

OCTOBER 2022

## Sharing Memories to Celebrate 50 Years of Care

**W**hat better way to celebrate the 50 years that Twin Cities Meals on Wheels has been providing nutritious meals to Tonawanda and North Tonawanda residents than to reminisce with a 43-year volunteer?

Virginia (“Ginny”) Brown is that person and she has many thoughts about TCMOW’s history as she celebrated her anniversary as a volunteer on Aug. 29.

From its beginning at St. Mark Lutheran Church in 1972 to moving to its present location on Ridge Street in North Tonawanda in the early 1980s, it was known as the North Tonawanda Meals on Wheels. Later, with deliveries in the City of Tonawanda the name changed to Twin Cities Meals on Wheels.

According to Ginny, the name isn’t as important as what is accomplished, helping people, bringing some companionship along with good meals.

She recalled that at St. Mark, they used the school’s kitchen.

“I started because I had time on my hands and the doctor said I needed less stress.”

Over the years, Ginny has “done a little of everything and every day is different but the same,” she said. “We all know each other and I’ve made great friends with my delivery partner.”

For the past few years, she’s been with Nancy Young whom she calls a “special friend. We belong to the same church and enjoy each other’s company. We share the sad times such as a client who passes away and who we’ve gotten to know.”

Ginny explained that no volunteer would do what they do if they didn’t want to.

“Most of us have filled in when the need occurs. From the very beginning, the idea has been the same: to help people in need. I cannot even think about giving up delivering. I can’t praise Pam (Hill) enough for all she does.”

From organizing the first Canal Fest Parade, to delivering meals, from volunteer picnics to having hot dog sales and going on bus trips, Ginny has loved Meals on Wheels and all the joy, energy and pleasure it has brought to her life.



Ginny wheels her deliveries to start the day

## Adopt-A-Day Continues to Grow

Continuing its efforts to find new ways to attract the community to Twin Cities Meals on Wheels while also bringing in donations, **Adopt-A-Day** began its “journey” ic continuing to grow. Residents, our volunteers and business people have generously **Adopted-A-Day** that is special to them and shared the joy of that day with clients of Twin Cities Meals on Wheels with a dessert of their choice. TCMOW’s terrific head cook Connie Rabideau cheerfully fills the orders and the program is off and running. The cost for the “adoption” is \$99.00. In return for the “adoption,” the host receives:

\*Recognition in the monthly Adopt-A-Day notice in newsletter

\*Thank you on our Facebook page and in newsletters shared with the community

\* Thanks from the clients who enjoy a special treat!

In addition, there is an on-line order form to allow donors to use our PayPal account. For information on how to start the “adoption process,” or to receive an application, contact board members Carol Butch at 716-693-7048 or Rick Henderson. at [hendugi@gmail.com](mailto:hendugi@gmail.com)

## Pam's Corner

Well here it is, one of my favorite months, October. Not for the weather or any family things but because of the last day of the month — **Halloween!** What a great day!

You can get away with being as creepy and demented as you want and no one is the wiser. The looks on little kids faces when you scare them- oops did I really say that? But seriously I have always liked decorating and handing out candy bars to the neighbors children.

Where I am now I usually decorate the inside of the garage and the front yard. I have one neighbor who told me last year he has pictures going back to the first time I did it in this house, but I had decorated my last house for years and also did a friend's pumpkin farm to sell pumpkins.

I will say though it definitely is getting harder to do, I wonder if the neighbors would mind if it was up all year? I really am a weird person aren't I?

I keep telling the neighbors this will be the last year and then it comes around again and I start dragging out boxes and boxes of stuff and come up with some new ideas and off I go again. This year we are having a skeleton "classroom" in the front yard. I can't wait to see how the kids like this one. My next door neighbor also decorates so we get quite a few visitors each year. So that's it for this month and if you don't have anything to do everything should be up a week or so before Halloween. Happy haunting and have a great Halloween!

See you next month...

Pam

## June Jordan: Loss of Long Time Volunteer and Friend

June Jordan, who for 29 years had been Karl Bauer's longtime partner, died Sept. 8, 2022. Along with Karl, June was a long time volunteer at Twin Cities Meals on Wheels starting in 2008.

Although many knew her at TCMOW, many more knew her as a registered nurse for the Niagara County Health Department and at DeGraff Memorial and ECMC hospitals.

