

Wheaton Leader

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GET TO KNOW

WAYNE OWCZARZAK, OWNER OF MR. HANDYMAN IN WHEATON



About Wayne Owczarzak

RESIDENCE Batavia

FAMILY Wife, Kim; Five sisters: four in Chicagoland, one in Florida

ACTIVITIES Volunteer at Northern Illinois Food Bank

EDUCATION Lake Park High School and College of DuPage alumna

Mr. Handyman helps Bridge Communities for day of service

By Mary Beth Versaci
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Bridge Communities has a new laundry tub, working water valves and additional lighting in the basement at its apartment complex in Glen Ellyn, and those are just a few of the services Mr. Handyman provided the nonprofit as part of the National Day of Service Sept. 10.

Wayne Owczarzak, owner of Mr. Handyman in Wheaton, participated in his third National Day of Service with three of his technicians by providing free maintenance and repair services for Bridge

Communities at both its main office and one of its apartment complexes. The apartments are used by homeless families in DuPage County as part of Bridge Communities' Transitional Housing Program.

The National Day of Service was established in 2009 as a way for Americans to participate in service in remembrance of Sept. 11. Owczarzak has participated every year since becoming owner of Mr. Handyman.

This year, he and his technicians put in about 32 hours of free service for Bridge Communities, the same organization they

served last year. Although Mr. Handyman's nationwide participants in the Day, each branch chooses what organization it specifically wants to help.

"Bridge Communities is a good match for the work we'd be doing," Owczarzak said. "Since it's a non-profit, we thought we could do some work for them and really help them out."

Before becoming the owner of Wheaton's Mr. Handyman about two and a half years ago, Owczarzak managed the branch of a battery company. He decided to make the switch to something that would provide him with more control as he pre-

pares for the future and eventual retirement, so he and his wife explored their options, eventually settling on opening a Mr. Handyman in Wheaton.

Mr. Handyman provides a variety of residential and commercial maintenance and repair services.

"We do pretty much everything you could think of," Owczarzak said.

And he believes it's important to use those skills to give back to the community.

"It makes you appreciate what you have," Owczarzak said. "If you help those with less, maybe you can make their lives a little better."