



NEW HORIZONS
VILLAGE

New Horizons Village News

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Special Olympics, dance and music are NHV residents' special goals

New Horizons Village has seen many of our residents win red and blue ribbons at the county Special Olympics competition. Other residents are in training for State Special Olympics or spend time in the pool preparing for swimming competition.

One of our ladies goes with her mother to square dancing events. They dress in wonderful outfits. This hobby enables them to spend time together and enjoy shared experiences.

A male resident is taking guitar lessons; he's practicing to learn his cords. There is excitement in his voice and a sense of accomplishment on his face. He is an inspiration to others (including staff) to follow his lead.

Helping residents achieve special goals is part of our NHV mission: *giving loving care and protection to the lives entrusted to us and helping them become as productive, self-sufficient and independent as possible.*

Each new task they learn or master is an achievement we celebrate. We staff members enjoy sharing their accomplishments with them – and with you.

If you have any thoughts or wishes about special goals for your loved one, we want to know about them. Please contact Donna Salak/QMRP at donnas@newhorizonsvillage.us

Special Olympics



Several New Horizons Village Track and Field team competitors display their ribbons at the Citrus County Special Olympics.

NHV residents Linda (below), along with Tony and Amber (above and right), were picked for state competition to be held May 2011 at Disney's ESPN Arena.



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Fun and Food at the Citrus County Fair

Our trip to the fair, a much-anticipated event for NHV residents - was full of clowning around, rides and great food. The smorgasbord we enjoyed included ribs, hamburgers, hotdogs - and we can't forget the French fries, a fair favorite. The Merry-Go-Round, bumper cars and the Ferris Wheel are popular ride choices. The haunted house is a "must do" for one of NHV's gentlemen residents.



Wendy clowning around and Denise enjoying her dinner



Bruce on the Ferris wheel

The smiles on our residents' faces reveal how much they enjoy the county fair.

Speech and Physical Therapy at our ADT Facility



Pat and Wendy receiving speech therapy while Gail builds up his physical strength



Loretta working with the therapist

Physical therapy is a crucial component of NHV's vision of challenging ourselves to continually raise the bar of care for the developmentally disabled. As staff members, we witness the joy and sense of accomplishment resulting from our residents' progress. One of our residents, who was depended on his wheelchair, is becoming more independent by working hard on mastering walking using a walker. Another resident has learned – for the first time – to speak using an ever-broader vocabulary. Lives are changed at NHV, and it is a privilege to be part of this work.



News From Home



Having fun on Unit One

We've missed our leader Josie, but she'll come back home in May. We had a blast when we went on a picnic to Whispering Pines Park. Jane went down the slide, giggling the whole way. Mary came home from Seven Rivers; she is active and loves making muffin pizzas for everyone in her home. Toni makes pudding tarts; Sharon bakes cookies; and Adam will whip up pudding for us. It's terrific. We love to eat. We had a great time celebrating Scott's birthday. We went to China First in Crystal River and ate everything on the buffet, not once but twice! Easter egg hunting was a grand time and we found every hidden egg. We've had an exciting couple of months. Now we're looking forward to the annual MayFest celebration.

Ready for spring on Unit Two

We recently welcomed Tommy to our home; he loves sports and computers. In April we went to Home Depot and bought flowers to plant around the house for spring. Linda was chosen for Special Olympics and is going to compete in bike riding at the state competition. Go, Linda! We're so proud of her. We enjoyed a family dinner at Fat Boys; it has great BBQ. We love the outdoors, so we had fun at our picnic at Whispering Pines Park. To celebrate Easter we engaged in the traditional dyeing of Easter eggs, followed by an egg hunt. We look forward to seeing you at MayFest!

Spring is here on Unit Three

Special Olympics has been a focus of attention at our house for several months. Our home's Deanna and Kimberly competed. Deanna has won a pair of first-place ribbons for assisted walking; Kimberly has won two second-place ribbons for bicycling. Awesome job, ladies! We're very proud of you. We love the warmer weather, and it was great the day Bruce, Rufus and Kimberly went to the Citrus County Fair. They enjoyed it immensely - and ate twice! Speaking of food, we all enjoyed dinner at Fat Boys in Crystal River: BBQ is a house favorite. Another high point for the month was our picnic at Whispering Pines Park. We hope that all our friends and family had a wonderful Easter and we hope to see all of you at MayFest.

