

# What's happening at Harry's!

Harry Meyering Center, Inc. Employee Newsletter



October 2011



## Top Five Outdoor Family Fall Activities

-- By Bethany Porter, <http://www.kaboose.com>

**Apple Picking** --fall is apple season and it's the only time of year you can pick ripe apples right off the tree! This is a great way for families to get outside, get some exercise, and learn how this popular fruit is grown and harvested. Find an orchard near you and set up a time to visit. Some orchards even let you grind your own apples into cider!

**Visit A Pumpkin Patch And Corn Maze** -- A visit to a pumpkin patch will offer a full day of family fun. Kids will love having a whole patch to peruse for their own big, orange pumpkin to carve for Halloween! Plus, pumpkin patches often have fun extras like mazes made entirely of tall corn stalks and yummy fall refreshments like cider and apple pie!

**Take an Autumn Nature Walk** -- Crisp, cool air and beautifully colored leaves are special features of the fall season. Take this opportunity to get outside and take a closer look at nature. There are endless possibilities for a nature walk. Try having your kids pick up fallen leaves and attempt to identify the type of tree they fell from.

**Visit A Farm And Take A Hay Rack Ride** -- Farms make great day-trips for families. Kids can get up close and personal with animals, see how the farm functions day-to-day, and even take a hay ride. For older kids some farms even transform their grounds into a spooky space and offer haunted hay rides during fall! In the evening there may also be bonfires complete with s'mores and cider.

**Organize a Friendly Football Game** -- The first week of September marks the start of football season so there's no better time to get your little linebackers outside for a friendly game! Gather up the family and neighborhood friends and get some healthy exercise.

### Activities Department looking for Bingo prizes!!!!

Cleaning out your closets? Have too much stuff?

I may have the place for you!!!

We are looking for the following: Music CD's, picture frames, costume jewelry, Trinkets, decks of cards, DVD's, Stationary sets, earrings, lotions and body sprays, MN sports items, arts & crafts kits, knick knacks, etc.

We can not accept the following: used clothes, candles, stuffed animals.

Please bring items to **Katie Shabrack**, Activities Coordinator

### HMC Dinner & Dance

Thursday November 10<sup>th</sup> 2011

5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

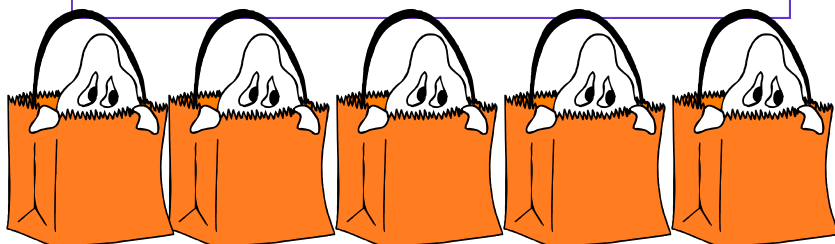
Centenary United Methodist Church

501 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street

**R.S.V.P. by Tues. Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>** (including the # of staff)  
to Katie --- 387-8281 ext. 259.

People are encouraged to bring donations for the  
Mankato Area Back Pack Project.

Happy  Halloween



# UNITED WAY RALLY

## 2012

Thanks to everyone who donated to our Auction!

I am very excited on the turnout we had for our 1<sup>st</sup> Annual United Way Silent Auction! We raised \$527 for the United Way! Jen Schaffer, HMC Employee Campaign Leader



### Congratulations to the following Winners:

- Handmade Throw Quilt = Mary Bloodgood
- Baby Blue Blanket = Jen Schaffer
- Baby Quilt = Julie Erdman
- Fall Runner = Becky Utz
- Fall Festival Décor = John Terhurne
- Knit Hat = Jen Schaffer
- Knit Scarf - turquoise = Jen Schaffer
- Knit Scarf - pastel colors = Judi Leibbrand
- Knit scarf/hat set = Donna Drganc
- Stone Jewelry = Charlene Tryhus
- Red Rock Jasper Jewelry Set = Jen Schaffer
- Mug Set = Charlene Tryhus
- NOC Survival Kit = Jen Schaffer
- Wine & Chocolate Kit = Joey Freyberg
- SLS Wine/Coco Survival Kit = Joey Freyberg
- Partylite Flower Pot Trio = Judi Leibbrand
- Framed Picture = Melissa Steffensmeier
- Full Body Reiki Massage = Karin Ambros-Ward & Connie Dirckx
- Angels = Karin Ambros-Ward
- Pub 500 Kit = Jen Schaffer



