



Spot Light

News and Information for employees
of Sunshine Inc. of NW Ohio

April/May
2005

Sunshine homes enjoy excellent licensure and Medicaid surveys

Surveyors from the state licensing board and Medicaid program have made visits to Sunshine group homes and the Children's Home over the past several weeks with positive results for Sunshine.

In early March the Parkside Family Care Home in Wauseon had a **perfect** licensure survey and was the first facility at Sunshine to receive a three-year license from the state.

The King Road Family Care Home in Sylvania township received a near-perfect licensure survey that same week. The home received one citation for a septic field problem and no citations for services or the home itself. The septic problem is a result of issues with the local health department that are beyond the control of Sunshine. The home received a two-year license.

That same week, surveyors from Medicaid were visiting the Kit, Strayer and Bancroft Family Care Homes. All three homes received **perfect** Medicaid surveys.

All of these homes, (Kit, Strayer, Bancroft, Parkside and King), are ICF/MRs (intermediate care facilities for persons with mental retardation). These homes are surveyed by both Medicaid and the state and are held to very high standards of care.

Surveyors came back in early April and visited the Garden Road Family Care Home. Garden Road had a

perfect licensure survey and will receive a three year license.

Finally, a survey team from Medicaid visited the Children's Home in April. The Children's Home received only three minor citations for services, which is an outstanding result in this age of rule changes and heightened expectations from the federal government.

There were also several life safety citations, most of which were triggered by changes in rule interpretations rather than things that Sunshine did or did not do. These changes in how the rules are interpreted are generating new citations across the country.

While not perfect, this survey demonstrates a very high level of performance and compliance with federal guidelines.

Congratulations to the staff, managers, clinicians, nurses, kitchen staff, laundry staff, maintenance and operational specialists who work so hard to provide loving care to our residents in a safe, healthy environment.

Spot Light is published monthly for the employees of Sunshine Inc. of NW Ohio. Story ideas and suggestions should be forwarded to Kelly Fritz Garrow, editor, at kellyfg@sunshineincnw.com.

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**Remember, the
deadline for
ordering Sunshine
clothing is
Friday, April 22.**

Peggy Mikkelsen is February Employee of the Month

Hiring a part-time administrative assistant position can be quite a challenge. Many of the people who come through the door want to be **anything but** an administrative assistant. That's why everyone associated with the development office feels so blessed to have had **Peggy Mikkelsen** walk through the front door three and a half years ago.



Peggy Mikkelsen is a computer whiz

Today it may be hard to believe, but back then Peggy was a shy candidate with marginal computer skills. However, after seeing how smart and motivated she was, we hired her on the spot. Taking that small risk has been rewarded 100 times over.

Today Peggy is the agency computer whiz. She is an expert in Word, Excel, Exceed! and even Photoshop with skills she gained from practicing and playing at home in her spare time. Peggy's husband is a computer guru at Owens Corning, so they have a home computer network that our information services staff would envy.

Peggy loves to challenge herself with difficult software issues presented by our department and any other department in need. She is constantly looking for a "better way" to get the job done and she is always willing to share her knowledge and expertise with co-workers.

Peggy generously donates her time to the Black Swamp Benefit Bazaar, taking quilts and wall hangings home with her to photograph and then spending hours retouching photos so the quilts are presented to their best advantage.

Peggy left Sunshine for a few months when her husband became ill. After interviewing and interviewing, we couldn't find another Peggy. We decided to beg her to come back and (because her husband had recovered) she did!

We greatly appreciate her bubbly, talkative nature, her patience with co-workers and clients and her can-do attitude. Congratulations, Peggy, on being recognized as February's Employee of the Month!

Need a new car? Need a new home?

Would you like to be driving a new car with insurance for just \$125.00 per month for 1 year? Have you dreamed of becoming a home owner but thought you couldn't afford it?

According to **Barb Robinson**, human resources manager, there are some very creative programs available to people who qualify for LMHA or/and Ohio Jobs and Family Services. If you have questions or want additional information give Barb a call at 419-865-0251 x3350 and she will be happy to help.

Development News

Round and Square Dance

The Round & Square Dance on March 19 was a great success. A total of 150 dancers raised \$750 for Sunshine. The live music by "Restless Wind" was very good. Everyone had a very fun-filled evening especially with the Square Dancing!

