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Fall Fest *Garrett Petersen*

The weekend of Halloween, the many houses of Adult Residential Services came together to celebrate fall. On a beautiful Saturday afternoon at Meadow Glen, we came together for fun, food, and good times.

With the grill firing and apple cider to be enjoyed by all, our guys came together for an assortment of seasonal activities, including face painting, outdoor games, experiencing our Haunted Greenhouse, and a costume contest.

The costume contest has become a favorite for our houses to participate in, year after year, with more and more of the guys and staff

getting into it. After Larkfield took the prize our first year, Richart Court won last year and Larkfield house manager Joany

Ward was determined to win back the coveted trophy for her program. They had a surprise contender, however, in Quintuck, and it would in fact

come down to those two houses, each with a great theme to their costumes. In the end, a split decision by the judges resulted in our first Costume Content tie.

The guys had a wonderful time enjoying the fall season one last time before the weather began to grow cold. We look forward to seeing what the houses come up with for next year's Costume Contest!



Quintuck (top) and Larkfield were our two winners.

Our Trip Up North *Paul van Dyne*

When we got up this morning we were all very excited. We had a trip planned. We had a very fun trip we were looking forward to. It was in Upstate New York. This was the trip to Ulster County.

We had a busy morning getting ready for our trip. We had to get up on time so that we won't arrive there late. We had

to move fast.

When we got there, we checked in to a hotel. It was the Best Western. We unpacked and watched television. We then went out to dinner. We had a lot of fun. We had some good breakfasts and lunches at the restaurants. We went to a Magic Show. We also went to the Ulster County Fair. We went on

a train ride. We also went to Cooperstown to the Hall of Fame. We saw all of the pictures of all of the baseball players there. I read about some of them.

I had a really fun time in Ulster County. I would like to go back there again.

Our DSPs Are All Stars Brandon Fraccalvieri

New York State's Governor Cuomo officially proclaimed the week of September 10-16, 20 Years! 7 "Direct Support Professionals Week" in the State of New York. DSPs are the heart and soul of our service delivery system – working with, for and right beside the people who receive supports. They provide encouragement, compassion and empathy. They develop personal relationships – rela-

tionships based on mutual trust, esteem and respect. They are what makes our programs so wonderful!

We kicked off DSP week with Ice Cream Socials on Monday, Tuesday each house celebrated with a team breakfast. Wednesday was our annual DSP Week Luncheon. Our staff was invited to the Meadow Glen campus for lunch. Our Transportation Depart-

ment barbequed delicious hamburgers and hotdogs for everyone to enjoy. Staff played games like archery, paintball and bocce ball. Fun was had by all– and it was a great opportunity to thank our team for all their hard work! Thursday each staff received small gift bags filled with DDI treasures. Friday was photo day. Everyone had fun taking goofy pictures.



Ice Cream Sundaes
At Spencer Lane.

Are We There Yet? Edgar Drive

On Tuesday, November 7th we set out for a camping trip at Taconic State Park. We packed the vans with food, snacks and all the camping essentials for our three day, two night vacation in a cabin in the mountains. When we weren't out hiking, we were enjoying a fire, making s'mores and relaxing by the cabin enjoying the sights and sounds of nature.

The Taconic Parkway was picturesque, with the changing colors and fall foliage on the mountain sides.

A three hour care ride didn't seem too far with all there was to look at along the way.

First Stop would be at a small well stocked camp store/deli before checking into our cabins.

At the Depot Deli as it was called, we would have lunch of chicken tenders and burgers. We checked into the two bedroom cabin and spent the next few hours unpacking our suitcases, setting up the kitchen, making the beds and wondering "What's for dinner"? Tacos are an easy prep meal when camping and are always

enjoyed. Taco buffet it was and was enjoyed by all.

The early bird catches the worm they say, so Wednesday morning that's just what we did. We set out to hike to see Bish Bash falls. The fall colors and leaves crunching under our feet was a scene out of a movie. To our right the water rushing over the rocks from the falls was so serene.

We stopped along the way to watch the water rush and swirl in different places and the huge boulders the water would part around was such a beautiful nature scene. There's also a spot you can stand where you are in MA, NY, & CT all at one time. We didn't find it but the locals will tell you about it.

Went into town to find the laundromat, even on vacation sometimes you have to do laundry. Next door would be the place we would choose to have dinner.

The Clock Tower Restaurant, as the name suggests, had a huge clock tower out in front and appeared to be the place the regulars visited often. Decorated in a

sports theme, with TVs hanging from the ceiling and sports memorabilia was all around the room. The food was great and the owner was very nice.

