

# THE TALEBEARER

Volume 29/ Issue 1

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### FRANCES

For over 25 years, MRSI has had the great pleasure to provide residential care to Frances, and for the last 6 1/2 years Frances also attended our Day Program in Van Wert as well as in Celina. Over the years, Frances enjoyed participating in Special Olympics and she always enjoyed working on crafts. She loved bright and bold colors which matched her personality. Frances loved her jewelry and she loved showing it off to everyone she met. She always had a smile on her face that would light up the room. Anyone who met Frances could not help but smile back and have a friend for life. On May 22, 2024 Frances unfortunately left us all way too soon. Although we had to say goodbye to Frances so quickly, we also know she will always be in our hearts and memories.



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### FRED

A month later, MRSI had to say goodbye to Fred who lived with us for 9 years. He passed on June 19, 2024. Fred loved Elvis, singing and playing his piano. He enjoyed shopping at walmart and eating his peanut butter crackers. He was passionate about politics but was not interested in hearing your thoughts on the topic. You would never see Fred without his friend Teddy. Teddy went everywhere with Fred and became another member of the household. He also loved his mom dearly and took pride in being a good son. Fred brought joy and laughter to everybody's day and he will be greatly missed.



## WSGH

Wayne Street Group Home has had a fun winter and is loving the spring! We have had lots of events happening. We celebrated Easter with our staff by having a yummy brunch and did an egg hunt. We then had three of our residents participate in special Olympics bowling and they all did amazing! We finished up an awesome season of Challenger Baseball too! We were able to enjoy a cookout with individuals' families and had a great turnout.

- Anna Cox, Program Director



## MERCER ADS

We have really been enjoying the nice weather at the ADS. Clients have started up a flower garden, and celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up the local parks. We have also stayed busy with fun activities like going to the driving range at Lynx Golf Club, enjoying picnics at the park, and taking walks downtown for some window shopping. Everyone is also very excited for our next big adventure into fishing at the local lakes and ponds.

- Jennifer Bishop, ADS Director





## VAN WERT ADS

Van Wert ADS has been keeping busy by showing the community and others that we truly mean #spreadKINDNESSwithMRSI. We have been volunteering with the Humane Society kittens and watering flowers downtown. We look forward to the people downtown who we can always give a good morning and smile to. We have been doing many baking projects for various purposes like fundraising, National Senior Citizens Day, a local school, local businesses, just to name a few. We have also been working on fitness goals along with personal goals. We love experiencing new places and adventures as well as visiting some of our favorites. The staff and clients at Van Wert ADS challenge you to #spreadKINDNESS, you never know who needs it. Kindness costs nothing, spread it like glitter confetti!



- Jasmine Goins- ADS Coordinator

## GAY ST

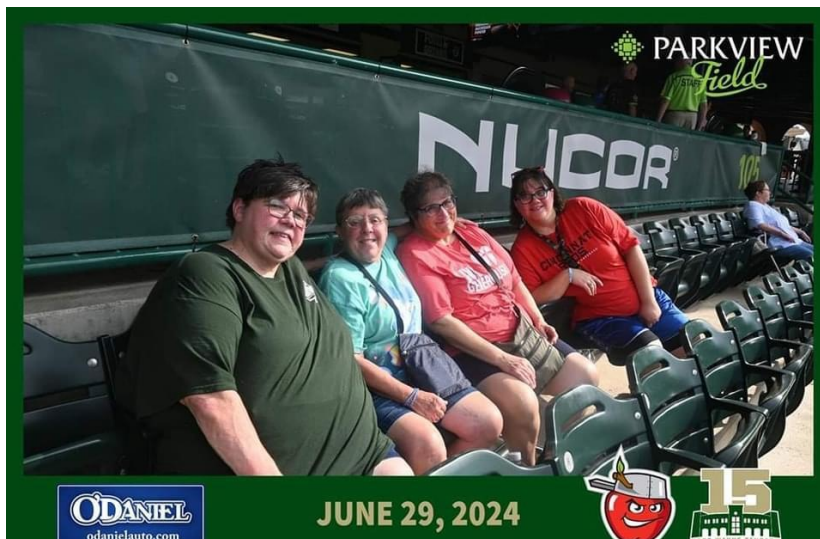
Greetings and Salutations,

Welcome back to Gay Street where we don't let the dust settle! Our ladies have been on the move.

