?

Contact your local chapter and have a conversation on how you can do just that!

We would love to hear from you.

Thank You for Answering the Call!

Items Donated in 2021-so far!

PPE: 3025

Food: 2936 Lbs

Meals/Bagged Lunches: 775

Health Kits: 1500

BackPacks: 350

Clothing: 475 items

Cleaning Supplies: 592

Household Items: 375

**Pioneers are on the front lines
serving their communities.**

Please visit our New Vision Pioneers website:

www.newvisionpioneers.org

International Pioneers

www.pioneersvolunteer.org

Like us on Facebook at [New Vision Pioneers](#)

Director's Email & General Questions



How can I support the Pioneers Volunteers and their work in our communities?

Pioneers can help serve their communities in several ways.

1. **Become a Pioneers Member** – Family & Friends can be Pioneers Members
 2. **Volunteer your time** for a Project or Activity. Many activities like knitting and sewing can be done from your home.
 3. Attend a Pioneers Luncheon or gathering and bring needed items.
 4. **Make a monetary Donation:**
 - Send a Check made payable to: **TelecomPioneers**
c/o New Vision Pioneers Director, 16015 Loneoak View Drive,
Lithia, Florida, 33547.
 - Make a donation by responding to appeals by the International Pioneers. You will be supporting both the organization as a whole and your local Chapter.
 - Become a Sustained Donor by making automatic monthly donations.
 - Make a bequest to New Vision Pioneers in your Will or Trust
 - Discuss with us about how you can make an everlasting impact in your community through an endowment or directed donation.
- Contact: Paul Redline, New Vision Pioneers Director at
Paul.redline@verizon.net

Support Pioneers with our On-line Fundraisers

**Order on-line. Delivery right to your door.
Communities benefit from your purchase.**



TerriLynn Nuts & Chocolates

Pioneers are NUTS about TerriLynn nuts and chocolates and you will be too once you taste them. Pioneers receive a percentage of all sales to support our community projects.

Order now! <https://nvpioneers.terrilynn.com/>



RADA Cutlery & More – Made in the USA –

Superior cutlery, food and other home products.

Pioneers receive a percentage of all sales to support our community projects. **Order now!**

<https://radafundraising.com/?rfsn=781229.dc074>

**We Thank You for all your Support and for all you do to
make your community a better place to
live, play and work!**

Happy Spring Everyone!

