



Inside this issue:

<i>Letter from Supervisor</i>	2
<i>Birthdays</i>	2
<i>Florence Nightingale</i>	3
<i>Nurses' Day</i>	3
<i>Benefits</i>	3
<i>Map to Celebration</i>	4
<i>Training Calendar</i>	4

April 21-27: National TV Turnoff

Just when you thought family values had disappeared, an organization steps up and offers an opportunity to bring the focus back on the family. National TV Turnoff Week was established as a time to eliminate electronics from our lives, at least for a time, and use the time to rebuild our families.

As most of you know, electronics can be a hindrance to personal interaction and “family time”. Turning off the TV for a few days can make a positive impact. Here are some startling statistics about the influence our television can have on our lives:

- The average American watches television for over 4 hours a day
- Forty-one percent of U.S. households own three or more TV sets
- Forty percent of Americans usually watch TV during dinner
- Six million videos are rented daily in the U.S.
- Only 3 million library items are checked out daily in the U.S.
- American children between the ages of 2 and 17 spend over 19 hours per week watching television
- American children spend only about 38 minutes per week in meaningful conversation with their parents
- The average American child sees over 200,000 violent acts on TV by age 18
- American children view over 20,000 TV commercials per year

The repercussions of these lifestyle choices are obvious. Consider making some changes in your household. Maybe you could turn your TV off for a day or even a week. Think about it.

- CPR for aides and nurses in May!
- See training calendar: p. 4
- Come to Nurses' Day: May 6
- Attend the Bronze, Silver or Gold training in 2008!

March Silver Graduates

We'd like to *congratulate* **Karrie Cook, Cynthia Derby, Marcy Gibson, Sarah Lupinski, Jennifer McCloud and Elizabeth White** for successfully completing the Silver Training. This course focuses on Safety in the Home along

with How to Deal with Difficult People. The participants received a certificate of achievement and a silver engraved WellsBrooke pen in recognition of their efforts.

Congratulations ladies!



A Letter from Your Supervisor



WellsBrooke Employees:

We value your hard work and commitment to our clients, and we want to commend you for everything you do every day!

As you all know, our client is number one! When you are working a shift, you are there to meet their needs including keeping them safe and secure. These are reasonable expectations from each of the WellsBrooke clients.

I wish that the letter could end right here; however, recently, there have been two specific complaints filed by clients on a regular basis. The two areas of concern are:

1. **Staff falling asleep on the job**
2. **Excessive cell phone usage**

When you, as a WellsBrooke employee are engaging in these activities, your

client's needs and expectations are not being met.

If you're having trouble staying awake during your shift, please let us know, so that we can try to find a case that is better suited to you.

You may remember from the handbook that sleeping during a shift is grounds for immediate termination.

Please try to remedy the situation on your own, so we don't have to take drastic measures.

As far as **cell phone use**, we go over this in great detail in our orientation. Please stay off your cell phone when you are working with a client. That means only use your phone for emergencies! If you do receive an emergency call while you are working, make sure your client is safe—then excuse yourself for a brief moment to take the call. The call must be short. When you have finished your call, re-

turn to the client's side to continue to monitor their care and safety.

As you know, prolonged or repeated usage of your cell phone while at the client's home is a violation of WellsBrooke policy as stated in the handbook and can result in disciplinary action. Please stay off the phone!

Think of your clients and what is best for them. Make sure you are 100 percent

alert and prepared to handle whatever is needed when you are at their side. If you are sleepy or distracted by your phone, you can't provide the quality care that your client wants and deserves! Let's make some changes. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Melissa Chmura

Client Services Supervisor

Two Concerns:

- Cell phones
- Staff sleeping

April Birthdays



Angela Allman
 Janice Carter
 Marcy Gibson
 Sara Giesmann
 Katrina Hardaway
 Shanda Holmes
 Janice Kilgore

Deanna Kurowicki
 Barry Melnick
 Mary Redmond
 Lora-Lynne Sharpley
 Allison Shiflet
 Stacie Smith
 Vineta Smith

Melissa Staelgraeve
 Paula Turbett
 Jackie Wackerle

Every Nurse's Idol: Florence Nightingale Celebrate with us: May 6

Florence Nightingale is a hero to many of us. Here's why:

Born in Florence, Italy in 1820, Florence Nightingale was determined to become a nurse. At the age of twenty-five, she shared her dreams with her parents, but they were completely opposed to the idea, since nursing was associated with working class women. Because of her persistence, in 1851, Florence's father gave her permission to train as a nurse.

Florence, now thirty-one, went to Kaiserswerth, Germany where she studied nursing at the Institute of Protestant Deaconesses. Two years later she was appointed resident lady superintendent of a hospital for invalid women in Harley Street, London.

Soon, Britain became involved in the Crimean War and many British soldiers came down with cholera and malaria. Within a few weeks an estimated 8,000 men were suffering from these two diseases.

Several female nurses, including Nightingale, offered to help. But because they were women, the army refused to accept their assistance. When The London Times publicized the fact that a large number of British soldiers were dying of cholera, there was a public outcry, and the government was forced to change its mind. Florence Nightingale was allowed to take 38 nurses to the country of Turkey where many soldiers were dying. In 1856, she returned to England as a national heroine.