Spring is here on Unit Four

In March we went to the Sub Station and the food was worth the trip. We traveled to Fort Island Beach to see the beautiful sunset. Later, we K-Mart shoppers caught the blue-light special. After enjoying our shopping we stopped and bought strawberries from Winn Dixie: they made a great dessert. Leslie, Larry Joe and Dorothy joined other residents on a boat ride and were delighted by the scenery. In April the Easter bunny came and left baskets full of candy and puzzles. We ate out at Denny's, shopped at CVS and had a picnic at Little Springs, overlooking the beautiful waterfall. We topped off a great month with a nice walk on the dock at Fort Island Trail. We want to give a warm spring welcome to Jessie, Dalyz, Violet and Janet. Come join us at MayFest!

Ready for spring on Unit Five

It has been a beautiful spring on Unit Five. We welcomed our new housemate, Paul, who moved from another home. We are privileged to announce that our housemate Tony was accepted for the bicycling competition at the State Special Olympics. We enjoyed lots of fun and delicious food at our St. Patrick's Day feast and dance. We went bowling, visited Bicentennial Park and Hunter Springs (to see the ducks) and ate dinner at McDonalds. Later we went to Wendy's for dessert. In April we traveled to Whispering Pines for a picnic and ate chicken wraps made for us by our wonderful dietary staff. We went on a trip to Pizza Hut, one of our favorite places as everybody likes pizza. Dairy Queen was our destination for treats and sweets. We're planning during the upcoming month to go to Crystal River Beach to see the birds and watch for boats. For Easter we liked Easter egg dyeing and our egg hunt. MayFest is coming up and we all hope to see you all there for a lot of fun and family time.

Hello from Unit Six

We have had two busy months. We welcomed Robyn to our house. Everyone is looking forward to getting to know her. We celebrated three birthday parties, complete with piñatas and games, for Denise, Timmy and Wendy. Timmy and Wendy chose the Olive Garden for their personal dinner outing and Denise wanted to go to Applebee's. We're extremely proud of all our residents who competed in the Special Olympics: they had a great time challenging themselves to compete in the games. Amber was honored in being chosen to compete in the State games. She is so excited, and so are we! Timmy is now taking guitar lessons and he's getting better all the time. We are looking forward to his concerts in the future. The warm weather has arrived and with it comes swimming, outdoor activities, picnics and MayFest. Hope to see you there!

Recreation highlights

The Recreation Department had an exciting two months. The Special Olympics Cycling Team had regional competition in Wesley Chapel. They earned five first-place ribbons, several second- place ribbons, one third-place ribbon and one fourth-place ribbon. Our runners and track and field participants had regional competition in St. Petersburg; they brought home six first-place ribbons, four second- place ribbons and one third-place ribbon. Great job! At a random drawing of all first-place athletes three New Horizons' residents were chosen to participate in the State track and field competition in Orlando, May 13 - 15. On March 18 we opened the pool and celebrated St. Patrick's Day with corned beef, cabbage and all the traditional extras. The NHV kitchen crew is awesome. Thank you! Easter was celebrated with our annual egg dyeing and Easter egg hunt. This year we added an Easter Sunday luncheon with ham, peas with pearl onions and sweet potatoes. Lemon meringue pie was a highlight of the meal. Yum! Now that the weather is warmer the pool is open and some of our ladies have requested to learn to swim. Not only are we going to teach them to swim, the Greiners have offered our pool for an aquatics program open to all Special Olympians! This looks to be a great opportunity for all Citrus County Special Olympics swimmers! We hope to see everyone at MayFest.

A commentary about Special Olympics by Dean

People from New Horizons Village went to the games last weekend and participated in the Special Olympics for the county games. Paul and Wayne C. and also myself Dean and Wendy and Linda and Amber all participated. Tim also went and Deanna and we started off doing our events. The ones on the bicycles did theirs first and then the runners did their running at the county games. Then Dean did the short put really, really well and then did the run and long jump. Then after that we ate snacks and had water to drink. Long after that we got our ribbons. We got second place and first place. Jana was amazed at all of us including yours truly Dean. Wayne W. came and cheered us on and Patrick went to cheer us on. Then we got our awards for the runners and bicycles. Then we left to go back home to New Horizons Village.

