

Great River Homes, Inc.

River Drive

May Newsletter

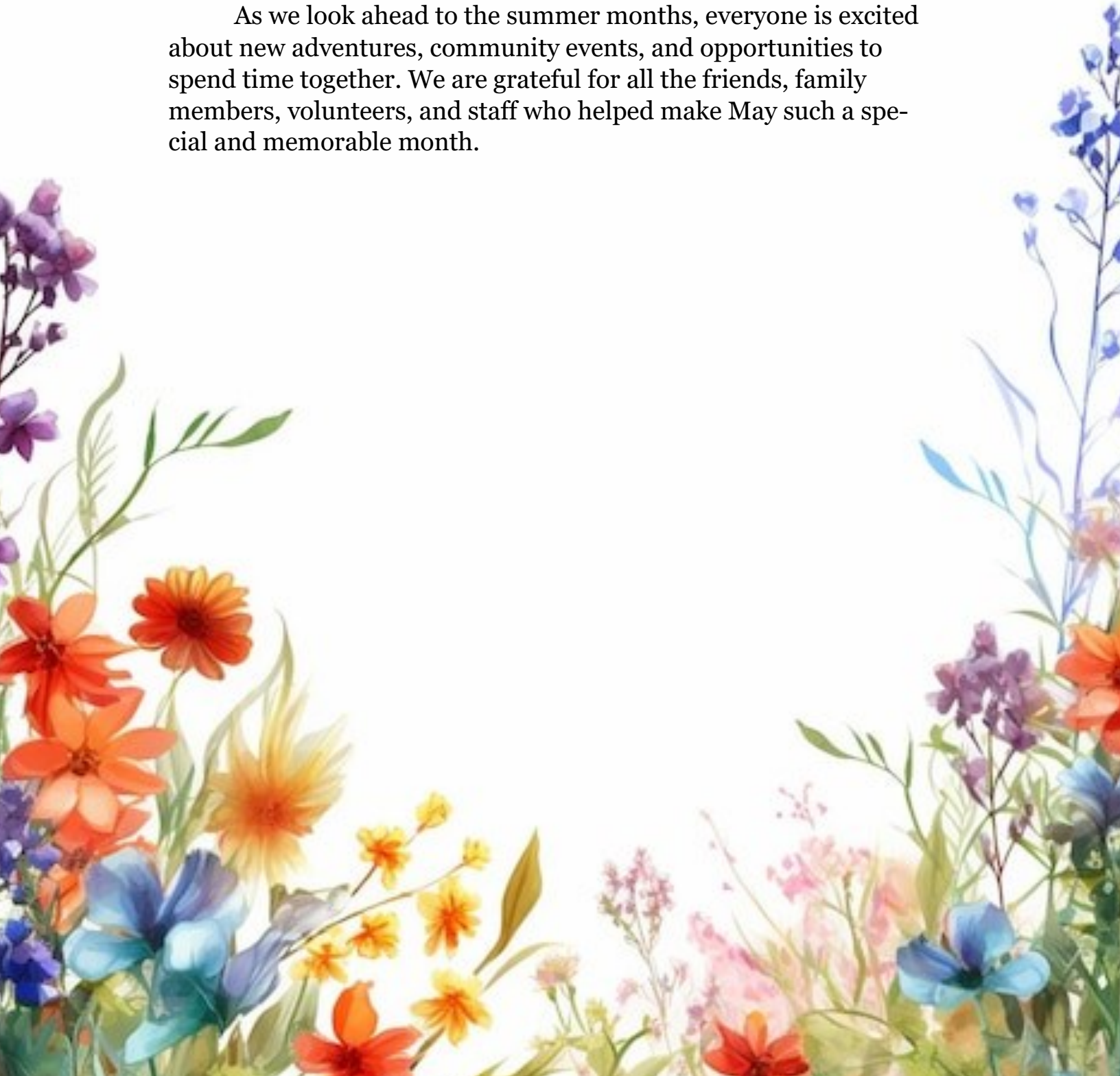
The month of May was filled with exciting outings, celebrations, and opportunities to spend time with friends and family. From sporting events and community gatherings to graduation celebrations and special visits with loved ones, everyone enjoyed a busy and memorable month. The warmer weather also provided many chances to get out into the community and participate in fun seasonal activities.

