

On the runway at Mosaic

BonWorth, a major retailer of women's clothing, brought their newest fashions to the runway at Mosaic on Oct. 12 for a style show. All the Mosaic ladies were given the opportunity to attend and purchase their favorites. To the delight of everyone in attendance, several staff members took part as active participants by modeling the clothing. Since we all know what hard work shopping can be, refreshments were available and enjoyed by all.

It all added up to a fun afternoon spent shopping with friends. It was a wonderful idea to bring a real style show to Mosaic, especially for those ladies who find it difficult to go out shopping.



Left: Glenda Knoche, DSM, showing her approval of her outfit as she leaves the style show area. Right: Several of the clothing models giving everyone a final look at the range of clothing available for purchase.



A racing passion

Tayson Snyder has a passion and it's all about racing. His mother discovered this early and used his passion as a motivator.

When learning new things, anything racing was incorporated into the activity using racing memorabilia, racing facts, car numbers and drivers. For many years, the refrigerator at home became a tally board. For example, his mother would practice math problems with Tayson. She would ask him to add a certain driver's points into his total and then rank the drivers from highest to lowest. When learning the states, the different speedways across the nation were recalled. When Tayson learned to sew pillows, he loved to learn with black and white checkered material.

Tayson has been a passionate spectator at the Beatrice Speedway for many years. According to Tayson, he earned it. The weekend event was used as a reinforcer during the week. When certain chores and other tasks were completed, Tayson would earn "driver points." Tayson needed to earn a certain number of points in a week to attend the races. The local drivers have also been very supportive of him. Tayson



Tayson sitting among his racing cars

has helped a father/son team in the pits and several drivers have used the paint schemes Tayson has designed.

Racing continues to be a big part of his life. His goals include attending a NASCAR race, meeting a NASCAR Sprint Cup driver, getting a driver's license and becoming a race car driver.

His passion of racing keeps inching him toward his goals. This fall Tayson was able to race his radio-controlled car during the fall series at an indoor race track. The fall series was held weekly during the middle of October through the middle of December

for different models of radio-controlled cars at Hobbytown USA in Lincoln. Tayson has two 1/36 Micro-T cars and a 1/18 Mini-T. Depending on the number of heats in the class, he can enter multiple races in one night.

Tayson plans to enter races during the upcoming winter race series also. He would also like to design a racing T-shirt for himself, his crew members and his fans. Ultimately, Tayson would like to come home with a checkered flag.

Clowns kick off the holiday season

The Physical Development Center was filled with holiday music and laughter on Sunday, Dec. 4, as the Shriners delighted Mosaic with their annual Christmas program. The official start of the holiday season for Mosaic always begins with the much-anticipated early December appearance of the Shriners. Somehow, the Shriners always manage to coordinate their appearance with the arrival of Santa himself.

Everyone had a great time. Our heartfelt thanks go to this dedicated group of individuals who always delight us with their contagious enthusiasm and provide a big kick-off to our holiday season.



Gary Jewett bends Santa's ear with his holiday list

Giving back to our community

Various individuals and areas of Mosaic have been recognized for their involvement and support of several community organizations. A letter was received from the Beatrice Humane Society for Hickory Home thanking them for their donation of homemade dog treats for the Humane Society's annual Dessert Event fundraiser. We also have numerous individuals who donate their time to help with various chores at the Humane Society.

Quite a number of our residents have taken part in ringing bells for the Salvation Army during their annual kettle drive this past holiday season. They help make Christmas a little merrier for those who need assistance.

Centenary United Methodist Church in Beatrice posted a very complimentary thank you on their website this past month recognizing the Mosaic individuals who clean at their



Fred Trumble delivering a Christmas gift to Virginia Ottersberg who receives assistance from Home Instead Senior Care.

church twice a week. Not only were they pleased with the quality of the cleaning job that is done, but also the initiative taken to pull aluminum cans from the trash, collect money from these cans and donate this money to a monthly Nickels for Nigeria offering.

