



ODC OUTLOOK

OPEN DOOR CENTER

September-October 2022

A SPLENDID CELEBRATION

On a beautiful evening, August 22, 2022, the annual Open Door Center picnic was held at Chautauqua Park. The families and friends enjoyed the enticing food, which was catered by Lori Jury and her friendly, helpful staff. The pulled beef, macaroni salad, potato salad, chips and cupcakes were delicious! The choice of lemonade and coffee topped off the meal. The Pavilion is a great addition to the park by providing shelter from both the cold and warm weather. Its air conditioning can be a blessing when eating with a huge group of people and lots of “hot air”. Great place for kids, too.

An addition to this year’s picnic, Nancy Tougas, one of our three wonderful support staff, arranged to acknowledge the dedication of the Open Door Center staff as well as show our appreciation of their support to those we serve. Over sixty-five staff were thanked for their support, encouragement and assistance to residents and co-workers. One staff has worked at Open Door Center for over forty-three years. She is an excellent vocation instructor and always ready to try to master a new product.

There are many staff who have worked two jobs and yet have remained loyal to Open Door Center either continuing with part-time hours or moving to full time. We are also having staff retuning to work at Open Door Center. It’s always great to have people return because they obviously like the work and are familiar with the many processes and acronyms connected with the Center.

Nancy also encouraged many staff to not be camera shy. The residents had fun looking for their staff among the many who have contributed to the workings of the Center. Others were anxious to see if they could recognize all the pictured staff.

It was a beautiful evening with fellowship, family, and friends. For those who could not attend mark your calendar for next year. It is always the third Monday in August. Wishing all a bountiful fall.

.....continued on page 3 with pictures from picnic

**Open Door Center is a
non-profit corporation
serving
people with disabilities.**

Board of Directors

Bill Cook, President

Al Adams

James Buhr

Mark Diede

Grant Goven

Deb Kohler

Steve Myers - Vice President

Carol Nelson, Sec./Treas.

Jackie Owen

Gail Pederson

Leo Schmidt



REDUCE ~ REUSE ~ RECYCLE



Excellence in serving people with disabilities by:

***Respecting dignity and rights**

***Providing opportunities for growth**

***Fostering independence**

*Open Door Center is an equal opportunity
provider, and employer.*

Mary Simonson, Executive Director

Josh Plecity, Director of Finance

Sherri Horsager, Human Resource

ICF/MR

Ashley Tostenson

ISLA

Heather Muscha

Ben Simonson

Program Directors

Matt Jensen, Children's Program

Tiffannie Justesen, ISLA & MSLA

Cindy Schopper, Work Activity

WE WANT YOUR CANS

Open Door Center is looking for donations of *pop cans* for our individuals to crush. Once crushed they are turned in to be recycled.

Our folks get paid to crush cans and look forward to the paychecks they receive.

Cans can be dropped off at the Day Activity Center (north of Pizza Corner).

OR

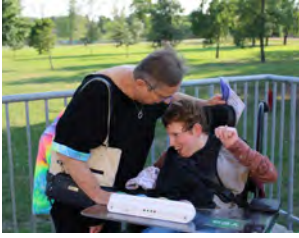
If you live in the Fargo area, you can take your cans to the MinnKota Recycling center and tell them you want to donate them to Open Door Center in Valley City. They send us a check quarterly.

Please help us,
won't you?



.....continued from page 1

PICTURES FROM PICNIC



***Donations to HI Soaring
Eagle Ranch:
Cynthia Bruce***

***In Memory of Kirby Dahl:
Jim, Josie & Randy Prescott***

***The Open Door Center would
like to sincerely THANK YOU
for your donations.***



***Mary Simonson, Executive Director
Open Door Center is an equal opportunity
provider and employer
(Mary's columns are written monthly for the
VC Times Record)***

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

1—RoxAnne DeKrey
 1—Laura Peterson
 2—Mychal Vaughan
 3—Felicia Esch
 8—Grace Scherr
 8—Marah Pickell
 10—Tana Plecity
 10—Jacki Colville
 10—Jerromie Huggins
 11—Andre Vinson
 14—Collin Jenson
 14—Bekki Torkelson
 14—Brenda Degenstein
 20—Tara Janke
 20—Daniel Carvalho
 21—Melissa Huffstutler
 22—Noah Haglund
 23—Eric Hoffert
 24—Shea Gresham
 28—Patty Altringer
 28—Nicole Jones
 30—Deb Borg
 30—Mason Nicholson