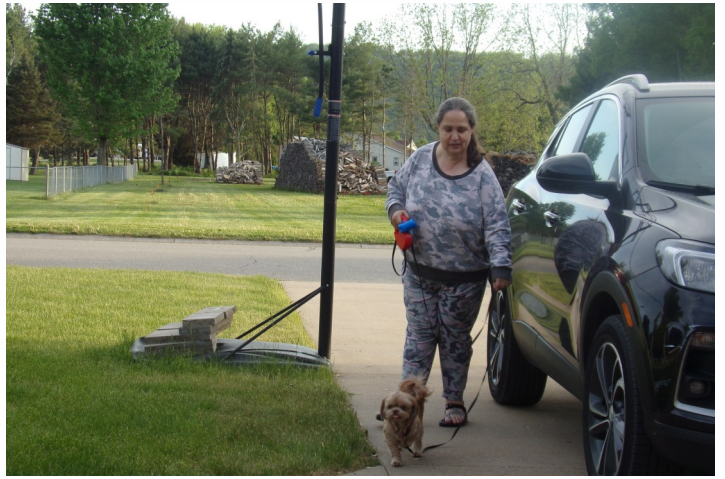
Mike had an enjoyable month filled with social activities and special outings. He attended a baseball game in Pepin with Trevor and enjoyed spending time with friends at the Spring Formal held at the Front Porch. He joined everyone for the Frozen coloring activity at 12th Street, the Summer Picnic at Bay Point Park, Abby's graduation ceremony and graduation party, and a Minnesota Twins game. He also participated in making thank-you cards at the Central Office and enjoyed dinner at the bowling alley with his housemates and Amy after Tuesday's bowling. One of his favorite highlights was attending a concert at Treasure Island with Jody. He also enjoyed a special dinner outing with his sister-in-law.

Trevor had a wonderful month filled with family time and community activities. He attended the baseball game in Pepin with Mike and joined his friends at the Spring Formal, Frozen coloring event, Summer Picnic, Abby's graduation ceremony and graduation party, Twins game, and thank-you card activity at the Central Office. On Mother's Day, he spent quality time with his mom and later enjoyed dinner with friends at the Central Office. After attending church one weekend, he went home for a visit before returning that evening. He also spent a weekend at home with family and enjoyed dinner with Amy and his housemates after bowling.

Christina stayed active and involved throughout the month. She attended a softball game at W-K High School and participated in the Spring Craft event at Red Wing High School. She joined everyone at the Spring Formal, Frozen coloring activity, Summer Picnic, Abby's graduation ceremony and graduation party, Twins game, and thank-you card activity. She also enjoyed spending time with her volunteer, Linda, and had a special dinner outing with Katy from 613. Christina continued building meaningful friendships while participating in a variety of community events.

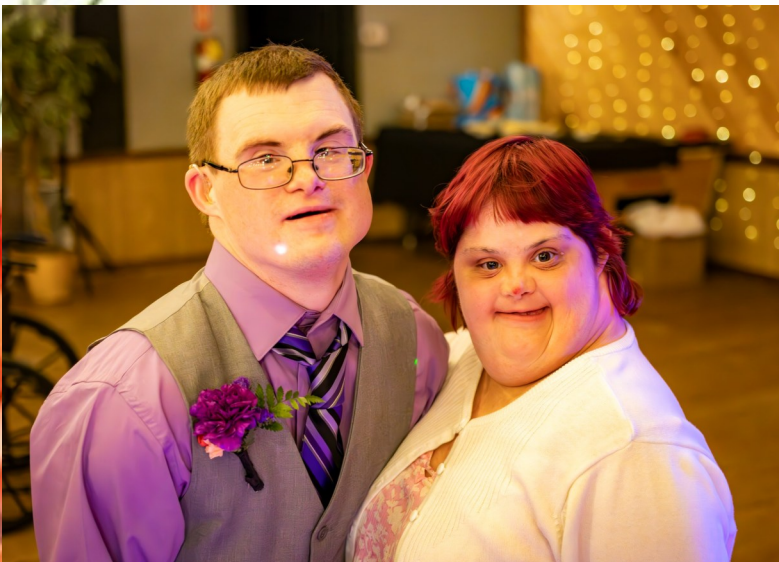
As we look ahead to the summer months, everyone is excited about new adventures, community events, and opportunities to spend time together. We are grateful for all the friends, family members, volunteers, and staff who helped make May such a special and memorable month.











This newsletter segment will hopefully help you learn more about Great River Homes, Inc. Here we will discuss agency processes, things that affect us, and ways you can help.

Commissioned by Louis XIV, Versailles began as a hunting lodge but evolved into a 700-room palace with the Hall of Mirrors and vast gardens. Over 36,000 workers labored on it, making it the political and cultural center of France for centuries. While the 700-room Versailles structure is very impressive, an impressive building does not ensure a good home.

By definition, a house is a building that serves as living quarters. Currently, Great River Homes provides services to individuals in eight different houses. Of the eight current houses, six of the houses were constructed by Great River Homes. Two other residential homes were purchased and remodeled. Key considerations for the housing were accessibility, safety, functionality, comfort, and appearance.

By definition, a home is a social unit formed by living together in a familiar or usual setting. Occasionally, we receive phone calls from community members who mistakenly think Great River Homes is a construction company that builds houses. While quality housing is vital in helping Mike, Trevor, and Christina live their best life, the ultimate mission of Great River Homes is to build homes, not houses.

While houses are built using construction materials, ethics serve as the foundation for a home where individuals feel secure and can live their best lives. Great River Homes belongs to the National Alliance for Direct Service Professionals, and we seek to follow their Code of Ethics. Values referenced in the Code of Ethics include person-centered supports, emotional and physical well-being, integrity, fairness, respect, relationships, and personal autonomy. Compared to a supportive, vibrant home where individuals are encouraged to pursue their dreams, even the most elegant structures, such as Versailles, pale in importance.

Jerry McMillin
Development and Education Manager