



**For Immediate Release:** 9.27.02

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### Village TV Programs Win Three National Awards

Programming produced by the Village's cable television station has earned three national awards for excellence from the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA), a non-profit professional organization that represents the telecommunications interests of local governments.

A profile of the Village's housing programs took first place in two categories, and a documentary on the Gunderson Historic District earned a third place award. The two local programs, produced, filmed and edited by VOP-TV6 Manager Joseph Kreml, were chosen from among nearly 1,000 entries submitted by municipalities from across the country to NATOA for its 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Government Programming Awards competition.

"Television is becoming an increasingly important public information tool for the Village. These awards demonstrate the high quality of the original programming we are now able to produce locally," said Village Manager Carl Swenson.

The station, housed in Village Hall on Madison Street, broadcasts around the clock on cable channel six. In addition to original programming created by Kreml, the station also broadcasts Village Board meetings, information on government-related services and events, and public information programs produced by other government agencies, including the Illinois Department of Public Health and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). In addition, the station can scroll emergency informational alerts on the screen, such as when mosquito abatement action will occur or when snowfall triggers the emergency parking plan.

"My role as station manager is to provide information," Kreml explained. "Sometimes that means text on a screen, explaining when and where something is happening, or who to call for assistance. Other times it means producing original programming like the housing programs and Gunderson stories. My goal is to produce as much original programming as I can."

With plans to further expand the programming offering of the Village government's cable television station in the works, Swenson added, "Our station offers residents an easily accessible way to learn information and follow developments that directly affect them. We intend to make the station even more informative in the future."

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