Quilt Display at Epworth

Four quilts are on display at Epworth United Methodist Church from April 11 to April 25. The display is open to the public Monday through Thursday, 10 am to 4 pm. Epworth United Methodist Church is located at 3077 Valleyview Drive, Toledo OH 43615.

O-I Quilt Show

The O-I quilt show, "Quilting for Black Swamp" will run from May 3-31 at One Seagate in downtown Toledo. Daily hours for the show are 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and admission is free. All the quilts on display will be sold at the Black Swamp Benefit Bazaar on June 17-18 at the Fulton County Fairground in Wauseon.



Black Swamp needs you

Speaking of the Black Swamp Benefit Bazaar & Quilt Auction, your help is needed to make the event a success. Items are needed for the main auction and the crafts area. People are also needed to make baked goods and noodles and to serve as volunteers. Watch your email for additional details. The Black Swamp Benefit is Sunshine's largest single fundraiser. Last year, Sunshine received a check for \$84,000 as our share of the proceeds.

Gold Coin Sightings at Sunshine

Danielle Robinson, Log team leader, received a gold coin from **Henne Petros**, Children's Home manager, for going above and beyond in her job responsibilities. At the time **Kris Sulier** (former Log team leader) transferred to another area within Sunshine, Henne was overwhelmed with taking on her responsibilities as well as having her own. Danielle helped out immensely with the schedule.

She makes sure that Log is fully staffed and that when changes are made they are recorded in all of the necessary places. This may sound like a small job, but in reality it is incredibly time consuming and tedious. Danielle has done a fantastic job making sure nothing falls through the cracks. Henne is so very grateful to have her as one of her team leaders.

Carolyn Loy awarded a gold coin to **Alyssa McQuiston**, residential services coordinator. Since she became the RSC at Strayer, Alyssa has done all that is asked of her and some that is not asked. She makes sure all supplies are stocked and ordered when needed. She is more than willing to step in and help when someone calls off or if you just need a helping hand. A lot of this is normal job responsibilities, but sometimes we all need to be recognized for doing our jobs well.

When **Cherie Arriaga**, midnight team leader in the Children's Home, received a gold coin from **Bryan Keim**, she instantly thought of Bobbie Woods. Bobbie who is a residential specialist working midnights in Log, has been working short-staffed for a long time and complains very little. She is a special person who deserves the gold coin. Cherie wishes she could give one to the whole midnight staff due to their great efforts in making this a better place for all staff and residents! We truly have a great staff!

Spring open barn times listed

During open barn times people (staff with clients only) may come and go from the barn without scheduling a time. During the client open barn times staff can bring out clients and residents and clients may come out with friends and family that are visiting. According to a memo that **Margaret Kaya**, director of administrative services, put out many months ago, staff can only visit the barn during special open barn times (see below). Staff is welcome to bring out family and friends during these times. Of course, family and friends visiting residents are also welcome.

For Clients:

April 16th 6:00-7:00 p.m.
April 23rd 6:00-7:00 p.m.
May 7th 1:30-2:30 p.m.
May 8th 6:30-8:00 p.m.
May 14th 6:00-8:00 p.m.
May 15th 6:00-8:00 p.m.
May 22nd 11:00-12:00 a.m.
May 28th 6:30-8:00 p.m.
May 29th 6:30-8:00 p.m.
June 3rd 7:00-8:00 p.m.
June 4th 6:00-8:00 p.m.
June 11th 7:00-8:00 p.m.
June 12th 6:30-8:00 p.m.
June 24th 7:00-8:00 p.m.
June 25th 6:30-8:00 p.m.
June 26th 6:30-7:30 p.m.

For Staff:

May 1st 6:30-8:00 p.m.
June 19th 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Harbor becomes Symmetry

Harbor Employee Assistance Program (EAP) has become Symmetry EAP.

What's the difference? None! You and your family will continue to see the same professionals, the same phone numbers will be used and the same confidential services will be offered.

As a reminder, your Employee Assistance Program is an employee benefit provided to all Sunshine employees and their family members. This benefit is designed to provide means to obtain confidential and professional assistance in dealing with difficult situations in life that most of us face at one time or another. This could include:

- ◆ Marital problems
- ◆ Stress
- ◆ Depression
- ◆ Alcohol and drug use
- ◆ Dealing with children/teens
- ◆ Job burn out
- ◆ Financial difficulties
- ◆ Elderly parents
- ◆ Divorce

Your EAP benefit includes:

- ◆ Confidential/professional help
- ◆ Local offices
- ◆ No cost to you
- ◆ At least 1-3 free sessions per problem, per year
- ◆ Telephone sessions available
- ◆ 24 hour/7 days a week coverage
- ◆ Direct access--no need to see doctor or go through insurance

To take advantage of this benefit, simply call Symmetry EAP at **419-475-5338** or **1-800-422-5338** to schedule an appointment.