A warm toasty fire, marshmallows, chocolate, graham crackers and long sticks and we were ready!!! This had to be the highlight of the camping experience.

All good things must come to an end, and Thursday morning came way too fast. We knew when we woke it was time to pack up and leave the little cabin in the woods.

Fall is a wonderful time of the year in New York when you're at a little cabin in the woods.



Into the Woods!



Trunk or Treat Ross Hendrickson

On 11/1 German Blvd hosted the first annual Trunk or Treat Halloween celebration. The event was coordinated by Tracy Rittenhouse, a DSP from German Blvd who wanted to try something new and fun for Halloween this year.

We invited a number of houses from the eastern region and promised candy, music and a big plate of lasagna to anyone who participated. Each house that attended decorated

the trunk of their van to



make a spooky trick or treat stop for others to enjoy. A non biased panel of judges assessed the work that went

into each display and the Melrose house won a bunch of pies and toppings for best in show!

We had a pumpkin painting station and a photo table with some silly props for anyone who wanted their picture taken as well. All in all the event was a great success and we hope for an even bigger turnout next year.



Adult Services Changes Laura Ollett

On October 16th Adult Services reorganized to keep in step with DDI's new Strategic Plan. Adult Services has been divided into Adult Day Services and Adult Residential Services. Sherry McKeown has transitioned into her new role as Administrative Director of Adult Day Services, Brian Cabezas is the Managing Director of Adult Day Services (which now includes Vocational Services), Sue Davis has transitioned into her new role as Residential Development Coordinator, and Kim Mudano and Laura Ollett continue to oversee the Adult Residential Program as Directors of Adult Residential Services reporting directly to Kim Kubasek, DDI's Associate Executive Director. Kim (631 360-4639) and Laura (631 360-469) can be reached at their

Meadow Glen Offices in the Adult Residential Suite. If you have any questions about our reorganization, please give us a call.

Hope has no barriers.



Maridon 4-Peats as Bocce Ball Champs Garrett Petersen

Residential Services' fourth annual bocce ball championships were held in September, and again Maridon Lane, led by Peter S. and Michael P, seized the championship trophy.

Fun was had by all, with six teams entering this year's contest. Newcomers Plainview placed an impressive third place behind the strong effort of team captain Eddie D. Second place was held by Dorsett, with



Ridge, German, and Melrose rounding out the competition.

The weather was beautiful and the grill cranking as everyone enjoyed a beautiful fall day at Meadow Glen. With a dynasty well and truly crowned, however, the question of who can keep Maridon from winning a fifth title remains.

Congratulations

30 Years

Allan Berkowitz Meadow Glen

20 Years

Patsy Harris German Blvd

Susan Davenport German Blvd

Jean Cicotte Meadow Glen

Margaret Somerville Meadow Glen

Kelly-Ann Grammont Medford

Bruce Morrow Ridge

Laura Hendrickson Ridge

Jennifer Carmody Selden

15 Years

Tivoni Carruthers Collins Ave

Laurie Hasemann Melrose

Saraann Sala Greenlawn

James Simonetti Meadow Glen

Esmeralda Hernandez Plainview

Yvette Stinvil Babylon

John Conner Medford

10 Years

April Levy Bond

Virginia Barkus Bond

Jonathan Middleton Bond

Philbert Badresingh Meadow Glen

Carol Brown Bellmore

Dwain Welcome Bellmore

Rakahia Persad Medord

Nelson Montoya Quintuck

Teresa Singh Quintuck

5 Years

Jonathan Hefets Creek Road

Amethyst Wilson Don

Dashawn Johnson Don

Devon Booker Don

Freddy Fortunato Don

Theresa Jackson Don

William Reyes Maldonado Don

Andrew Veneracion Gull Dip

Dennis McElhone Gull Dip

Nicholas Reid Gull Dip

Sabrina Dones Gull Dip

Norma Nieves Melville

Nakai Skinner Meadow Glen

Tantinnia Roman Meadow Glen

William Carroll Meadow Glen

John Castaldo Maridon

Caessie McElhinney Mt. Sinai

David Pierre-Louis Mt. Sinai

Henry Landetta Mt. Sinai

Laura Robson Mt. Sinai

Paula Hofsis Mt. Sinai

Robert Walker Medford

William Merced Radio

Amanda Harrington Richard Ct

Enjoli Boone Selden

Geralynn Kirschbaum Selden

Brittney Howell Bromley

Cynthia Ogando Sayville

**Thank you for Your Years
of Service
DDI recognizes staff for
their
commitment and
dedication to the agency
and to those we support.
Congratulations to all
award recipients!!**