Busy At The ADT

Classroom 1

Greetings from Classroom 1. We had a very exciting couple of months. We love displaying our creativity. We made Easter bonnets from paper plates and had an Easter parade. We also made bumble bees from styrofoam cups: they look awesome. We constructed chickens from paper plates and we proudly show them in our classroom. Our classroom is called the Windsock Room. We made many different kinds of windsocks and they hang in our room. We went to the Alpaca Farm and had a great time. We met two Alpacas, an adult and a baby named Paris. Petting them was great fun. Their fur is very soft and they are quite tame. We can't wait to go and see them again. We go on picnics at the beach and we bring kites, pails, bubbles, etc. It's always fun to picnic at the beach.

Classroom 2

We enjoy being with our residents. They all have their own unique personalities and it brings us great joy to see them grow and learn. Rufus enjoys his science experiments, the beach, computer time, and discovering “clues” by putting the trash he finds in a plastic bag to throw away. During the last few months Rufus has blossomed. He greets staff members outside his classroom. Leslie enjoys her scrapbook. She visits the Humane Society and she also likes dressing up as a princess. Her great joy was when she won musical chairs: she was so happy. Monique loves the beach, the park and volunteering at the Resource Center. She is a big help. She loves to do household chores like taking out the trash and doing her laundry. We’ve noticed that since Monique has been at the ADT she likes to play games with every staff member. In several months at our ADT Trinh has been smiling, laughing, and talking more than ever. She also takes the hands of staff and loves taking walks with us. Her favorite pastime is playing catch with one of our large rubber balls.

Classroom 3

“The Man Cave” is the only class with all guys. We listen to music, watch movies, and do many other activities. We’ve put different pictures around our room. On one wall we’ve put up a huge tree made from brown paper. It stretches from the floor to the ceiling. The guys enjoy decorating it and changing the leaves for each season. To celebrate St. Patrick’s Day we decorated with four-leaf clovers, leprechauns and pots of gold. At Easter the room was decked out with eggs and rabbits and we had an Easter egg hunt in our classroom. The guys had great fun and lots of laughter as they searched for eggs. For spring we decorated our classroom with butterflies, grasshoppers, dragon flies, and lots of flowers. We made bug boxes and lanterns to hang from the ceiling. It’s awesome to see our class members’ faces every day when they arrive and look in wonder at what they’ve created. A few weeks ago we went with Classroom 1 on a beach picnic. We had a wonderful time. Some of the guys walked out on the dock where they fed bread to a flock of birds. We have a new training instructor, Henry, and the guys have taken a great liking to him. We’ve been working for several weeks on outdoor activities like playing basketball or throwing and catching a football. We have a new classmate named Tommy who fits in perfectly. He loves to joke and tell us how much of a party animal he is. It’s great to have him with us. It’s a real joy working with these guys because no matter how much you teach them it is really us, the instructors, who are truly being taught. Fulfilling NHV’s mission and vision is what makes our work here so special.

Classroom 4

We’ve had a great two months. We went on a super outing to Hernando Park where we saw many ducks. We got a kick out of watching airboats on the lake as we enjoyed the fresh air. We went with Classrooms 2 and 5 to Fort Island Trail Beach. We had a picnic lunch and took lots of pictures. We laughed ourselves silly when a seagull came down and took Ms. Debbie’s sandwich out of her hand. Our classroom decided to do a theme project on the animals found on a farm. We even have a huge barn on the wall. We selected and created the animals to put on the farm. It looks great! We enjoyed making Easter baskets and we went on an Easter egg hunt. We are so happy we have Robyn as our new classmate. She reads us a story every day. We listen attentively as she reads the story. The whole class loves it, especially Larry Joe.

