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## **Our Company ▾**

**Congratulations to all the Sprenger Employees of the Month!**

**Month of December**



### **Faith Brown - Grande Village**

Faith Brown came to GV just over a year ago after becoming a STNA. She has shown great growth in her position. Faith demonstrates team work and excellent customer service. She is a Mentor to new STNAs. Congratulations Faith!



### **Tomekea Weatherington - Anchor Lodge**

The staff of Anchor Lodge would like to congratulate Tomekea Weatherington on being nominated December's Employee of the Month. Tomekea began her employment at Anchor Lodge in June of 2001 as an STNA. Tomekea spent many years excelling as an aide providing excellent care and customer service.

Just over a year ago Tomekea was promoted to the STNA Scheduler. Although Tomekea is now in the Scheduler position it is not uncommon to find her on the floor helping a resident in need or assisting the STNA on the floor if additional help is needed. Tomekea is a wonderful employee. She is not someone you need to ask to do things, she is someone who sees that something needs done and just takes care of it. We greatly appreciate Tomekea for all of the work she does beyond scheduling. Thank you Tomekea from your coworkers and residents at Anchor Lodge for being such a helpful and caring person!



### **Mary Lisa Speelman - Horn Nursing**

Mary Lisa Speelman has been an STNA for 6 years and an employee of Horn for 2 years. She has recently become our Restorative STNA. Residents, visitors and staff all benefit from her friendly smile and eagerness to do her job. Mary Lisa says she likes her job, first and foremost because of the residents, and secondly because she likes the home like atmosphere here at Horn. She is happily married and the proud mother of 2. Eventually, Mary Lisa would like to go on and get her

RN Degree. We would all like to thank Mary Lisa for her caring, thoughtful way and the great job she does no matter what she is asked to do. Thanks Mary Lisa!

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### **Barb Lovinsky - Smithville Western**

Barb Lovinsky joined the team at Wayne Manor in 2008 as the Activity Director. Barb has brought many new programs to the assisted living and the residents look forward to the events each week. Barb is always lending a hand to the other staff and shares her smile with anyone who comes through the door. Barb feels that the best part of working at Wayne Manor is the teamwork. Everyone works together to give the best quality care to the residents. Thanks Barb for all you do!



### **Maria Ortiz - Towne Center**

Maria was born in Barranquitas, Puerto Rico, a mountainous region of the island. She graduated from high school in Puerto Rico and one year later, in 1975, came to Lorain, Ohio with her family. After arriving in the U.S., Maria worked in a greenhouse and then for Neighborhood House delivering meals on wheels. She began working for Sprenger Retirement Centers in 1996 in Laundry and Housekeeping. She transferred to Main Street Care Center when it opened in April, 2007. Her supervisor, Racheal Clark, states: "Maria Ortiz has been with our company as part of the housekeeping team for 13 years! She started at Lorain Manor and transferred to Towne Center. Maria is a true team player. She keeps our 100 rehab in top shape. She keeps up with the

admissions, discharges and room moves and never complains. Maria's attendance is commendable. She has never called off or missed a meeting in 13 years!! I am glad she is a part of my staff, she is a true asset!! Thank You Maria, and congratulations!"



### **Jami Smallwood - Heather Knoll**

Jami Smallwood has been chosen as the employee of the month for December. Jami is a cook that works afternoon shift in our Dining Services department. She takes great pride in providing our Residents with attractive, delicious meals and always is willing to help out where needed. This past summer, Jami volunteered her time to assist with the Heather Knoll Garden Club and our Residents were able to enjoy many fresh vegetables that were grown. Please stop by the kitchen and congratulate Jami on a job done well. We appreciate all of your hard work.



