

**MARATHON YOUTH SERVICES  
NEWSLETTER  
July 1, 2005  
Volume 5, Issue 7**



Having grown up only two blocks from what is known around town as “The Fair Grounds”, I can well appreciate the enthusiasm for **The 4<sup>th</sup>** and its display of fireworks. As kids we looked forward to the chance to squander a few nickels (it’s an age thing...) on the games we were sure were rigged, for the opportunity to win some overstuffed look-a-like. And of course, the carnival always brought with it an interesting array of characters from some faraway place, like maybe Beloit or (heaven forbid!), Rockford. We were even rumored to have Gypsies in our midst around the same time, with appropriate warnings being issued by our wary adults.

It was a time of celebration, and occasionally an extra day off work for some lucky folks, usually lasting 2 or 3 days. The days were filled with carnival rides and games, with tents. The young lions trying to gain access to course, and the rest whole affair was display in front of the old never quite lived up to Nevertheless, it was all the coming Wisconsin to with even more anxious



Now that I think changed in the past 50

years! Instead of the motorcycle races of yore, we have Lawn Mower Races and Demo Derbies in front of a glorious new grandstand...but we still have the interesting cast of ‘characters’, music, beer tents, young lions and girls. And of course, magnificent fireworks displays! Also, we’ve grown from 2-3 days to 4-5 days; and almost everyone gets at least one day off work...

some music and beer spent most of their time the forbidden fruit of chasing after girls. The punctuated by a fireworks grandstand that somehow “last year’s” show. remembered fondly, and Valley Fair looked forward anticipation.

Here in Wausau we all owe a thank you to the Wausau Area Jaycee’s for the annual effort they put forth in sponsoring the event. Marathon Park, or the fairgrounds if you prefer, continues to be one of the most beautiful parks anywhere, and a perfect setting for the festivities. The fireworks display is in fact, better every year. I know, I’ve watched more than most of you...

The annual celebration also offers an opportunity for the young men of Reynolds Group Home to offer up some community support in the form of volunteer help with the setup and cleanup of the event. Our guys have been working with the Jaycees for the past 20+ years, and this year will be no exception.

Oh, and by the way, the **4<sup>th</sup> of July** is a kind of important day in the history of this great country too...I guess it's the day it all got started, way back in 1776. Anyway...**Happy Birthday USA!!** May we outlive our own occasional stupidity to celebrate a few hundred more years.

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### **1. Doug's thoughts**

Our clinic is developing great! We have been serving our own residents as well as an increasing number of outpatient therapy clients. Our primary therapists, Wade and Michele Rasmussen, just completed their move to make Wausau their hometown, so now we can "go to town" in filling our schedules and offering our services to the greater Wausau and Northcentral Wisconsin area. We also hope to soon begin to schedule some groups based on the needs of our clients and community.

We are excited to get up to full speed and serve our community with quality, experience and style! Please feel welcome to stop in and check out our office at 1611 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Wausau, Call with inquiries, questions or referrals at 715-848-0011.

'Vette Day...

WE are always searching for incentives and rewards for our programs. Recently, Mark, one of our first adult residents who has been doing well in



the house and his service program, asked for a ride to work...He was offered a ride to work in a Corvette! For a car crazy guy, this was a good day. He asked me to pull right up to the door at the Northern Valley Workshop so that all could see him get out...with a big smile. Kudos to so many of our young men that are doing so well!

Than You guys, I'm proud of your successes. Doug

This year we asked for some special projects from our community, and our community responded. WE thought our young men would enjoy small engine projects such as motorcycles and ATVs. We recently received two different donations, a 1985 Honda 250cc Big Red, and a 1972 Honda 350. We will be selling these to any interested person, with the funds being put towards our planned trip to South Dakota with the RGH residents.

We will continue to pursue these types of projects with hopes to support special events for our youth and young adults. Anyone interested in either of these vehicles, please call me at the main MYS number, 715-842-3240.



One last plug...

At our new 1611 N. 7<sup>th</sup> St. Clinic address we also have two apartments upstairs that we have prepared to use. Currently both are available. These are nice 2 bedroom units with  $\frac{3}{4}$  baths and combined living/dining areas. We would prefer to find independent living capable individuals that we could offer some supervision to; however, we would also be pleased to have regular tenant inquiries as well.

You can call me at 715-842-3240 for additional information.

**Doug Adams MS**

2. In the past 6 weeks we have been joined at the **Reynolds Group Home** by three new residents! That brought us briefly to a full house, but we again have one vacancy with a recent discharge. We'd be happy to

discuss your placement needs...