We've been up to Fremont, IN and got to get up close to a buffalo herd and learned some interesting things about them. We made it over to Ft Wayne to a Tincaps game and enjoyed the luxury hotel right next to the stadium so we could walk to the game. Unfortunately, the Tincaps lost, but we got to see some fantastic fireworks! Until next time, keep your days amazing and grand, just like you!

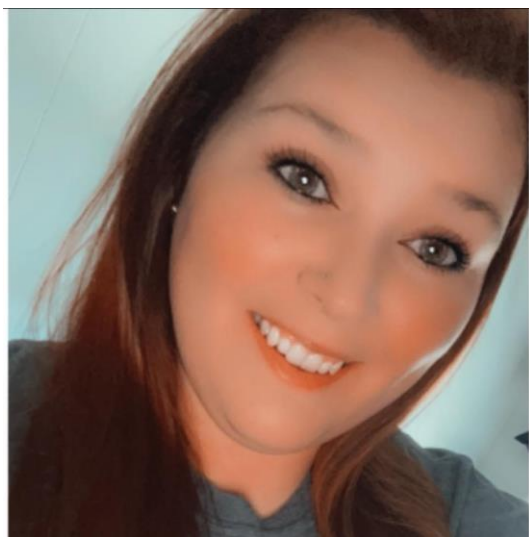
Tootles,

Amy Bennett, Home Coordinator



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**Mary Jo Smith** has worked with MRSI since 7/28/2003. In this time, Mary Jo has been a DSP, Mentor, Home Coordinator, and Team Lead. Mary Jo always steps up and goes above and beyond for MRSI and for our residents. She helps anytime it's needed. Mary Jo is a great person inside and outside of work. She is a caring, understanding, and compassionate and loves her family and our residents. There are so many times that I can sit thinking, "if it wasn't for Mary Jo, I wouldn't have made it through some situations." Since I have started with MRSI, she has been extremely helpful and my right-hand person. I am beyond thankful for Mary Jo and could never fully express my gratitude to her!



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

**Courtney Huff** was hired in February of 2023. She works at Mercer ADS and WSGH. Courtney lives in Celina and has one very energetic son. In her free time, Courtney enjoys staying busy with family and friends. She really enjoys fishing with her son. Courtney brings a lot of fun new ideas to the ADS. We are lucky to have Courtney on our team!

## INDIVIDUAL SPOTLIGHT

**Michelle** lives in her own apartment which she likes very much. She enjoys participating in Special Olympics: softball, basketball, swim, track, etc. She likes to be on the go and loves to go shopping. She enjoys working on puzzles and playing her video games as well. Michelle has a great laugh and loves to "pick" on her friends and make people laugh.





## Contact Us

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## **NURSE APPRECIATION**

**The following was written prior to nurses appreciation week but it is still important to show our nurses the love!**

With Nurses Appreciation week approaching, I would like to take this time to really truly thank all the nurses, whether they are psychiatric nurses or medical nurses, for working so hard to best meet the cares of those who need it daily. In my own personal experience, I had two special nurses at a psychiatric unit who extremely love their job and these two ladies were really caring and, while a patient there on the unit, they have taught me self-compassion as well as having grace for myself.

Now, with the nurses at MRSI and TE group home, I really would like to take the time and say how much I really do appreciate all three of them. Shannon and Donelda are the greatest dynamic duo with helping and assisting all of the clients including myself with appointments and being the best they can.

Lastly, I'd really would love to say that being with MRSI for a little over 3 years, these nurses have and always will try to truly fulfill their duties as, of course, caring for us and for being a part of the team. I'm just so appreciative of all nurses in every department.

- Beth

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