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

43 Years

Robin Borchert-WAC

36 Years

Laurie Elston-ISLA

35 Years

Leonard Krokum-ISLA

31 Years

Helen Sherlock-ISLA

29 Years

Rachel Kilmon-WAC

28 Years

Gary Prochnow-GH 4

23 Years

Kari Shape-Ranch

21 Years

Bekki Torkelson-WAC, Chris Feigert-ISLA

20 Years

Shane Kay-ISLA

17 Years

Jen Hatcher-Prairie Inn

16 Years

Annette Reece-WAC

14 Years

Tara Janke-Prairie Inn

10 Years

Nancy Tongas-Admin

8 Years

Nicole Wieser-WAC/GH 3

7 Years

Colleen Hehr-GH 3

6 Years

Victoria Omdahl-DAC/GH 5

Sherry Anderson-WAC

5 Years

Jeremy Heinze-Lisbon

4 Years

Kim Bjerke-Lisbon, Dawn Larson Schock-Lisbon

Lindsey Jacobson-WAC/GH 4

Kassie Wenzel-WAC/GH 4

3 Years

Shea Gresham-GH 5, Jade Vaudrin-WAC/GH 2

1 Year

Aubrie Hanson-GH 4, Zachary Peter-WAC

Andre Vinson-Lisbon

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

8 - Zachary Peter
 8 - Billie Jo Toso
 8 - Kassie Wenzel
 10 - Carolyn Zaun
 10 - Liam Pierce
 12 - Sara Blaschke
 15 - Clifford Peterson
 15 - Garrett Hoff
 17 - Aidyn McCombs
 22 - Sheryl Solberg
 23 - Randy Eggermont
 23 - Kristin Petersen
 24 - Pennie Walch
 24 - Bekah Cook
 24 - Tara Anderson
 26 - Chris Feigert
 27 - Sylvester Walker
 28 - Annette Reece
 28 - Kim Esch
 29 - Aarika Thornton
 29 - Jake Rindahl
 30 - Megan Perdue



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

39 Years
 Louie Jungling-ISLA

38 Years
 Lee Webster-ISLA

35 Years
 Dan Pullen-Ranch

15 Years
 Cassandra McBenge-Lisbon

12 Years
 Garrett Hoff-Admin
 Cynthia McFadgen-GH 4

10 Years
 Theresa Rose-ISLA

7 Years
 Adam Liesener-GH 1

4 Years
 Raymond Nelson-Ranch

2 Years
 Brenda Dick-Lisbon

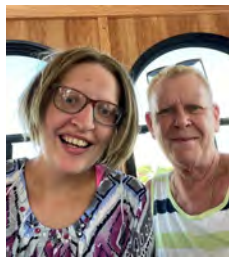
1 Year
 Jesse Schuldt-WAC/GH 3



TROLLEY RIDE



Staff at Prairie Inn arranged a surprise ride for Russell Conway on his birthday. South Central provided the ride as a courtesy. His girlfriend, Diane, went with along with some more of his friends. Everyone enjoyed the ride around town!!



Another Day Another Ride
Another group enjoying the services of the Trolley rides in Valley City. On Tuesdays and Thursdays they ride around different areas of Valley City and bring you where you want to go, or to just enjoy riding around. What a fun service in Valley City!



Birthday Celebrations

Louie, Linda & Julie all had July Birthdays, just 3 days apart, and decided to celebrate the day together. They brought cake to share with everyone at WAC. HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



YEARS OF SERVICE TO OPEN DOOR CENTER

During our annual picnic, we took the time to acknowledge the dedication of the ODC staff and show our appreciation for the many years of service. We had pictures hung throughout the Pavilion with their pictures. We would like to share them with you all too!



40 + Years of Service

**Mary Simonson - 40 Years of Service
Robin Borchert - 43 Years of Service**

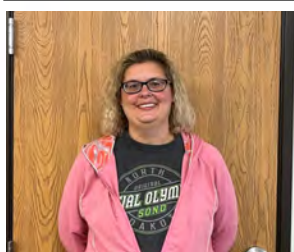
30 - 39 Years of Service

**Wanda Schwab - 30
Veronica Miller & Helen Sherlock - 31
Kathy McGough - 33
Darnelle Bakke, Kay Metcalf &
Cindy Schopper - 34
Lee Webster - 38**



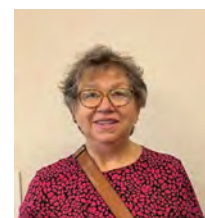
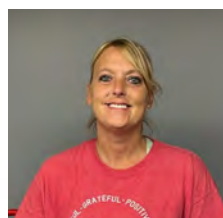
25 - 29 Years of Service

**Barb Anderson, Kevin Esch &
Mel Lindgren - 25 Years**
Becky Borud - 26 Years
**Nicole Jones, Michelle Grebel
& Jennifer Kriewald - 27 Years**
**Rachel Kilmon, Teri Ronning
& Jodee Ukestad - 29 Years**