With the end of the school semester and beginning of summer school, everyone at RGH is busy as usual. Also, with the coming of the warm weather we have been going to Wausau's wonderful outdoor pools at Kaiser and Memorial Parks. We have also made one trip to Mission Lake so far this summer. Everyone went strawberry picking on June 24<sup>th</sup>. Many berries were picked, and eaten, throughout the day.

In keeping with our annual RGH/Jaycees collaboration, the boys will once again be helping out at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration at Marathon Park. This is an event that the residents have been involved in since the original days with Denny Reynolds, our namesake. It's a long tradition we are proud to uphold...and, it makes for a good community service project as well.

Staff and residents are planning a camping trip for the weekend of July 9 and 10. I hope to have pictures to share next month...Meanwhile; our staff and residents also continue planning for their trip to South Dakota in August. A visit to Mt. Rushmore and many other sites are on the agenda. We are currently working on getting a couple of fundraisers going to help pay for the trip. If anyone has any ideas on some fundraiser ideas, please give us a call.

Gage moved on this month, place with a family member in Michigan in early June. We certainly wish him well, as we do Robert B who also moved on this month.

We have been receiving mail from Frank who you will remember is now in basic training with the Marine Corps. He says things are going well and is working hard toward graduation in August. We're hoping he'll send us a photo to share with you. Look for more news about Frank in future newsletter issues.

**3. There were actually too many activities to list them all at Prospect Place this past month! Here are just a few of the highlights:**

June 9...Mike S, Mike P, Adam and staff member Caryn attended the 2005 Law Enforcement Torch Run Parade. Adam ran in the event and the rest of us followed in the Kolbe & Kolbe trolley which was also in the parade. Prior to the start of the event, Adam was interviewed by Channel 9 Television and was on the news that evening.

June 12...Karie joined Mike S, Mike P, and Adam in attending the Water Ski Show at Everest Park. We were joined by staff and residents of Grand Place as well.

June 13...Mike S and Adam went to Six Flags Great America with the Mount Olive Church Group.



June 17...Gary accompanied John, Mike P and Shawn H (Grand Place) on a trip to the Wisconsin Dells. The day included the Tommy Bartlett show and miniature golf at Timber falls.

June 18...Mike P volunteered his time to score for the Gus Macker basketball tournament, a big event in Wausau every year. He attended with staff member Jenny.

June 19...saw another trip to Wisconsin Dells. This time Mike S, and Adam, along with John F from Grand Place went with staff member Eric. This trip included the Upper Dells boat trip, Robo Coaster and a pottery shop.

Wow! No wonder the month's go by so fast....

***Caryn Toschner***

4. June at **Grand Place** started off with filling our last vacancy! Sean S has joined us as a long term resident, making GP his permanent home. Sean will be working at the Northern Valley Workshop beginning August 1<sup>st</sup>. Welcome Home Sean...we're happy to have you join us.

*Gary reports that his trip to the Dells "was a lot of fun. We went to Mt. Olympus for the whole day (10:30 am to 6:00 pm). The guys had so much stuff to do. We went on roller coasters, water slides, wave pools, miniature golf, a roller coaster that you got wet on, and even one that went under water! It was all pretty amazing."*

*"We all ate lunch in the back of the van with our sandwiches, soda, snack cakes and chips. Then it was back to play. On the way home we stopped at Stevens Point to get dinner at Taco Bell. When we got home, all the*

*guys helped clean the van. Thanks Guys!"*

The following Sunday saw another trip to the Dells, this time with Eric taking Mike, Adam and Shawn. Upon return Eric reported *"We are back from the Dells and what a day it was! We started off with a 2 hour boat/hiking tour, the guys really enjoyed themselves! We then went to the 'robocoaster' which everyone agreed was a complete waste of time. On the way to a gas station we found Wiley's Woods, a great playland-style adventure room. We all had a great time in this monstrous world of foam balls! We dined at McDonald's on the way home, and everyone said they enjoyed themselves thoroughly."*



June also included regular trips to the area pools for the men, and Woodchucks games on June 3 and June 22. On Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> the guys also took in the Shrine Circus. Just another busy month for the men of Grand Place...

July began with a trip to a Milwaukee Brewers game on July 2<sup>nd</sup>. Look for more news of this fun trip, along with some photos, on our web site and in next month's newsletter.

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**Watch "Child and Family Focus"  
with Doug Adams and his guests.  
every Tuesday at 7:00 AM and 10:30 PM, and Wednesday at 5:30 PM.  
Local Public Access Television Channel 3**

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Check out our website at: [www.marathonyouthservices.org](http://www.marathonyouthservices.org)

If you have any questions or program requests, feel free to contact Doug at 715842-3240 or [dadams15@charter.net](mailto:dadams15@charter.net). We are always interested in your thoughts or comments.

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Produced by Jim Prozinski

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