**LIVE UNITED** Greater Mankato Area  
 United Way



# Upcoming Inservices at HMC

## October

### Values

10/5/2011 – 1:00pm to 2:00pm  
10/25/2011 – 9:30am to 10:30am

### Alternatives to Physical Intervention

*(also available during orientation)*  
10/14/2011 - 12:00pm to 2:00pm

### Rule 40

*(also available during orientation)*  
10/14/2011 – 2:00pm to 3:30pm

### Defensive Driving

10/5/2011 - 2:00pm to 2:30pm

### Fire Safety – LAST CHANCE FOR 2011

10/20/2011 - 1:30pm to 2:30pm

### CPR and First Aid – Full Course

10/6/2011 – 9:00am to 1:30pm  
10/18/2011 – 11:00am to 3:30pm

### CPR and First Aid – Recertification

10/10/2011 – 2:00pm to 3:30pm  
10/25/2011 – 10:30am to 12:00pm

### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Emergency Procedures

Required for Homestead Employees ONLY

10/10/2011 – 12:00pm to 1:00pm  
10/11/2011 – 9:00am to 10:00am  
10/11/2011 – 3:30pm to 4:30pm  
10/13/2011 – 10:00am to 11:00am  
10/13/2011 – 1:00pm to 2:00pm

### ELECTIVES:

#### **Getting a Good Grip on Stress**

10/6/2011 – 9:30am to 10:00am

#### **SCOPE Conference: Putting the Pieces Together – Where Do You Fit?**

10/12/2011 – 9:00am to 4:00pm

**MUST HAVE APPROVAL FROM  
SUPERVISOR TO ATTEND**

## November

### Values

11/3/2011 – 3:00pm to 4:00pm  
11/21/2011 – 10:15am to 11:15am

### Alternatives to Physical Intervention

*(also available during orientation)*  
11/14/2011 - 1:00pm to 3:00pm

### Rule 40

*(also available during orientation)*  
11/30/2011 – 2:00pm to 1:30pm

### Defensive Driving

11/3/2011 - 2:00pm to 2:30pm

### CPR and First Aid – Full Course

11/7/2011 – 10:30am to 2:30pm  
11/29/2011 – 9:00am to 1:30p

### CPR and First Aid – Recertification

11/9/2011 – 11:00am to 12:30pm  
11/14/2011 – 3:00pm to 4:30pm

### **To register for an inservice**

**Contact the Staff Development Director at one  
of the following:**

1. Call: 625-1329, ext. 254  
—leave a message if necessary
2. Email: [jleibbrand@harrymeyercenter.org](mailto:jleibbrand@harrymeyercenter.org)
3. Write a note and route to the  
Business Office

Please leave your full name, date and title of the  
inservice(s) you wish to attend.

Once signed up for an inservice, staff are expected  
to attend the inservice. Failure to attend will be  
treated as a no show for a scheduled shift. If you  
are unable to attend, call the above phone  
number prior to the inservice to cancel your  
registration, a minimum of 24 hours notice is  
required except in the event of an emergency.

# Wonderful News!



Volunteer Opportunity for October!! From: [Katie Shabrack, Activities Coordinator](#)

HMC is featuring "The Back Pack Project" for the month of October!!! What is the back pack project you may be wondering? Through community support of donations this program is able to help kids get the nutritional foods they need when they are home over the holiday breaks and on weekends during the school year. The BPP was started in Mankato last year as a pilot program to serve children at Franklin elementary but through more support and donations this fall they were able to offer it to several other schools and they continue to focus on helping as many kids as they can by sending home healthy foods and snacks every Friday for kids in kindergarten through third grade who may not be eating well or very little over the weekend. Every year for Community enrichment month we pick an organization to help and we've choose the back pack project this year as it helps kids in our local community. A list is available of preferred items on their website and a paper version will be distributed soon to everyone at HMC. Everyone, including staff, is encouraged to bring a donation from the provided list to our dinner and dance on Thursday Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>. You can collect on your own or as an apartment/house. Staff interested in donating may also drop off these items at the office on or before November 10<sup>th</sup>. For more information on this organization you can go online to [www.feedingourcommunitiespartners.org](http://www.feedingourcommunitiespartners.org). I look forward to seeing how many back packs we can help fill!

Jessica Baer- You are a great team player! I just want to thank you for helping me out that night in apartment 5 it was great to feel like we were just working together. The night went by so quickly. Thank you for being such a great example of teamwork for other coworkers and also I think it was a great reminder for myself!