A long time active member of First United Methodist Church in North Tonawanda, she was a former secretary of the Blues Society of WNY.

June loved to talk about her dearly beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren who brought her great joy.

She was a person who spread joy wherever she went and was always willing to help. Condolences to Karl and to June's family.

## Use Amazon? Try Amazon Smile and Help Fund TCMOW

Twin Cities Meals on Wheels participates in the Amazon Smile program. We are listed as Twin Cities Meal on Wheels.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support Meals on Wheels every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile is available at smile.amazon.com on your computer's web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones.

To shop at AmazonSmile, go to smile.amazon.com or activate AmazonSmile on your Amazon Shopping app on your iOS or Android phone (found under settings on your app). You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier .

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\* **Oct. 5** - 8, Fine Arts League of Buffalo hosts its 69th Annual Fall Juried Members' Exhibition at River Art Gallery & Gifts, 83 Webster St., North Tonawanda.

\* **Oct. 8**, City of Tonawanda Senior Center Meat Raffle. Presale tickets \$10/ \$12 at the door. Doors open at 6 p.m.

\* **Oct. 13**, How to Paint a Pumpkin Watercolor Class, 6-8 p.m. Carnegie Art Center, 240 Goundry St., North Tonawanda, \$35, limited to 15. Register at <https://conta.cc/3RfWwaY>

All supplies are included, and a step-by-step demonstration will take you from start to finish. This class is ideal for ages 10 and up.

\* **Oct. 15**, Oktoberfest 1 to 8 p.m. at Canal Street Pavilion, 1 Main St., Tonawanda. Authentic food, drink, live entertainment by the Auslanders and the Frankfurters. Contest for best authentic dressed. Dance contest for children.

\* **Oct. 14-16**, The Ghostlight Theatre will present "Night of the Living Dead." for the Halloween Season at the theater, 170 Schenck St., North Tonawanda. Come join us and our house of Zombies as we recreate one of the great horror classics on stage. Be careful where you sit you might encounter a ghoul or two.

\* **Oct. 15**, Basket raffle & craft show 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sikora Post, 950 Payne Ave., North Tonawanda. Sponsored by Vietnam Veterans, Chapter 77.

\* **Oct 16**, St John Lutheran School hosts a Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 6950 Ward Road, North Tonawanda.

\* **Oct 22**, Haunted Harbor, 6 to 8 p.m. Gateway Harbor Park (Sweeney and Young Streets, NT and Tonawanda) Join us for some trick and treats. This family friendly affair features plenty of trick-or-treat stations, a haunted bridge (for the older kids), and plenty of games and activities to kick off the Halloween season. Dress in your costume and be prepared for a spooky good time!

## Adopt-a-Day Special Thanks

9/12 — Todd Oldenburg: Special Oatmeal Cookies in honor of family birthdays!

8/26 — Sue Clark: Yummy Brownies to celebrate her birthday!

## Speaking of Super Volunteers:

Courtney Ceckowski, a wonderful volunteer, may be tiny but her big smile and energetic nature bring joy to the clients to which her dad, Keith, faithfully drives and delivers every week.

Pam Hill was on hand to thank Courtney for her full summer of work and hopes her energy will lead to new volunteers.

"The people we deliver to really like to see me..," Courtney said. "And it makes my day bright."

There's no doubt Courtney makes their day bright as well.

*If you know someone who is looking to help the community and has a little time to spare, suggest he or she (or both) stop by TCMOW for a tour. They may consider volunteering.*

**Volunteers are ALWAYS needed!**



**TCMOW has a remarkable number of super involved volunteers whose lives are full of fun and activities.**

**So it's hard to believe that none of you have any news to share.**

**Surely, there are birthdays, vacations, new grandchildren or their stories and activities, your dog's newly learned trick, your lawn mower that quit in the middle of the yard or you need prayers for yourself or someone you know!**

**Don't forget to send information on activities in town or at your church or another organization. We're happy to post any event.**

**Any news tips that you'd like to share, may be emailed to Barbara Tucker, [wgtbt@aol.com](mailto:wgtbt@aol.com) or drop the news off to Pam at the TCMOW office. Waiting to hear from YOU!**



Each month the names and date are listed for volunteers and staff who are celebrating a birthday during the month.

