

# WellsBrooke

PREMIUM HOME CARE SOLUTIONS <sup>SM</sup>

*“Making a difference in the lives of others.”*

## Thank You, WellsBrooke Nurses and Aides!

Congratulations to all of our nurses and aides for another fabulous year of serving your clients with compassion and care!

As we sometimes say at WellsBrooke: “You are the eyes and ears of WellsBrooke.” Your patient, loving care and careful attention to detail gives our clients what they need to be able to stay in their own home.

Thank you for all you do. Thank you for the late nights and early mornings, for being there on the routine days and during



Left to right: Marna Swim, Jennifer Parker and Terri Roncvich.

days of crisis.

Thank you for picking up those extra shifts when no one else is available. Thank you for having fun with your clients, for providing them with quality health care and for rolling up your sleeves and doing the “dirty work.”

You may never know how much your compassion and

care means to your clients and their families. But we never want you to doubt how much it means to the WellsBrooke organization.

What else can we say, except **“thank you!”**

*Cheryl Nagel*

*Executive Director*



Mary Beljan (left) presents Marna Swim with nursing award.

### Nurse of the Year: Jennifer Parker

WellsBrooke was honored to present our 2007 Nurse of the Year award to Jennifer Parker. Jennifer is a shining example of what it means to be a nurse.

Excellent communication, compassion, caring and great nursing assessment skills are words that describe her. She has boundless energy and a willingness to go the extra mile to make sure her patients



Mary Pellow (right) presents Jennifer Parker with Nurse of the Year award.

receive the care they need and deserve.

She has a full time job at the University of Michigan Hospital, does visits on a regular basis for WellsBrooke, and is attending school to complete her BSN.

Congratulations, Jennifer!

Volume 1, issue 5

May 16, 2007

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**www.WellsBrooke.com**

### Inside this issue:

Home Health Aide of the Year	2
Employee of the Month	2
Happy Birthdays	2
In Memory	3
Reminders	3
Prescription savings	3

## Home Health Aide of the Year: Terri Roncevich

There wasn't a dry eye in the place. The WellsBrooke staffing coordinators and Amy Gelso, Director of Client Services, along with the entire audience became emotional as Terri Roncevich was praised for her wonderful care for her clients.

Terri became quite close to Mrs. Tessman, whom she cared for right up until her recent passing. As a result, Mrs. Tessman's family expressed their gratitude and affection for Terri at the very emotional awards reception at Nurses' Day. It was obvious that Terri had made a huge impact on the family by offering extraordinary compassion and care to Mrs. Tessman.

Terri's unwavering commitment to put others above herself has earned her the distinguished award of Home Health Aide of the Year for 2007.

**Congratulations, Terry!**



Mrs. Tessman's daughters congratulate Terri Roncevich on her award as Home Health Aide of the Year.

## Employee of the Month: Deborah Wooten



Deborah Wooten has been with our company a little over a year now. Deborah has many of the qualities highly regarded by WellsBrooke.

Known by many as a great worker, she has also helped out on many last minute jobs and always puts her clients first. She has a great "people personality"—her clients love her talkative personality—and to top it

all off, she has a wonderful attendance record.

Debbie persevered through a difficult time with one of her clients. Recently, a client called the WellsBrooke office to comment on how inspired they were by her persistence in helping him regain his ability to walk.

Every shift she worked, Debbie went with him and helped his family stay positive and urged them not to give up. And now because of her faithful encourage-

ment and inspiration, the client's family thinks the world of her!

As most of you know, being a home health aide can be challenging at times, but Debbie's positive, caring attitude has helped her to also enjoy the rewards of taking care of another human being.

**Congratulations, Deborah!**



## Happy Birthday to You!

Leigh Altman  
Thelma Austin  
Sarah Carpenter  
Lorinda Carr  
Laura Clark  
Cynthia Derby  
Sheryl Dye

Polly Egan  
Carmen Flores  
Rhonda Ford  
Mary Green  
Katresha Lee  
Chance Lupro  
Andrea McClaster

Jamie Pease  
Nicole Pitcher  
Julie Rogers  
Tiffany Rogers  
Leslie Sharpy  
Wendy Smith  
Allison Tilles

LaShon Vinson  
Joy Washington  
Latrice Wheat  
Aishea Wilson  
Juanita Wiltz  
Deborah Wooten



## A Farewell to Mrs. Tessman: 1928- 2007



Mrs. Tessman had many different roles in her lifetime, including mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, friend, even nurse! At WellsBrooke, she was our client.

For those of us who helped care for her, we knew her as a strong, independent, compassionate, kind and sometimes a bit stubborn individual. These same qualities also allowed her to care for others throughout her nursing career.

Her journey into the nursing profession started at St. Mary's hospital as a nurse's aide and eventually moved on to the Personnel Department.

She continued to work at Garden City Hospital until a near fatal car crash in 1987. While that accident ended her nursing practice, she returned as a volunteer in 1990 and 1991.

She is survived by her 4 daughters, 2 of whom were also inspired to become nurses: Sandra, Deborah, Pamela and Claudia, along with 10 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and her brother, William.

WellsBrooke would like to thank Ms. Tessman's family for allowing us to be a part of this special woman's life. And we would also like to thank all of you who took great care of her over the past 2 1/2 years.

## Marna Swim Celebrates 50 Years of Nursing!



Marna Swim graduated from a 3 year hospital program in 1956 and began working as an RN. After her children started school, Marna also returned to school to complete her

BSN. She went to Wayne State in an accelerated program that allowed her to go to school on weekends and complete clinical experiences in her home community.

She worked as a nurse for 15 years, then decided to return to school for her Masters degree. She was accepted into a dual Master/PHD program at Mercy College.

While working on her Masters degree, Marna found her calling in working with those who suffer with substance abuse and addictions. She spent many years working in mental health nursing, and saw unbelievable changes in the field. Marna joined WellsBrooke in Fall, 2001. She has worked for over 50 years as a nurse.

**Way to go, Marna!**  
**Congratulations!**



**Remember,** the after hours on call line is **ONLY** for emergencies.

Please do not call to ask questions about your schedule or other questions that could be answered during regular office hours. We want to be sure precious time is not being taken from our staff who may be on the other line dealing with serious emergencies. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Another reminder:** Please send me your email address so we can include you

## Reminders

when we send out important announcements and updates. AND, you can use email to get in touch with us, too! My email address is lberk@wellsbrooke.com.

**One More Thing:** Please remember to follow the HIPPA Privacy Rule and keep patient information confidential at all times.



## Prescription

**Savings!** If you're interested in saving money on prescription medication, go to Walmart.com and check out the list of generic medicines that are available for a mere four bucks (4\$)! More on this next month!

Another prescription program is available at [www.FreeMedicine.com](http://www.FreeMedicine.com), which

offers you the opportunity to qualify for free prescription drugs by filling out an application. WellsBrooke now has brochures available from this organization. Call or email Luanne Berk at the office for more information.