The local branch of Home Instead Senior Care offered a program for local seniors called "Be A Santa to a Senior." Fred Trumble, who lives at Hickory home, nominated a former employee of Mosaic to be the recipient of a Christmas gift through this program. It also happens that Fred has another contact with this lady, as he also delivers her Meals on Wheels periodically.

This is just a small sampling of Mosaic individuals supporting and giving back to the community where they live and work.

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Mission

Embracing God's call to serve in the world, Mosaic advocates for people with intellectual disabilities and provides opportunities for them to enjoy a full life.

Integrity at Mosaic

If you have a concern, call our national Confidential Reporting Hotline at 800.443.4899, or email integrity@mosaicinfo.org.

Relationships

Mosaic is an affiliated social ministry organization of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and a member of Lutheran Services in America.

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Mosaic will not discriminate in matters of employment or service delivery on the basis of race, creed, age, color, sex, religion, national origin, ancestry, physical or mental disability, marital status or veteran status.

To be added or removed from the mailing list for The Newsette, or to receive information via email, please contact Mosaic at the address given.

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Thankful for Mosaic



Various groups of Mosaic staff who were available for a photo opportunity that morning

On the day before Thanksgiving, employees from Mosaic in Beatrice expressed one of the things they are especially thankful for during the holidays — Mosaic! Several weeks earlier, all Beatrice Mosaic employees had received a blue Mosaic sweatshirt. To show their support for Mosaic, it was decided this was the perfect day to wear their shirt as a sign of their thankfulness.

Spreading Christmas cheer

On Dec. 14, 2011, a group of individuals receiving community-based services from Mosaic gathered together for an outing consisting of good, old-fashioned caroling. Off they went to the Beatrice Manor with their boisterous Christmas spirit evident in their smiles and shown in the songs they shared with others. The group made a special appearance to a former Mosaic client who now resides at the Manor and to the grandmother of one of the carolers. They also shared their musical talents with those from the Manor assembled in the dining room.



After caroling, the group headed back to the Mosaic South 11th St. location for cookies and hot chocolate. The cookies had been baked and decorated during a training time earlier in the week. Everyone left with a warm Christmas spirit and a special request to go caroling again next year.

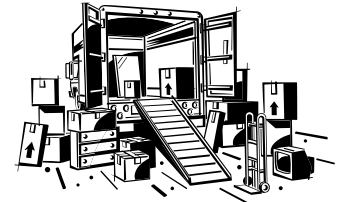
A word from the Case Managers

Renee McAllister, Case Manager

Another holiday season has passed. It was a great time for partying, exchanging gifts and reuniting with family and friends. The weather made it a good year for traveling, but those hoping for a white Christmas may have been a little disappointed.

The annual Christmas program was a huge success again this year, and those attending the dance had a great time. The Parent's Family and Friends Association met before the program for their yearly Christmas meeting. This group has been a long-time supporter and advocate for Mosaic and those who live here. We appreciate the help and support they provide. If you are not already a member of this group, please consider joining. The next meeting of this Association is scheduled during the upcoming Home Day Celebration in June.

We have recently had some changes within our homes. Amy has moved to a new Mosaic home in Norfolk, Nebr. Stephen has moved to a Mosaic home in Papillion, Nebr. Stephen's move will allow him to be closer to his family and will make it easier for them to visit. Stephen and Amy will both be missed. The newest member of our Mosaic family in Beatrice is Lynn. He moved to his new home here in Beatrice the last part of October. He comes to us from the Mosaic agency in Axtell, Nebr. His move also puts him closer to his family. We extend a very warm welcome to Lynn and look forward to working with him in the future.



Friends share an unusual talent



Steve Goeking (left) who lives on Pine home is shown with his friend Dane Pendell who is in community-based services with Mosaic. The pair are demonstrating their amazing flexibility. It makes those of us who are not quite as limber grimace, anticipating the pain associated with having to get up from this position.

On the road to Beatrice Bakery Company



Rachel Staley standing in front of hundreds of pans used in baking the Beatrice Bakery Company cakes.



Jim Agee shown in front of the large dish washing system.



Dennis Vejraska standing in the vast Beatrice Bakery warehouse.