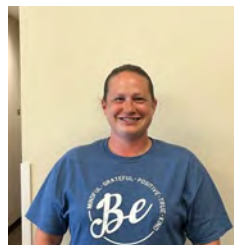
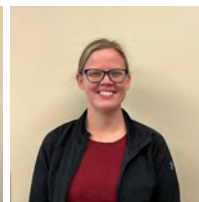


20 - 24 Years of Service

Tana Plecity - 20 Years
**Matt Jensen, Dan Johnson &
Bekki Torkelson - 21 Years**
**York Grebel, Dennis Myers &
Jessica Peterson - 22 Years**
**Justin Horsager, Dana Leick,
Kellie Schulz & Kari Shape-
23 Years**
**Stephanie Hornbacker &
Terry Lee - 24 Years**

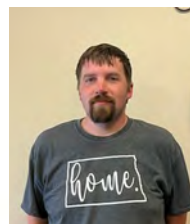


15-19 Years of Service
Sherri Horsager, Thea Jensen,
Jayne Undem & Michelle Weber-15
Roslyn Johnson, Annette Reece &
Denise Stanley - 16
Jennifer Hatcher & Sharissa
Hochstetler - 17
Erin Halland, Jacki Colville &
Colette Jensen - 18
Susan Daniel & Staci King - 19



10 - 14 Years of Service

Theresa Rose & Nancy Tougas - 10
Rachelle Lindeman &
Brittney Torbenson - 11
Garrett Hoff, Cynthia McFadgen,
Missy Leroux, Julie Opdahl &
Ben Simonson - 12
Randy Eggermont - 13
Kelly Braton, Kim Esch, Brenda
Liebenow & Demi Peltier - 14



5 - 9 Years of Service

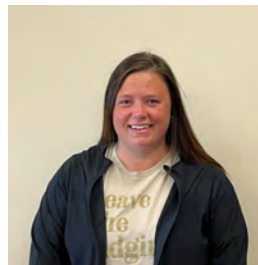
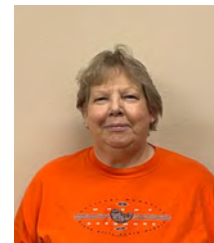
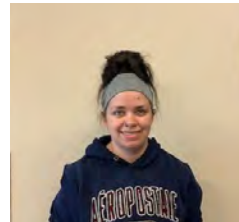
**Jane Diemert, Larry Duffy, Patsy Hanson, Jeremy
Heinze, Sarah Parkman, Teana Rohde, Sheryl
Solberg & Pam Walsh - 5**

**Sherry Anderson, Victoria Omdahl, Megan Perdue,
Maureen Rueckert, Sam Storhoff & Dale Wangrud - 6**

**Felicia Esch, Jesse Juelfs, Adam Liesener, Karla
Lyon, Carmen Phelps, Lynn Priebe, Lindsay Simms-
Jones, Billie Jo Toso & Alexis Wilson - 7**

**Patty Altringer, Dinah Heinze, Nancy Knutson,
Brenda Olson & Nicole Wieser - 8**

**Jackie Grant, Tiffannie Justesen &
Sandra Ley - 9**



***THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE TO
OPEN DOOR CENTER!!!***

Good Luck Ladies

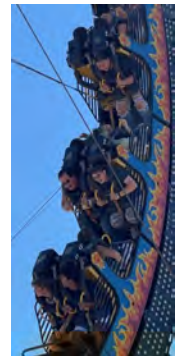


Thank You Sam for your years of service as a DSP and Nurse for the Open Door Center. And Thank You Erin for your years of service as a DSP, Supervisor, Program Director and Staff Trainer. Good luck to you both on your next adventure!



RED RIVER VALLEY FAIR!

On a beautiful day, this group headed over to Fargo to attend the Red River Valley Fair! They went on many adventurous rides and had a great time! Cassie, RoxAnne, Garrett and staff are sure a brave group to go on some of these rides!!



WAC GARDEN

For the past 4 years WAC has had a group that has taken up gardening!! The first picture is their first "pickable" produce from the garden and the last picture is their first bell pepper and cherry tomato! The garden sure looks great - lusciously green!! Everyone at WAC is sure enjoying some nice veggies. GREAT JOB EVERYONE!!!



MORE BUSY SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Garrett headed to the Fargo Zoo one day and found out he has the wing span of an adult Eagle! A different day Katie and Garrett took a stroll through City Park and enjoyed the beautiful Summer Day !

Louie, Jon, Katie, Julie, Laurie and Diana headed south to Aberdeen Storybook Land one day and enjoyed the day with characters like: Bambie, the Three Little Pigs, Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox, The Tin Man and others from Wizard of Oz. They took a train ride and enjoyed Storybook very much!