**Oct. 2 Curt Gaume**

**Oct. 5 Gail Wildt**

**Oct. 5 Karen Kudla**

**Oct. 8 Ann Webster**

**Oct. 12 John Cahill**

**Oct. 16 Denise Sawatzky**

**Oct. 27 Danny Muldoon**

**Oct. 29 Lynne Lang**



*Happy Birthday! Enjoy the Day!*



*These years of service show a commitment to Twin Cities Meals on Wheels by our wonderful and faithful volunteers.*

*Congratulations for your continuing energy and devotion to helping others!*

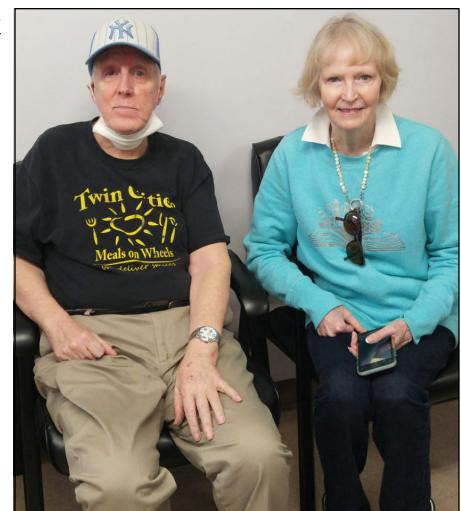
Cheryl Bombard	1
John Cahill	7
Kaye Brenon	16
Carol Conners	16
Joan Dirmyer	16
Carol Kopczynski	16
Lynn Lang	16
Marilyn O'Rourke	16
Lin Raynor	20
Pat Hibbert	20

## Surprise Visit

Karen Marshall brought her brother, long time volunteer Jim Baldwin, for a visit to TCMOW to see old friends and share some fellowship.

Volunteers who know Jim were delighted to have him visit, if only for a day.

This is what volunteering at Twin Cities Meals on Wheels is all about!



## Thought from a Volunteer

We're here because we  
Love the Lord,  
Love the Community  
Love People.

# Share a Laugh

## Aging - A few thoughts...

"To get back to my youth I would do anything in the world, except exercise, get up early, or be respectable." - Oscar Wilde

"The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for." - Will Rogers

"Old age comes at a bad time." - San Banducci "

"Inside every older person is a younger person wondering what happened." - Jennifer Yane

"I'm so old that my blood type is discontinued." - Bill Dane

"The older I get, the more clearly I remember things that never happened. - Mark Twain

"Wisdom doesn't necessarily come with age. Sometimes, age just shows up all by itself." - Tom Wilson.

"I don't plan to grow old gracefully. I plan to have face-lifts until my ears meet." - Rita Rudner

"Nice to be here? At my age it's nice to be anywhere." - George Burns

"Don't let aging get you down. It's too hard to get back up." - John Wagner

"Aging seems to be the only available way to live a long life." - Kitty O'Neill Collins

"Old people shouldn't eat health foods. They need all the preservatives they can get." - Robert Orben

"Middle age is when you're sitting at home on a Saturday night and the telephone rings and you hope it isn't for you." - Ogden Nash

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small.

The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible.

The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah.'

The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?"

The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".



### Just Wondering Why:

....Why do people order double cheeseburgers, large fries, and a diet Coke

.... Why do we buy hot dogs in packages of ten and buns in packages of eight?

.... Why do they have drive-up ATM machines with Braille lettering?

....How did the man who made the first clock know what time it was?

'...Why is 'abbreviated' such a long word?

...Why is it that Doctors call what they do 'practice'?

...Why do people pay to go up tall buildings and then put money in binoculars to look at things on the ground?

... Why can the professor on Gilligan's Island make a radio out of a coconut, but can't fix a hole in a boat?



People say get out and enjoy nature

### And Then.....

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her high school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table.

I asked her, "Do you know him?"

"Yes", she sighed, "He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since."

"My God" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

And then the fight started....

**YES! I want to do my part to continue the work of Twin Cities Meals on Wheels. Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

*Return this slip and your check made out to Twin Cities Meals on Wheels to:  
TCMOW, 100 Ridge Road, North Tonawanda, NY 14120 or donate online at [www.tcmow.com](http://www.tcmow.com)*