Several individuals from Mosaic Day Services recently had the opportunity to tour the Beatrice Bakery Company, one of the area's better-known businesses. The tour was given by bakery president, Greg Leech, whose wife, Connie, was a teacher at MLH/Mosaic a number of years ago.

Besides touring the facility, the group previewed an upcoming television promotion featuring new products which will soon be available. Beatrice Bakery has long been known for their delicious dessert cakes, each hand decorated, using only the finest ingredients.

The tour gave the individuals from Mosaic an idea of the employment opportunities available in the baking industry.

Discover the Possibilities at Mosaic in Beatrice!

by Connie Russell, Community Relations Manager

Greetings from Mosaic in Beatrice! The new year is upon us — a time for reflecting on the previous year and planning for the weeks and months ahead. Throughout each year, in between our carefully made plans, are those moments when life happens.

Each day at Mosaic in Beatrice, hundreds of individuals experience meaningful life moments, such as cooking a meal with roommates, singing a favorite hymn in Chapel, or attending a birthday celebration.

And then there are those life-changing moments, such as earning your first paycheck, standing in the living room of your first apartment, or helping someone in need by delivering them a warm meal through Meals-On-Wheels.

At Mosaic in Beatrice, our new year's resolution is to no longer be our community's best kept secret. We want to share those meaningful life moments, and life-changing moments, with our community!



Through regularly scheduled events called Discover the Possibilities, staff will lead guests on a one-hour virtual tour that includes personal stories of individuals who receive services through Mosaic. We are deeply grateful to family members and guardians who have given us permission to share success stories of their loved ones, and in some cases wrote a personal letter to be shared with our guests.

To give you an idea of the emotional impact of a Discover the Possibilities event, one staff member who has worked at Mosaic in Beatrice for 25 years was moved to tears upon hearing these incredible personal accounts. Whether you are new to Mosaic or already have a connection, there is much to be gained from attending Discover the Possibilities.

If you or someone you know would like to join us at a Discover the Possibilities event, please contact Connie Russell, Community Relations Manager, at 402.223.4066 x351 or Connie.Russell@mosaicinfo.org.



A true patriot passes away

by VeAnn Jurgens, Direct Support Coordinator

We were sad to lose our longtime friend, Terry Tucker, who passed away on Dec. 8, 2011. He was born on June 29, 1940, in East Los Angeles, Calif. and became part of the Mosaic family in 1978. Terry was extremely patriotic and loved anything to do with the American flag. It was a familiar sight at Mosaic to see him with small flags waving from the back of his wheelchair as he traveled the Mosaic halls. He was an avid Husker football fan, and also loved trains and planes. Just this past September, he had a wonderful time attending the U.S. Navy Blue Angels air show in Lincoln. A really special day for Terry was one when he was able to get outside and enjoy the great outdoors and feel the wind blowing. He enjoyed anything to do with the weather and watching the seasons change by the large windows in the Life Transitions area.

Terry was known for his wealth of information on history and enjoyed sharing his wisdom with his friends. One of his recent memorable birthday parties revolved around a Pony Express theme and delivery of invitations via the Pony Express.

Besides enjoying visiting with his countless friends, Terry had a special relationship with his sister who survives him. A funeral service was held on Dec. 13, 2011, at the Mosaic chapel. Those attending dressed in red, white and blue to commemorate the passing of this truly patriotic individual.

Save the date

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the annual Mosaic Home Day held at the Beatrice Campus location Friday, June 1, 2012. It promises to be a day filled with fun, food, games, music and great fellowship. We look forward to seeing you then.



Mosaic is currently recruiting for Direct Support Associates. Openings include 2nd and 3rd shift full-time and on-call. For more information contact Kelcie deKoning.

If you are interested in services at Mosaic, please contact Sue Orwen.



A life of possibilities for people with intellectual disabilities.

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Phyllis retires

After more than 29 years, Phyllis Wellensiek, LPN, has decided to retire from Mosaic. Phyllis has agreed to remain on-call, so staff and residents alike will continue to benefit from her years of experience here.