### **Dana Owens - Elms Retirement**

Dana Owens has been employed at the Elms since 1993. She started as an aide in the Nursing home and now she wears many different hats throughout the week. Since the Assisted Living opened, Dana works as an aide in Assisted Living as well as does Medical Records, Scheduling, and Scanning for Alchamey Folders for discharges. "I enjoy doing different jobs. I get to learn something new everyday of the week. I really like working with the residents". Dana is a great asset to the Elms. "Dana is great and she does a wonderful job managing to stay on task". "Dana is



someone you can look up to”. “I admire Dana”. As you can see Dana is a great role model for her peers. She has a wonderful influence on others. Dana recently got certified in ICD9 Coding (doing diagnosis). Dana does a wonderful job wearing all the different hats! They fit her well!



### **Robin Smith - Amherst Manor**

Robin Smith is a State Tested Nursing Assistant who has worked at Amherst Manor since June of 2007. We are proud to present her as our December Employee of the Month. Robin is a valuable asset to the Nursing Team, and is a fine example of teamwork for her peers. She is a Mentor and trains new employees responsibly and with patience and dedication. Robin treats the residents of Amherst Manor as if they were her own family, and each resident receiving care from Robin is enriched by the experience. Robin is a caring and compassionate individual who has a kind and giving nature. Her coworkers enjoy working with her because she is helpful, positive and dependable. Please join us in congratulating Robin during your next visit to Amherst Manor!



### **Jenna Gagliardi - Autumn Aegis**

Autumn Aegis Congratulates Jenna Gagliardi on Employee of the Month for December. Jenna has been at Autumn Aegis for less than 1 year. She has made a significant impact to our facility in a very short period of time. In Jenna's role as Admissions Director, she has helped families and residents understand the admissions process and helped to provide them with a comfort level upon

entry into our home. She has also been instrumental in developing a good rapport with the medical community. Way to go Jenna!

## Month of November



### **Juanita Meintel - Grande Village**

Juanita Meintel has worked for Grande Village since 1998. Juanita is caring and compassionate with the residents and families and enjoys the working with the housekeeping team. Congratulations to Juanita!



### **Alana Hall - Autumn Aegis**

Alana Hall was nominated for the employee of the month at Autumn Aegis because she is an above and beyond type of employee. Alana has been with Autumn Aegis for over two years. Alana was hired as a State Tested Nursing Assistant. Right away others began to notice how Alana would take care of all the residents and not just the ones that she was assigned to. Alana was quickly promoted to be a Restorative Nursing Assistant as she showed an interest in improving resident's quality of care. Alana never appears to be too busy to lend a hand to whoever needs it. She is a resident advocate who demonstrates this by her actions and attitudes which say, "put the resident

first.” Alana is a problem solver, she is dependable, and as one person put it, “always there when you need her.” Congratulations Alana!



### **Becky Russo - Anchor Lodge**

Becky has been employed at Anchor Lodge since September 2001 when she started as an LPN Charge Nurse. She was recently promoted to the Night Supervisor. Becky is always there for the residents and her fellow employees. She is a great asset to Anchor Lodge who is always willing to help out wherever needed . She is that go to person you can always count on to get the job done. Becky has great initiative and is constantly looking for things she can do to help out and make sure everyone is well taken care of. We greatly appreciate Becky and thank her for her continued dedication.



### **Grace Gonzalez - Amherst Manor**

Grace Gonzalez has been a team member at Amherst Manor for 5 years. Grace is one of our morning cooks, and our residents and staff rave about her cooking! Grace is always willing to lend a helping hand, working as an afternoon cook, dietary aide and server whenever she is needed. No matter what position she fills she works hard and does an excellent job. She is always giving 110% to her duties and always trying to add her special touch to make things just a little bit better. Grace is talented and creative and these skills are reflected in her cooking. Grace has a big heart, and she



is always willing to help the residents as well as her co-workers. If you see Grace please congratulate her on being Amherst Manor's November Employee of the Month. Thank you Grace for all you do. You play a big part in why Amherst Manor is a great place to live and work.