Thank you Jessica!  
—Heather Prokosch

Welcome Haleigh Korn to House 2! We are excited to add you to our team!  
— Heather Dumke

Welcome Ashley Johnson, Ashley Karst, Jon Propst, and Alyssa Westergren!!!! We are excited to have you join our team! -- Stephanie Menke

Thank you everyone who pitched in while I was on maternity leave. You all did a great job! — Shirley Hall

**Thanks to staff at # 2** for their work making Sarah feel welcome. Sarah's family is very pleased with how she is doing, and how it is going so far. **Open House at # 1 on 9/21** was a fun success. Tons of guests and friends and family came. The men were very pleased. Thanks to Sam for planning and mucho work, for Kelly and Brittany and Fred for helping out, to Becky for your wonderful potato salad and cookies, to Carol and Chris for a budget, and to all who came and made it so successful. Thanks also to John and crew for the new desk top and other nice touches. **LINDA, STAFF AT # 12** – ENJOY THE SMOOTH SAILING! **Jill and # 9** – the Health Fair should (must) end – so hang in there, and thanks for the appointments and efforts. ---- John Ganey

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS ...

**Who:** Everyone in Harry Meyering Center's Pension Plan

**What:** Pension Education and Informational Meetings

**When:** Wednesday, October 12<sup>TH</sup>

**Where:** Meyering Conference Room

**Times:** 9:30 a.m. OR 1:30 p.m.

PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ATTEND  
ONE OF THE SESSIONS

Pauline Rose, Administrative Accountant

# What's North?

The men of **Apartment 1B** have had a wonderful month of September! They have all enjoyed the beautiful fall weather and the nice walks they bring at this time of year.

**Rick** enjoyed the weather by catching a Mankato West Friday night football game. He had a great time cheering on the scarlet's! Rick also went to the fall elegance dance this month where he danced the night away.



**Louis** continues to go to music at the wine café on Fridays for happy hour! He also thrived his taste buds at Mexican restaurants this month!

**Richard** is saddened that fall means Vikings football and no more music at Pub 500. He was able to listen to the last 2 music Sundays at the beginning of the month. Hopefully it will be a quick season and he can get back there soon. He also went bowling this month and purchased a new rocking chair which he can't get



enough of! **John** is excited for the new fall flavors of coffee to come back to caribou. The pumpkin lattes are one of his



favorites. He also went bowling this month and took lots of strolls at Sibley Park! The men also participated in the Minneopa event. Look for more details in the next newsletter! Have a great month of October! :)



**Michelle Brunn and Melanie Anhorn**  
**Apartment 1B Co-Leads**

**Apt 2** has been really crazy this September. Apartment 2 received two men this month, Richard and Buddy! It has been an honor and a joy to have the two join us. All three men have been getting along quite well and seem to enjoy each others company. **Richard** has been saying that he enjoys it in Apt 2 and enjoys having a lot more space to move around. Richard has been enjoying his last couple weeks of warm weather going on walks and going to watch the HMC Fall softball team to cheer them on. When Richard is not enjoying the weather outside, he is enjoying his time inside working on some latch hook and getting to know his new roommates. **Clinton** has been keeping busy this past month. He has gone to the park several times to pick up sticks and swing and has also been going on quite a few walks to enjoy the nice weather. Clinton was able to see and spend time with his brother this month by going bowling and for something to eat at the Wow! Zone. If Clinton is not spending his time outside, he is usually spending his time listening to CD's that he buys from the thrift store and Dancing to them! **Buddy** is just starting to get the swing of how we do things here at HMC. He is adapting well and is good at making people laugh. Buddy has been participating in a lot of fun activities since he moved in. He has been enjoying playing card games and board games with staff and roommates and has enjoyed going on walks and watching the HMC Fall Softball team as well. He is learning more and more about his roommate's everyday and seems to enjoy their company.



**Apartment 2 Co-Leads:**  
**Tessa Huber and Kara Vollmer**





## Sports Update

A great big **THANK YOU** goes out to all of the loyal HMC Softball Fans!! Even during the last late game of the season (which was even a 9:15pm game) we had fans cheering in the stands!! Softball is now down for the summer and for the fall, so we will just have to wait until next year for a little more HMC softball! It means so much to the players to have the fans in the stands supporting the team and cheering. Even when we don't get a win, it is still a lot of fun because of the fans!!

We can't wait until next softball season!!



Not quite ready to be done cheering for your favorite HMC Sports team?? Well then you are in luck!! HMC is having a Volleyball team this fall/winter. The games will be on Monday nights at various gyms in the Mankato area. Exact schedule with dates and times to be posted at a later date. The volleyball team is looking for some great fans. The team will be wearing new jerseys that are purple and white...so get your team colors out (or any HMC shirt will do) and come out and show your support to the team!

**Watch for more details about the actual dates and times of the games.**

# Staff Recognition

*This month we recognize the*

ICF Program Manager

Assistant SLS Director

Community Living Team Facilitator



**Claudia Cooper**

ICF Program Manager

**Amanda Vortherms**

ICF Program Manager

**Brittany Anderson**

SLS Assistant Director

**John Ganey**

SLS Assistant Director

**Melissa Steffensmeier**

SLS Assistant Director

**Melanie Woller**

SLS Assistant Director

**Leslie Bohnert**

Community Living Team Facilitator

**Steven Gahm**

Community Living Team Facilitator





## Amanda Vortherms asked Rick:

What is your favorite thing about the fall season?