Phyllis is an individual who likes to stay very busy so she is going to continue working part-time using her nursing skills at another facility in Beatrice. She has lots of projects planned at home and will also enjoy days filled with the perfect combination of golfing and grandchildren.

Thank you, Phyllis, for your many years of dedicated service to Mosaic and the individuals we support.



Phyllis Wellensiek

Thank you to our dedicated staff members!

A reception was held on Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2012 in the Chapel to honor these individuals for their years of service to Mosaic.

5 Years

Daniel Osborn
Kathleen Scribner
Danielle Breeden
Stacie Bruns
Lucille Salts
Linda Stewart
Keri Mulvaney
Lori Robison
Charlene Engelman
Marilda Kisling
Cheryl Kimmerling
Linda Erb
Barbara Scott
Sharon Nies

10 Years

Jolene Schmidt
Odessa Ambrose
Joyce Ambrose
Holly Hereth

15 Years

Gary Jurgens

20 Years

Jeanne Hamm
Sharon Boatman
Eudora Arrants
Lisa Vanschoiack

25 Years

Shelley Huston
Laurie Stillwell
Patricia Meyer
Alice Warnsing
Jane Young

30 Years

Cynthia Lillibridge

35 Years

Jerry Campbell
Sue Orwen

A Halloween Tie



Gary Jewett proudly showing off his tie on Halloween appropriately decorated with bright orange pumpkins

Anyone within shouting distance the week before Halloween could hear the excitement in Gary's voice as he wheeled himself down the hallway to the front desk area to share his news. Quite a group of interested friends gathered around him to hear all the details. For those of us who had been listening to the radio earlier in

the morning, we knew what Gary was about to share. He is quite a fan and also a frequent winner of the morning trivia contest on local radio station KWBE. Usually the prize is a ticket to a local play or a coupon to be used at a fast-food restaurant, but today was an especially great win for Gary.

Those who know Gary are well aware of how much pride he takes in his appearance. Some days find him decked out in the attire of his favorite sports team, frequently the Beatrice Orangemen or the Nebraska Cornhuskers. On other days Gary likes to really dress up, complete with a shirt and coordinating tie. How appropriate that the prize he won that morning was a special Halloween tie from a local clothing store. His excitement and the anticipation of actually wearing the tie were priceless. His overwhelming pride in his accomplishment and his visible joy were contagious. What a wonderful way to start the day not only for Gary but for everyone who shared in his news.

Your support of these business helps provide opportunities for those receiving Mosaic services

The Bargain Box

Located at 117 S. 5th Street in Beatrice, The Bargain Box offers a wide variety of reasonably priced items for sale. Check out the nice variety of shoes, jewelry, linens, bedding, housewares, and other miscellaneous items. The Bargain Box is open on Thursdays and Saturdays and also welcomes your donations of items. All Bargain Box proceeds are donated to Mosaic in Beatrice.

Screen Printing Services:

Mosaic in Beatrice offers a complete line of screen printing services for any job you might have, large or small. Please call 402.223.4066 x317 for further information.

Friends Learning Center Crafts

A unique business conveniently located just off the highway at 29107 Hwy. 77 south of Beatrice, the Mosaic Friends Learning Center has handmade crafts and gift items galore. Holiday decorations, tied blankets, Nebraska Husker decor, children's rockers, table and chair sets, and banners are just a few of the items available. Remember, these items can also be customized to meet your needs.



Stop in during the week between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to take advantage of this special shopping experience.

Become a voice for people with disabilities

When decisions are being made about important issues like services, homes and health care, people with intellectual disabilities should have a right to express their opinions. Too often, they have no chance to speak. You can level the playing field.

Become a Mosaic Allied Voices volunteer. Just go to www.mosaicalledvoices.org and sign up with your contact information. When issues that impact people with intellectual disabilities are identified, you will receive an email alert asking you to contact your elected official. We promise you will only be contacted when there are critical issues that need immediate attention.

You can be the voice of a person who would otherwise be silenced. Help them be heard.