### **Tricia Phillips - Heather Knoll**

Tricia is an LPN here that works day shift, generally on our D wing. She takes great pride in providing excellent care to our Residents. This past summer, Tricia volunteered her time to lead the Garden Club for the Residents and everyone enjoyed the fresh vegetables that were grown in the Heather Knoll garden. In Tricia's off time, she is working towards pursuing her RN degree. Please stop by D wing and congratulate Tricia on a job well done. We appreciate all of your hard work!!



### **Kera Ramsey - Elms Retirement Village**

Kera is an aide at the Elms and her primary shift is second, though you may see her running around on the other shifts as well. Kera likes to help out her co-workers by picking up additional shifts when the need arises. Kera has worked at the Elms a little over a year. Kera said when she started at the elms she didn't expect to come in to make friends, however she has made a lot of them over the past year. "I really like the people I work with. Everyone is so nice." Kera is well liked by the residents and respected by her peers. Just as other employee's at the Elms has said,

Kera says her favorite thing about her job is the residents. She likes coming to work and getting all the warm hugs from the residents. "They know how to turn a bad day into the best day!" The Elms would like to thank Kera for all she does. We are very lucky to have her as part of our team.



### **Jilly Johnson - Towne Center**

Jilly obtained her GED in 2006. She then enrolled at Lorain Community College in the STNA program and obtained her STNA certification in 2007. She began working for Main Street Care Center in October, 2007 and has worked here ever since. She states: "I love taking care of people. I love it here that is why I have been here so long." Jilly is a tremendous asset to the organization and the residents adore her. Congratulations, Jilly!



### **Karen Rehm - Horn Nursing**

Karen Rehm has been an STNA at Horn Nursing and Rehabilitation off and on, (mostly on) for the past 30 years. In that same period of time, 5 of her 6 sisters have worked as STNA's at Horn. The "Moore" sisters are almost a part of Horn history. Karen started working here as a teenager and now is a proud mother and grandmother. Karen enjoys doing her job because she cares for the residents and considers them family. If you need a job done and done right, Karen is the person to

ask. She is respected by the staff, residents and families. We are all happy that Karen has decided to make her career as an STNA, and to spend it with us at Horn! Thanks Karen!

## Month of October



### **Patsy Price - Horn Nursing**

Patsy has been an employee of Horn since May 13, 1975. She started working in laundry and after about 10 years became the supervisor of both laundry and housekeeping. We celebrated Patsy's 30 years here and every 6 months Patsy is going to retire. Fortunately, she is still working hard and is still the head of laundry! It will soon be 35 years that Patsy has worked here and she says "I can honestly say, I enjoy my job!" Our staff are not the only people to benefit from Patsy's hard work. She is the proud mother of 3 girls, 8 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren. We at Horn are very proud to have Patsy as our employee of the month and thank her for all her years of service and hard work!



### **Kylie Surface - Towne Center**

Kylie began her career with Sprenger Retirement Centers in 2005 as a Dietary Aide at Autumn Aegis in Lorain. She transferred to Main Street Care Center when it opened in April, 2007. She has been working in the Dietary Department ever since, first in the Willow Lane Memory Unit and

currently in the Rehabilitation Unit. Kylie states that she loves helping the residents and getting to know them. She is an asset to the organization and the residents truly enjoy her. Congratulations, Kylie!



### **Joyce Ritz - Anchor Lodge**

Joyce began her employment at Anchor Lodge in March of 1983. She started working in the housekeeping/laundry department and eventually moved into the role of Director of Housekeeping and Laundry. Joyce is truly dedicated to the residents and her coworkers. She works right along side of her staff to ensure the beauty and cleanliness of the building. Joyce has a "can do, will do" attitude and helps wherever needed even if it means assisting at another facility. We are thankful Joyce has chosen to spend the past 26 years at Anchor Lodge as she is an asset and integral part of the management team. Congratulations Joyce and thank you for your commitment to providing outstanding service!