When fall season comes, my favorite thing to do is go to Minneopa Park and see the big waterfall. I enjoy seeing the leaves change colors too. I also like planting for the park clean up day! Fall is also the start of football and basketball seasons. I look forward to going to the games, showing my team spirit, and cheering for our wonderful boys and girls. I will continue to cheer for the Vikings even though they are 0-3. But shhhhhh....don't tell anyone I said that!

*Rick Madsen*

If you have a question for Rick, you can contact him at:

[icf-apt1b@harrymeyercenter.org](mailto:icf-apt1b@harrymeyercenter.org)

## Get to know our Nurses!!



Name: Jennifer Hunter

Amount of Nursing Experience: 6 years

Family: Corey, Ashley and Lily

Pets: Charlie

Hobbies/Interests: Gardening, enjoying the sunshine, and shopping!

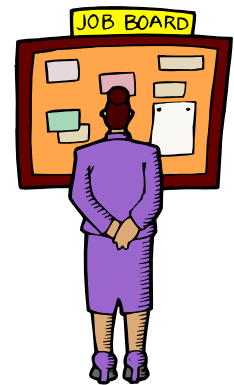
Goals: To become an RN someday and work in Hospice

What do you like about HMC? The teamwork and that all goals are client centered.

## Job Openings

Featured jobs are listed on our website and will be updated twice a week—Monday and Thursday.

HMC Employees: Please see all our current job openings in the Employees Only section of the website under Current Job Opportunities! This is updated as soon as postings are approved.



*Welcome new employees*

# WELCOME

Andrew Kuphal

SLS 1

Haleigh Korn

SLS 2

Hamdiya Abdullahi

SLS 5

Cody Lensing

SLS 5

Elizabeth Newberger

SLS 5

Micah John

SLS 6

Kerry Martin

SLS 6

Paul Sanderson

SLS 6

Nicholas Strause

SLS 6

Chaz Miller

SLS 9

Leah Rodeberg

SLS 11

JoLynn Berg

SLS 18

Chelsey Nissen

SLS 22

Jared Hoscheit

SLS 27

Ashley Karst

ICF

Abby Sieberg

ICF

Derrick Thronsen

ICF

Natalee Yeazle

ICF

Laura Klug

Prairie's Edge

Elizabeth Berg

RN—ICF

# October Anniversaries & Birthdays

## 32 Years

Mary Bloodgood      October 12, 1979

## 30 Years

Karin Ambros-Ward      October 9, 1981

## 26 Years

Judi Leibbrand      October 12, 1985

## 16 Years

Melanie Woller      October 10, 1995

## 11 Years

Abigail Higginbotham      October 16, 2000

## 8 Years

Judy Arzdorf      October 27, 2003

## 6 Years

Brooke Riley      October 10, 2005

Lisa Barker      October 20, 2005

## 5 Years

James Kline      October 17, 2006

## 4 Years

Paulette Becker-Schmirler      Oct 5, 2007

## 3 Years

Trisha Kramer      October 31, 2008

Heather Prokosch      October 31, 2008

Katherine Bowman      October 31, 2008

## 2 Years

Elisha Peterson      October 2, 2009

Katie Hanson      October 16, 2009

Susan Sandberg      October 30, 2009

Erin McKee      October 30, 2009

## 1 Year

Hanna Massey      October 8, 2010

Megan Carlson      October 8, 2010

Jessica Neumann      October 8, 2010

Brittany Beneke      October 8, 2010

Melanie Reger      October 22, 2010



**Becky Gilbertson**

October 3

**Danielle Thompson**

October 3

**Judith Reed**

October 4

**Ashley Karst**

October 6

**Amy Wenner**

October 9

**Alyssa Rose**

October 9

**Martha Hartman**

October 13

**Katie Hanson**

October 13

**Ivana Eskridge**

October 16

**Jessica Cassem**

October 18

**Kathryn Shabrack**

October 19

**Stephanie**

**Smithburg**

October 19

**Kristine Rude**

October 20

**Rebecca Nickell**

October 22

**Emily Sanow**

October 23

**Hanna Massey**

October 23

**Megan Manthey**

October 23

**Pauline Rose**

October 25

**Alissa Style**

October 25

**Sarah Boever**

October 26

**Marissa Humburg**

October 27

**Joshua Carstens**

October 27

**Jessica Sosebee**

October 27

**Katherine Bowman**

October 31

**Jessica Neumann**

October 31

