

AMSTERDAM

Employment anniversaries recognized at Liberty ARC

Liberty ARC recently honored 102 employees that have each achieved employment milestone anniversaries within the agency. Honorees were recognized at an award dinner at the Raindancer Restaurant in Amsterdam. Awards were given to those who achieved five, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, and 40-years of service – with the group totaling an impressive 1,335 cumulative years of employment with Liberty ARC.

“At Liberty ARC, we are proud of our milestone employees and grateful for their years of service to the agency,” said Liberty ARC CEO Jennifer Saunders. In a news release “Their dedication is reflected in the amount of years they each have been working and contributing to the agency’s mission, ‘Together we support people with disabilities to achieve a quality of life each person values.’ This special dinner is one of my favorite nights of the year as we celebrate the heart and soul of Liberty ARC, our staff. Congratulations to our milestone employees!”

Deborah Barker, an Accounting Clerk I, was recognized for her 40 years with the agency. Deborah has always taken pride in her work and is always willing to learn something new. She is currently collaborating with the Sales and Manufacturing Department to track billing and receiving, as well as accounting for the agency’s receivables.

Nanette Conyne, Donna Hall, Vivian Fitz-James, Roxanne Vecchio, Donna Mochrie, and Tina Yerdon all received 35-year recognitions. Nanette, Payroll Supervisor, and Donna Mochrie, an Accounting Clerk II, have both worked within the agency’s Business Office since the beginning of their careers.

Donna Hall and Yerdon, Direct Support Professionals (DSPs), as well as Roxanne, an Assistant Manager, work in the agency’s residential department.

Fitz-James, a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant has spent the past 13 years in Liberty ARC’s Occupational Therapy Department and also previously held positions in other agency departments, including Residential, Day, and Clinical.

Other acknowledgments of the evening:

Thirty years of recognition were given to Assistant Director of Operations Jennifer Ferluge, DSP Awake Night Tyler Kanches, Assistant Manager Suzanne Schulz, Assistant Habilitation Specialist I Sharon Oleksak, and Senior Staff Accountant Lisa Zanella.

Twenty-five years of recognition were given to Assistant Manager Charlotte Baird, Lead Supervisor Production Sandra Bell, Director of Operations John Glode, Residential Manager Nancy Guyette, DSP Awake Night Bonnie King, Senior Habilitation Coordinator Sandra Mallett, Dental Hygienist Jennifer Osborne, Assistant Manager Live-In Sabrina Spratt, and Cheryl Wagner, a DSP.

Twenty years of recognition were given to Corporate Compliance Audit Coordinator Karen Blake, DSP Donna Doran, Residential Manager Ryann Jump, Assistant Manager Tina Sturm, and DSP Awake Night Carrie Winney.

Fifteen years of recognition were given to Assistant Manager Leanne DaBiere, Senior Staff Accountant Gladys Harvey, RN April Marcellino, Residential Manager Samantha Morris, Assistant Manager Jennifer Myers, DSP Awake Night Kelly Nasadoski, Maintenance Manager Joseph Ouderkirk, Senior Habilitation Coordinator Jacqueline Rulison, and Assistant Ha-



Above: Pictured from left to right, Direct Support Professional Donna Hall; Assistant Manager Roxanne Vecchio; Vivian Fitz-James, a Certified Occupational Therapist Assistant; Donna Mochrie, an Accounting Clerk II; and Payroll Supervisor Nanette Conyne. All received recognition for 35 years of employment at Liberty ARC during a recent employee recognition dinner.

At left: Deborah Barker, an Accounting Clerk I, who was recognized for 40 years of employment at Liberty ARC during a recent employee recognition dinner.

PHOTOS PROVIDED

ti, Violet Bauman, Darius Berry, Trisha Brathwaite, Bridget Brownell, Keisha Carter, DaKenya Collazo, NiTasha Colson, Megan Conlin, Kimberly Cook, Taylor Crawford, Jamie Field, Dawn Fridenberger, John Galligan, Lyn Geisler, Kaylene Gifford, Kerri Jones, Dawn Jobin, Barbara Kennedy, Anna Kilmartin, Kate Lasher, Laura Manzer, Cynthia Moore, Selena Padilla, Kierra Reid, Samantha Renodin, Eric Robertshaw, Carlos Rodriguez, Jose Rojas-Castillo, Serina Ryder, Shannon Schuyler, RuthAnn Shanahan, Shyann Shirvanion, Allison Smullen, Michelle Terwilliger, Laura Tripp, Brandy VanNostrand, Devora Weiss, Theresa Wellington, Stanley Witcher, Mary Zydes.

bilitation Specialist I Ashley Wilson.

