

JUNE 2026

NEWS FROM THE VALLEY

THE **VALLEY BUS** NEWSLETTER

NEW HIRES

DRIVERS	PARAS
David Gumke Robin Oster ----- NCDL: Jimmy Exalus	Fatu Essandoh Melissa Van Tubergen Hailey Neitzel Leon Hidanovic

INTRODUCTION

At our Employee Awards Ceremony in May, we recognized a group of outstanding employees whose dedication, professionalism, and commitment to our Core Values help make Valley Bus successful every day. As a reminder, we'd like to once again congratulate our 2026 Drivers, Paras, Rookies, and Employees of the Year.

Congratulations again to those folks! In the meantime, preparations for our Medora trip to aid in transportation for the grand opening of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library are under way. Sign up to drive! - *Danny M*

BIRTHDAYS OF JUNE

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- Teklay Habtu
 - Rodney Van Bruggen
 - Parween Sulaivani
 - Timia Frye
 - Amy Sjurseth
 - Dru Harbott
 - Sommer Kennedy
 - Ashton Joffrion
 - Bob Gustafson
 - Steve Hougum
 - Bintu Mbayoh
 - Kendra Johnson
 - Hailey Neitzel
 - John Swanson
 - Nettie Good
 - Jose Rodriguez
 - Noel Erovick
 - Larysa Hertsun-Sjursen
 - Sadie Olson
 - Gina Wieler
 - Craig Hamblin
 - Michael Walsh
 - Percival Araujo

FARGO

WEST
FARGO

GRAND
FORKS

JUNE 4.....LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!

SUMMER BREAK!

SUMMER BREAK!

2025-2026 AWARDS CEREMONIES



Last month, employees from across Valley Bus gathered to celebrate another successful school year and recognize team members who have gone above and beyond in their roles. While the ceremony may be behind us, the impact these individuals continue to make is felt every day throughout our company.

The Drivers, Paras, Rookies, and Employees of the Year recognized this year represent the professionalism, dedication, and positive attitude that help make Valley Bus successful. Their commitment to serving students, supporting coworkers, and living out our Core Values has earned them the respect of their peers and supervisors alike.

Fargo / West Fargo

- Driver of the Year — Don Nelson
- SPED Driver of the Year — Ken Hanson
- Para of the Year — Lydia Mootz
- West Fargo Driver of the Year — Dennis Kroshus
- Rookie of the Year — Cassie Hanson
- Employee of the Year — Amy Miller

Grand Forks

- Driver of the Year — Leslie Shifflett
- Para of the Year — Tanya Drake
- Rookie of the Year — Camden Sivertson
- Employee of the Year — Sean MacKenzie

Congratulations again to all of our recipients! Thank you for your hard work, your dedication, and for setting an example that helps all of us continue to Protect the Kids, Contribute to the Team, Improve the Company, Find the Fun, and Do the Right Thing.