Overwhelmed with bills and debt?

Help is out there

The *Consumer Credit Counseling Service* is a non-profit agency that provides confidential debt counseling by certified counselors to people in financial difficulty. Local and comprehensive face to face, phone or internet counseling is offered. CCC is a member of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling as well as the Better Business Bureau.

Call (800) 355-2227 to schedule an appointment with a local credit counselor. You may also log on to www.cccservices.com for more information or internet counseling.

Dial 2-1-1 for community services

United Way of Greater Toledo has just implemented a wonderful service in Lucas and Ottawa Counties. United Way 2-1-1 provides information and referral for food, clothing, shelter, counseling, healthcare and a variety of other social and human service needs. It is a free, confidential service.

This information can also be accessed through the internet at www.helpclick.org. The Toledo area is one of only 23 percent of the country implementing this service. We are very fortunate to have it. If you are in need of any of these services, do not hesitate to utilize 2-1-1. Your United Way dollars are doing great things in Lucas County!

Free mammograms at St. Luke's

St. Luke's Hospital will be offering free breast screenings and mammograms to uninsured or underinsured women who meet the specified criteria.

Qualified women must be age 40 or older or between 25 and 40 with a history of breast cancer in the family on the mother's side (specifically a mother, sister, or grandmother). You must also have a family physician for follow-up information. If you do not have a family doctor, St. Luke's offers assistance in finding one.

Mammograms will not be done at the screening, but will be scheduled at a later date to

coordinate with the mammography department and your own schedules. Screenings will take place at the following dates and times:

Thursday, April 14, 5-8pm
Occupational Health Services

Tuesday, April 19, 7-10pm
Emergency Express

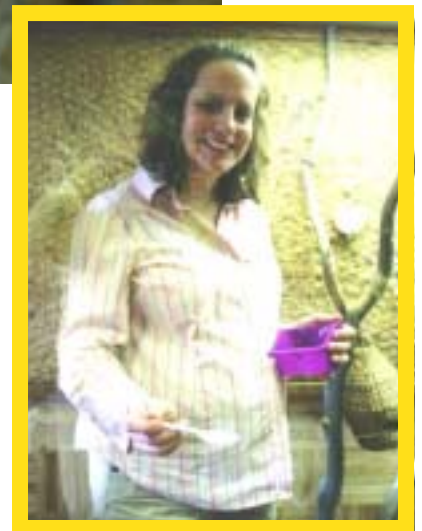
If you meet all of the above criteria, you may call (419) 897-8484 to schedule a screening appointment during the specified hours. (A scheduled appointment is required.) Please have your physician's contact information available when you make the call.

Signs of spring in the Children's Home



Amy Fifer, animal activities coordinator, shows off some of the finch eggs she collected from the bird aviary in the Children's Home during a recent cleaning session.

While several baby finches have been born in the aviary, the numbers of new babies must be limited due to space considerations. In addition to cleaning, Amy also refreshed the display with spring decorations.