### **Iris Velezquez - Autumn Aegis**

Iris works in our housekeeping dept with over 11 years of experience. She is responsible for maintaining the hallways and the cleanliness of the rental units on campus. This includes the housekeeping and laundry services for our Independent Living residents. The residents just can't praise her enough for what she does for them. Iris is always ready to lend a hand when ever she is

needed by helping a co-worker, or serving as an interpreter for our many Spanish speaking residents. Iris is currently training as a Supervisor's Assistant. Anytime you see her there is always a smile of her face, which is reflected by the smiles of our residents. Keep up the excellent work.



### **Melinda Longwell - Grande Village**

Melinda Longwell is employed as an LPN at Grande Village. Melinda is always known to have a smile on her face and a kind word for all who come across her path in a day. Residents and families comment often on her cheerfulness and bedside manner. Melinda is always willing to lend a helping hand to co-workers and is a great asset to the team at Grande Village. Thank you very much for all that you do, Melinda!



### **Richie Browne - Heather Knoll**

Richie is a dining services aide for Heather Knoll and has been employed here since August of 2008. Richie takes great pride in his work and is very respectful and caring towards our residents and staff. He is a hard worker and always helps others when needed. If you see Richie in the hallways, please congratulate him on a job well done. Keep up the good work!!!



### **Tammy Whims - Smithville Western**

Tammy has been a nurse at Smithville Western since 2004. She graduated from the Wayne County Career Center's LPN program in 1992. She and her husband, Mike, who is her high school sweet heart, have a daughter named Shannon who is a senior at The University of Akron, majoring in Psychology and Education. Tammy says the best part about her job is the residents of course but also working with the other devoted staff members. Great job Tammy!



### **Deborah Trenchard - Amherst Manor**

Deborah has been employed at Amherst Manor for 1 1/2 years in the housekeeping department. Deborah is a great asset to her department and takes great pride keeping our facility clean. Deborah is always a team player helping her co-workers and residents wherever she is needed. Deborah always arrives with a pleasant attitude and has great customer service skills. The residents enjoy talking to her while she completes her cleaning assignments. Thank you Deborah for all your hard work and dedication and all you do for the residents at Amherst Manor. Please join us in congratulating Deborah on a job well done the next time you come for a visit at Amherst Manor.



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### **Loretta Asberry - Elms Retirement**

Loretta has been an aide at the Elms since March of this year. Loretta recently finished her LPN schooling and is waiting to take her boards. Loretta is a great team leader for her peers. She is always on top of things and she picks up shifts without thinking twice about it. Loretta leads by example. She always has a smile on her face and has been caught many times making residents smile. Loretta is fun to work with. She is always upbeat and her energy is amazing. She works nonstop from the moment she walks through the door until she walks back out for the end of her day. Loretta says the thing she likes the most about her job is, "I always enjoy being a part of the residents day and putting a smile on their face. Though many people look at it as business, it is also personal. All the residents are special in their own way. Working at the Elms is great. I love the people I work with. There are a lot of good people here and I love working with them". Thank you Loretta for your commitment. You are going to make a great LPN and we are happy to have you as part of our team. Keep up the good work!

### **Month of September**



### **Donna Linder - Autumn Aegis**

Donna Linder has been employed with Autumn Aegis since 2008. Donna is very friendly and always has a beautiful smile. She is willing to help where ever she is needed, consistently picking up double shifts, and assisting other facilities with staffing needs. Donna is a resident advocate and

treats the residents as if they were her own family. Donna is an asset to our facility. Congratulations to Donna on being nominated Employee of the Month!



### **Jeremy Hansen - Grande Village**

Jeremy Hansen is employed in the maintenance department at Grande Village.

Jeremy has a diverse background in all areas of maintenance including electrical, plumbing, heating and air, welding, and automotive repair.

Jeremy has been employed for just under a year at Grande Village, and his attention to detail has made a tremendous impact on the residents, families and his co-workers. Jeremy is always willing to lend a helping hand with a friendly smile. Jeremy has been a wonderful addition to the Grande Village.



### **Debra McKee - Horn Nursing**

Deb was with the National Guard right out of High School. Deb has been a cook at Horn Nursing and Rehabilitation since July of 1988.