Florence had been deeply shocked by the lack of hygiene and poor care that the men received in the army. As a result, she decided to begin a campaign to improve the quality of nursing in military hospitals. This eventually resulted in the formation of the Army Medical College. To further spread her opinions on reform, Nightingale published two books, *Notes on Hospital* (1859) and *Notes on Nursing* (1859). With the support of wealthy

friends and John Delane at The Times, Nightingale was able to raise money to found the Nightingale School & Home for Nurses at St. Thomas's Hospital. She also became involved in the training of nurses.

(Sparticus Educational)

Feeling inspired?

All Nurses and Home Health Aides: Come to the **Nurses' Day Celebration** on May 6 from 1:00 to 6:00 at Atlantis Restaurant in Plymouth. See enclosed invitation.

Check out:

www.Wellsbrooke.com for directions or see the map on the back of this newsletter.

RSVP to office by May 1:

734- 468-1770



Florence Nightingale

Nurses' Week was established as a celebration to honor Florence Nightingale.

Benefits Reminder

As you know, WellsBrooke offers benefits for both full-time and part-time employees. For part-time we offer the medical insurance. For full-time we offer: Medical, dental, vision and life insurance. We also offer employees the opportunity to contribute to the company 401K plan after one year of service.

When you are a new employee, you must sign up for these benefits within the first 30 days of the beginning of your first assignment. The benefits become available after 30 days.

If you have been with the company for some time, and are reconsidering signing up for the benefits, you

must sign up during the "Open enrollment" period. This varies from plan to plan. For Medical, open enrollment is during the month of September. For Dental and Vision, Open Enrollment is in July.

For more info on benefits, call Linda at 734-357-0119.



"Making a difference in the lives of others."

**42235 E. Ann Arbor Road
Plymouth, MI 48170**

Phone: 734-468-1770

Fax: 734-525-5966

We're on the web!

www.WellsBrooke.com



Conduct Training Schedule

- *April 23—(note changed date) Gold Training 10-2*
- *May 22—Bronze Training 10-2*
- *June 26—Bronze Training 10-2*

Upcoming CPR Training —

- *May 15 — 9:30-12:30*
Call and reserve your place by April 25.
Advance payment of \$25 can be deducted from your paycheck or paid in cash no later than May 2.

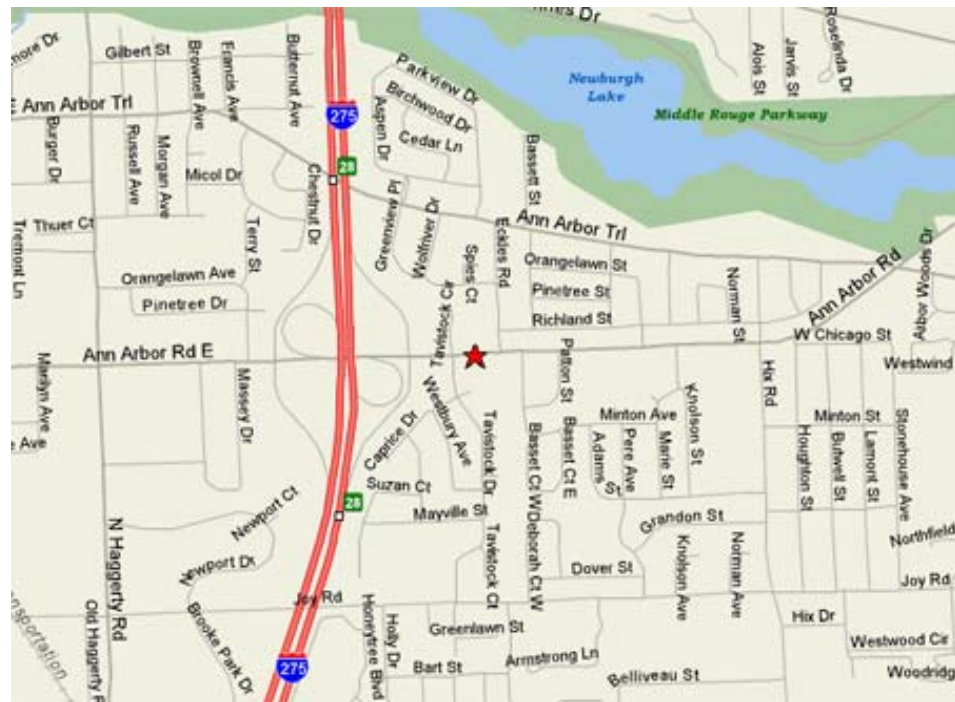
For more info, call Luanne at 734-742-0167

Nurses and Home Health Aides:

Plan to come to our celebration of Nurse's Day on May 6, 1pm—6pm at Atlantis Restaurant in Plymouth.

Enjoy good food, free manicures and massages, and door prizes!

(see map to right)



Map to Atlantis Restaurant

39500 Ann Arbor Rd, Plymouth, MI

Phone: (734) 453-5047