Corner

Katie's



*As I see it from
where I sit!*

By Katie Sand

Happy Fall Y'all

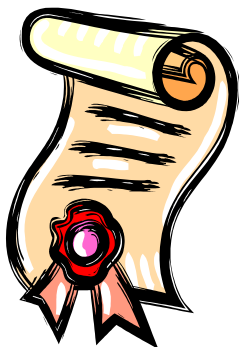
Over the summer we sure were busy. There was a fair, and a parade that I went to with my friends. Music in the Park was held every week and we attended that many times. Don't forget Independence Day! We saw Fireworks galore!! Then there was Camp! Yay Camp!! Swimming, riding in boats/pontoons. Fun in the Sun! I love camp! Summer is almost over. Now we can look for-

ward to the coming of Fall. I wonder what activities we will participate in next. I don't know about anyone else, but I am looking forward to Fall. Pumpkin patches and Thanksgiving. Until then, I hope everyone enjoys the rest of their summer!

Until next time.KATIE



CONGRATULATIONS



**Direct Support
Professionals for
completing their
modules!**

**Part Time:
Kaelan Dick, Chloe Anderson
And Emma Fiedler**



Enjoying Summer

Diana has also been busy this summer. She enjoyed a visit from Pebbles and went for a nice walk in the misting rain. Keep enjoying this great weather Diana!



Valley City Special Olympics

Valley City Special Olympics Youth and Adult teams participated in the ND Regional Soccer Tournament held in Fargo in late August. The Valley City Bridgesters took home 1st place and the youth came home with 3rd place honors. Watch out Grand Forks. Everyone is ready for the State Games to be held in your home town!!

National Fire Prevention Week

This year's Fire Prevention Week is October 9 - 15, 2022. They are celebrating 100 years of service to communities everywhere! This year they are encouraging everyone to make a Home Fire Escape Plan. Below are different ideas they want every home to prepare for so you can be more prepared if there were an actual fire in your home.



- ♦ Draw a map of your home. Show all doors and windows.
- ♦ Visit each room. Find two ways out.
- ♦ All windows and doors should open easily. You should be able to use them to get outside.
- ♦ Make sure your home has smoke alarms. Push the test button to make sure each alarm is working.
- ♦ Pick a meeting place outside. It should be in front of your home. Everyone will meet at the meeting place.
- ♦ Make sure your house or building number can be seen from the street.
- ♦ Talk about your plan with everyone in your home.
- ♦ Make sure everyone in your home knows how to dial 911 or your local emergency number.
- ♦ PRACTICE YOUR HOME FIRE DRILL!!

COMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

5 - Labor Day - CENTER CLOSED
22 - Autumn Begins

OCTOBER

10 - Columbus Day
16 - National Boss's Day
31 - Halloween

NOVEMBER

6 - Daylight Savings Time Ends
11 - Veteran's Day
24 - Thanksgiving Day - **CENTER CLOSED**
25 - **CENTER CLOSED**

Have news???
Let Nancy know.
Your news is our
news!

All Staff
Door Prize Winners:

AUGUST:
Veronica Miller
Brad Kumlin

CONGRATULATIONS!!



A BIG



Zachary Baumgartner, McKenna Becker
Sara Blaschke, Daniel Carvalho
Diane Flynn, Jerromie Huggins
Tiffany Johnson, Nicole Lindermann
Sandra Tiede, Sylvester Walker

OPEN DOOR CENTER
129 3rd Ave. NE
Valley City, ND 58072
701-845-1124

Address Label Here

Celebrating 62 Years

WE'RE ON THE WEB!
ODCVC.COM

Charitable Donation

Please consider us when making your charitable donation. Open Door Center is a non-profit organization which receives support from the North Dakota Department of Human Services. Although it is our main funding source, it is not enough to cover all the costs of our corporation. The money received will help provide continued support and assistance to those supported by Open Door Center. We are very appreciative for the support we do already receive. If you would please consider a financial contribution to help meet the extra needs of our children and adults with disabilities, please fill out this form and return it to Open Door Center, 129 3rd Ave. NE, Valley City, ND 58072.

ENCLOSED IS MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION:

I would like my contribution:

☐ \$ 50 ☐ \$250
☐ \$100 ☐ \$500
☐ \$150 ☐ \$Other

In memory of: _____
In honor of: _____
Other: _____

May we publish your name? ☐ Yes ☐ No
Your thoughtful gift will be acknowledged to the family indicated:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

DONATE

You may also donate on our
webpage: www.odcvc.com
Hit the red ***DONATE*** button
on the home page and choose
the amount you wish to
donate, hit the **NEXT** button
and follow instructions. The
Open Door Center would
really appreciate this donation.