When Deb started at Horn she was a part time cook and part time Nursing Assistant. She decided to be a full time cook in December of 1988 and has been cooking ever since. Deb holds down 2

full time jobs cooking. She is a master in making homemade food items. Her supervisor says she makes the best gravy in the world, and so does everyone that eats it. Deb loves to try special desserts for her Residents. She is always making the dietary staff laugh and you can tell she likes her job when you hear laughter in the kitchen. Thanks Deb, and congratulations on being employee of the month! (Keep making that wonderful gravy!)



### **Bill Rivera - Main Street Care Center**

Bill Rivera began working at Main Street Care Center in October, 2008.

After retirement, he got tired of just sitting around, so one day as he was driving past Main Street, he decided to stop in and fill out an application. He was hired and has been working in housekeeping ever since.

He states: "I really enjoy working here. It is a good environment and the people are so nice." His supervisor, Racheal Clark, states: "Bill is such an asset to the housekeeping staff at Towne Center Community Campus. He works well with each department to promote the highest quality of work.

Bill is forthright and honest. Bill strives to do the best he can each day he works, and he always does it with a smile. I am so glad he is part of my staff. Thank you, Bill!



## **Rick Cole - Anchor Lodge**

Rick has been the Director of Maintenance at Anchor Lodge since December of 1996. He is responsible for maintaining the facility's upkeep, maintenance of all mechanical systems and overall facility safety. Rick is appreciated by both fellow coworkers and residents for the assistance he provides to them on a daily basis. Rick is always willing to help out, even if it means stopping what he is in the middle of doing if his assistance is needed. He is appreciated for his gentle approach and good sense of humor.

We are fortunate to have Rick as part of the Anchor Lodge team and appreciate everything he does for the facility and residents.  
Congratulations Rick!



## **Darlene Rhode - Heather Knoll**

Darlene, a native of Hawaii, is an STNA here and has been with Heather Knoll since 2001. She recently accepted the Restorative STNA position, but has worked various positions since being with the company; giving it her all. You can see her daily as a blur of purple hustling up and down the hall. Darlene's enthusiasm is always felt and appreciated by both staff and residents.  
Congratulations Darlene for a job well done, keep up the good work!



### **Lydia Morris - Smithville Western**

Lydia graduated from Wayne County Schools Career Center in 1984 as a LPN. She has worked in long term care facilities as a LPN throughout her career.

In 2003 Lydia began her career as the Activities Director in the Willows Unit, and began as the Activity Director for the Care Center in 2007. She is Activity Director Certified through the National Council of Activity Professionals. Lydia is also a Certified Dementia Practitioner through the National Council of Dementia Practitioners. She is a member of Resident Activity Personnel in Ohio, a member of NCCAP and a member of the Senior Forum Committee in Wayne County. Lydia brings a smile to everyone who works or lives at Smithville Western on a daily basis.



### **Cynthia Leach - Amherst Manor**

A favorite of residents and families, Cyndy provides excellent care and also does those "little extras" which make our residents feel special and at home. She is known for attending to the needs of the residents with a fierce dedication. Cyndy has worked at Amherst Manor since 1982, and she is relied upon by the nursing department for her experience and work ethic. Please join us in congratulating Cyndy on your next visit to Amherst Manor.



## Laura Hartley - Elms Retirement

Laura Hartley has worked in Dietary at the Elms since April 20, 1998. She is a very dedicated worker. Laura goes above and beyond her line of duties on a daily basis. She assures the residents of the Elms receives the best service possible. Laura says she loves the people she works with and that she enjoys helping the residents out as much as possible. Laura is always coming to work with a positive attitude and a smile on her face. She says that having such an approach in the work place helps make the residents feel secure and happy. It also helps encourage the residents to smile!

Staff compliment Laura on her dedication and positive attitude. "She is always smiling and as we all know smiles are contagious. She is such a joy to work with." "Laura may be quiet and always minding her own business, but she is an awesome worker. She will do anything for anyone, anytime."

Thank you Laura for your loyalty!

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