Birthdays and Anniversaries

April/May 2005

April Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| 1 | Sheri Bunting
Sandra Dirkman | 7 | Jay Daniels
Christine Miller |
| 3 | Claudette McDonald
Robert Miller
Kelly Waterfield | 9 | Janell Bourn
Alisha Diab
Rae Mati
Douglas Siebenaler |
| 4 | Anna Sexton | 10 | Jennifer Miller
Celeste Proctor |
| 5 | Lisa Kohlhofer | 11 | Mae McDuffy
Terry McNair
Susan Reinhart |
| 6 | Stephanie Johnson
Melissa Joseph
Margaret Steward | 12 | Michelle Karpinski |
| 7 | Lisa Moman | 13 | Christine Keran |
| 8 | Stesha King | 14 | Cynthia Brown
Laurie Payeff |
| 9 | Nicole Reeves-Boldon
Sara Speelman | 15 | Kamille Oxner
Jennifer Waltzer |
| 10 | Ellen Bellville | 16 | San Juanita Cordero
Salomey Ibeji
Kristie Marckel |
| 11 | Ashley Roberson | 17 | Elaine Smith |
| 13 | Margie Myers | 18 | Stephanie Jones |
| 15 | Pierre Washington | 19 | Gary Brittenham
Tine Everett |
| 16 | Lakesha Dupree
Shyam Suchak
Mary Tropfenbaum | 20 | Jacqueline Smith |
| 18 | Corry Ritzert | 21 | Nicole Harris
Sara Harris
Ann Marie Karmol |
| 19 | Frank Martinez
Linda Mechel | 22 | Jacquelin Wolfe |
| 20 | Shawn Beaverson
Amy Hopkins | 23 | Erica Fry |
| 21 | Michelle Mason
Lindsay McCulloch
Roy Shoemaker | 24 | Stephanie Hehl
Cheryl Lewis
Darby Noll
Sonya Perry |
| 22 | Tina Smith | 25 | Albert Fulton
Kelly Georgeson |
| 23 | Crystal Brown
Linda Joy Moore
Sandra Varner | 26 | April Fulton
Arlene Hopkins
Steven Maenle
Lora Stenzel |
| 24 | Cleopatra Coleman-Harvey
Casandra Houston
LaJoy Hughes | 27 | Amy Gibson
Kelley Marshall
Sara Mohar |
| 25 | Elishah King
Karen Rideout | 28 | Rosemary Cannings
Sianeh Konneh |
| 26 | Kristina Sulier | 29 | Ronald Hoelzer |
| 27 | Una Jones
Janette Strand | 30 | Darlene Kiker
Mary Pavlov |
| 28 | Linda Black
Alyssa McQuiston
Kathleen Smith | 31 | Tammy Floyd
Kendra Matheney
Randi Price
Vicki Thompson |
| 29 | Tarlah Fuller
Rebecca Opfer
Sherrie Threet | | |

May Birthdays

- Stacey Underwood
- Kristine Cope
Emily Hoschak
Ashley Stephens
- Elizabeth Bakucz
Tricia Matriciano
- Dawn Marie Cornprobst
Monica Slovak
Sara Walerius
- Ashley Ritchie
- Rita Gurtzweiler

April Anniversaries

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 37 years | Linda King |
| 31 years | Daryl Ganger |
| 29 years | Barb Robinson |
| 22 years | Lorena Thatcher |
| 13 years | Cheryle Deverna |
| 12 years | Stephanie Leininger |
| 11 years | Jeffrey Johnson
Linda Kemp
Charlene Koch
Theresa Steinline |
| 10 years | Una Jones |
| 9 years | David Robinson |
| 6 years | Gary Fessler |
| 5 years | Gary Brittenham
Sandra Varner |
| 4 years | Jill Harrington
Jennifer Roth
Lloyd Walker
Tiffany Woodson |
| 3 years | Rose Ketcham
Kim Nofziger
Anthony Pacheco
Amanda Richer
Tiffany VanZile
Patricia White
Amber Vines |
| 2 years | Jean Christian
Wagih Hanna
Christopher Lam
Una Love
Ronald Sherrill |
| 1 year | Murat Bayram
Angie Billups
Desirae Collins
Kathleen Fogarty
Sianeh Konneh
Melanie Mendiola-So
Neha Patel
Pamela Xaver |

May Anniversaries

- | | |
|----------|---|
| 30 years | Ellen Bellville |
| 23 years | Mary Hays |
| 17 years | Linda Waters-Crawford |
| 16 years | Lori Ciacelli |
| 11 years | Bobbie Woods |
| 9 years | Kim Goodell
Meshelle Lesner
Monica Slovak
Mary Stine |
| 6 years | Terry McNair |
| 5 years | Kathleen Larabee
Julian Lippens
Dianna Meyers-Wilczynski |
| 4 years | Michael Burk
Ethel Hayes
Rosalie McKimm
Lauren Powers
Laura Smith
Janine Stuart |
| 3 years | Annette Brown
Cynthia Dzienny
Carolyn Rhodes
Amy Fifer |
| 2 years | Darryl Banks
Michele Boyd
Becky Martinez
Angel Roberts
Anna Sexton |
| 1 year | Katie Barringer
Deliesha Douglas
Kellee German
Bernard Harris
Nicole Harris
Andrea Heilman
Melissa Lang
Bruce Lulfs
Sandra Mack
Viva Majdoub
Barbara Murphy
Stephanie Oakley |