Classroom 5

The last two months have been very special in Classroom 5. We have two new instructors; Manda and Marc. They show so much love and happiness for our class members every single day! We have done many fun activities and awesome outings. We celebrated two holidays, St. Patrick’s Day and Easter. In March we made handprint rainbows with our pictures inside them. They were beautiful. Shamrocks and four-leaf clovers were another creation. We had a picnic to Hunter Springs with Classroom 2. We loved it! Everyone enjoyed the sunshine and pretty water; some of us flew kites. In April we got ready for Easter. We made ornaments for our year-long tree. We kept our Christmas tree and we decorate it monthly with a different theme. The ornaments we made in April were little Easter baskets with paper mache’ eggs inside. We made Easter eggs, decorated bunnies and made spring chicks emerging from an egg. Our class has chosen a theme for our room: we are the “Under the Sea” class. Together we’ve made sea grass, fish, a scuba diver, submarine, a shark, and lobsters. We had our first picnic with just our own class. On a Friday in April we had great fun at the Alpaca Farm. Casey loved the baby alpacas. It was good to see everyone enjoying the animals. After the farm visit we had a nice beach picnic. As a class we have so much fun together! Every day we listen to 98.5 and we all sing. Casey and Walter are great dancers. Suzanne does her puzzles, decoupages them and we put them up in the classroom for everyone to enjoy. Amy L. loves her cookies and Amy G. loves her sunshine. Gail gets super excited for his new CD’s. CLASS 5 ROCKS!

Workshop

Life in the Workshop. Close your eyes for a moment and imagine you are part of the workshop at ADT. It is 8:30am and the students start rolling in; some walking, some running, a couple strolling leisurely. They arrive peaceful, excited and maybe even a little triumphantly. For today is a new day and there is a lot to look forward to. Opportunities to work, volunteer, learn, create, dance and grow await. What will it be today?

Much has happened in the last couple of months. There have been picnic outings, Easter egg hunts, contests that require amazing teamwork, ABC studies, science projects that include rock crystals and tornadoes, group painting and decorating the classroom. In-between the learning and fun, work and a chance to help the community abounds.

They work outside the classroom and all do piecework daily. Volunteering happens on a daily basis; from sprucing up and decorating the Inverness Courthouse to planting vegetables at the Path Farm. Much is learned about service and caring for others.

Every person has something special to offer the workshop. Some are incredibly artistic and musical, others are peacemakers. No matter how loud and rambunctious it gets, everyone seems to balance the place out. It is always a good day at New Horizons.

We are extremely happy to have a new classmate named Joanne. She loves being here just as much as we love having her here.

Special Moments from the ADT Our trip to the Alpaca Farm



Toni giving loves to a baby Alpaca



Lori walking an Alpaca

Our trip to Positively Pets of the Humane Society of Citrus County
We bake dog biscuits and bring them to Positively Pets. We
groom and pet the dogs.

The staff at Positively Pets not only spoils the animals; they spoil us when we come! They
always have a great special lunch for us.

Everyone gets something important out of these visits.



Leslie looking at a small dog



Monique posing pretty with a poodle



Wayne C. loves the dogs



Rufus chose a stuffed bunny

Every Wednesday we make a trip to the Post Office.

We make cards and send them to our family and friends.

We even have pen pals in Illinois



Jimmy, Larry Joe, Tony, Wayne W. Toni, Adam, Mary with Staff



Tony mailing a letter to his mom

We all have fun including the instructors

Dressing up as a Princess in our castle



Our instructor Princess Art



Princess Leslie

Upcoming Events:

Cinco de Mayo

Place NHV - Recreation
May 6, 2011
Time: 5:00 PM

Special Olympics State games

Place: ESPN Arena, Disney
May 13th thru May 15, 2011
Time: 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM

MayFest

Place: New Horizons Village
May 21, 2011
Time: 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Special Olympics Swimming

Place: NHV - Recreation
June 4, 2011
Time: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Kiwanian Bowling Banquet

Place: Lions Club - Homosassa
June 4, 2011
Time: 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Summer Camp

To Be Announced



NOTES FROM THE EDITOR



If you would like to receive the New Horizons Village News by E-mail, or if you would like it sent to someone else, please send your request via e-mail to kim@newhorizonsvillage.us.

We invite you to visit the New Horizons Village ADT to see the difference it is making. Please call Marsha Abreu at 352-419-4877 or e-mail her at marsha@newhorizonsvillage.us so we can be prepared for your visit.