Special award

Congratulations to Dee Stewart, Direct Support Associate in Beatrice, on her 2011 Distinguished Direct Support Professional award from the Association of Community Professionals (ACP) of Nebraska for Region 5. The award was presented to Dee on Oct. 26, 2011, in Grand Island, Nebr.

Dee was nominated for this special award because she is an above-average employee who builds relationships and friendships with the people she serves both at work and also outside her normal working hours. She provides opportunities to residents by opening and sharing her home and her church life. She demonstrates a very positive role model to the men she works for.

The purpose of the Association of Community Professionals (ACP) is to support and promote the development of quality opportunities for all persons with developmental disabilities in the least restrictive community alternative. Approximately 160 individuals attended the day and a half conference.



Dee Stewart, DSA, who works on Pine Home on the Beatrice Mosaic campus

Thrivent members can Support Mosaic through Choice DollarsSM!

Through their Choice Dollars program Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members are able to choose Mosaic when they recommended how Thrivent distributes charitable grant funds. Instead of gift matching, eligible Thrivent members can now decide which qualifying organizations should receive their allocated Choice Dollars. Simply visit www.thrivent.com/choice and click Get Started or call Thrivent at 1.800.847.4836 to make Mosaic in Beatrice your choice! Your gifts will support a life of possibilities for people with intellectual disabilities. Thank you!



Free resources for vacation bible school or Sunday school

Children's educational materials are available for free to churches from Mosaic. There is a four-week lesson plan along with a 20-Day Awareness activity guide that features Duncan the Duck and would be a great platform for children's programming. Materials include coloring books, coin banks, an animated story on DVD and Bible study lesson plans, all of which feature Mosaic's children's mascot, Duncan. To learn how you can receive these educational materials for free, please visit www.mosaicinfo.org/resources/childrens_education/index.htm.

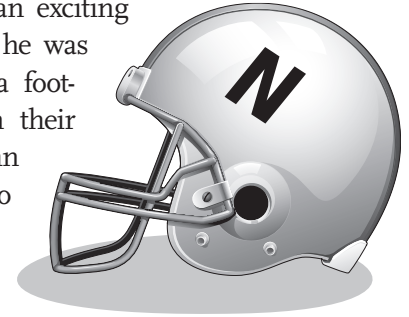
Contact Mosaic when looking for temple talks, guest speakers or children's programs, as well as further information about admissions, volunteering and giving opportunities.



John Juilfs sees red

Seeing so much red on this particular October afternoon was an exciting time for John Juilfs, as he was surrounded by Nebraska football fans decked out in their red Husker apparel. John had a front-row seat to the Nebraska versus Michigan State football game at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln.

What made for an even better time for this Husker fan was the dominance of the Nebraska football team.



Return Service Requested

A life of possibilities for
people with intellectual disabilities.

From the executive director

by Jerry Campbell, Executive Director

Happy New Year — which means it's time for the Nebraska legislature to begin another session. This coming session could be filled with proposed Medicaid cuts so we will be keeping a close eye on that. In view of this, I'd like to ask you all, once again, to consider becoming Mosaic Allied Voices First Responders. These are individuals who, when notified, send emails (or make calls) to their legislative representatives. It is very simple to register and very simple to send the notes. It involves very little time. The place to sign up is: www.mosaicalliedvoices.org. The more people we have that are willing to sign up to participate in this endeavor, the better. Please help us out!

January brings a special tradition to Mosaic in Beatrice. We hold a Years of Service celebration where staff who

attained milestone work anniversaries during the past year (5, 10, 15, 20, etc, years) are acknowledged. This is a very significant recognition since it acknowledges staff who have stuck with us through thick and thin and, unfortunately in recent years, more thin than thick. This year, on Jan. 24, we will recognize 31 staff. Seventeen of those have worked here more than 10 years. This is remarkable and something we are very proud of. If you happen to be around, you're welcome to attend the ceremony and thank the people that work hard to make us one of the best. We hope you all have a wonderful 2012.



For those of you who are kind enough to send us various donations including soup labels, stamps, greeting cards and various other much-appreciated items, please send these in care of Celene Shutts who is now the individual receiving mail for Mosaic in Beatrice.