Ten years of recognition were given to DSP Jonathan Arce, Assistant Amber Best, Assistant Manager Rebekah Califano, DSP Awake Night Jamie Charboneau, RN Jolene Gray, Assistant Habilitation Specialist I Shauna Hughes-Hall, Residential Manager Samantha Johnson, DSP Kimberly Jones,

Assistant Manager Scott Klug, Lead Supervisor Production Sarah Kruger, Residential Manager Mentor Melissa Lai, DSP Eleisha Mahoney, Assistant Manager Jessica Marotta, DSP Awake Night Crystal Marshall, Family Support Services Manager Jamie Morey, LPN David Nicholas, Director of IT Timothy O'Brien, RN Susan Quinn,

DSP Awake Night Amanda Rivera, Residential Manager Paula Shirvanion, Residential Manager Melissa Somerville, DSP Michael Whelly, Incident Review Coordinator Stephanie Wilson, and Residential Manager Susan Wojturski-Hazzard.

Five years of recognition were given to Iluminada Aponte, Anthony Battis-

FORT HUNTER

Winter activities at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site

The Visitor Center and Museum may be closed for the winter season, but the grounds at Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site are open every day of the year from sunrise to sunset.

Schoharie Crossing offers over two and a half miles of level towpath trail and dozens of acres of open spaces for cross-country skiing, snow shoeing, and winter hiking.

Several historic Erie Canal structures, dating from both the original canal of the 1820s and the Enlarged Canal of the 1840s, can be seen despite snow, including the impressive remnants of the Schoharie Creek Aqueduct.

Access to our towpath trails can be found from the parking lots at our Visitor Center, 129 Schoharie Street, Fort Hunter, or from Yankee Hill Lock, 550

Queen Anne Road, Amsterdam when weather conditions allow.

Please note that Snowmobiles are prohibited on state park land at Schoharie Crossing, though the Town of Florida Snowmobile Club does maintain the C7P and C7B sections of Montgomery County trail that runs adjacent to the site. The site’s boat launch parking lot of Hartley Lane will be available for riders who wish

to trailer in for use along that approved trail when conditions allow.

This winter, Schoharie Crossing will be providing on-site as well as online programming. Follow us on Facebook or visit our NYS Parks website for event dates and details. We also offer outreach programs for a wide variety of groups such as scout troops, senior citizen organizations, histori-

cal society groups and grade school classes.

These programs can include a slide show, and some hands-on activities.

There is a small charge for these programs and for more information, please call the Visitor Center at (518) 829-7516 or email SchoharieCrossing@parks.ny.gov.

Schoharie Crossing State Historic Site is a part of The

New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation that oversees more than 250 individual state parks, historic sites, golf courses, boat launches and recreational trails, which are visited by 78 million people annually. For more information on any of these recreation areas, call 518-474-0456 or visit www.nysparks.com, connect on Facebook, or follow on Twitter.

AMSTERDAM

Reading program chooses ‘Horse’ as its 2024 book of the year

Amsterdam Reads of the Amsterdam Free Library has chosen “Horse” by Geraldine Brooks as the 2024 book of the year.

The book is available at the library.

The community reads group encourages the community to read the same book and take part in activities related to the book they sponsor.

This community read has been going on since 2007. The goal is to increase discussion, community spirit

and support for the library.

Geraldine Brooks, the Pulitzer Prize winning author, has been called a master of historical fiction.

The novel “Horse” is based on the true story of arguably horse racing’s most famous thoroughbred Lexington. Horse racing, the Civil War, modern racism, the Smithsonian Museum scientists, modern painters and much more are part of the many faceted yet united story.

So far the Amsterdam Reads group has planned three activities that are open to all.

All activities are free except the admission to the National Racing Museum in Saratoga Springs.

Kick Off Event — Library talk by Louis F. Hildebrandt followed by a tour of the Sanford Stud Farm Broodmare Barn at 1 p.m. on Jan. 28, with snow date on Feb. 4. Louis F. Hildebrandt’s father was a successful

Sanford jockey from 1936-1947.

Together they wrote the memoir “Riders Up,” and Louis compiled the story of the Sanford’s Stud Farm in the book “Hurricane.” Louis is responsible for saving the Broodmare Barn of the farm at the now shopping center just north of Amsterdam. Louis is an eloquent speaker and raconteur not to be missed. After the 30-minute talk, the group will adjourn and reconvene at the Broodmare Barn on Route 30,

and Louis will lead a tour.

Community Book Discussion of “Horse” at the Amsterdam Free Library will be on March 10, with a snow date of March 17.

A trip to the Saratoga Springs National Museum of Racing on Sunday, April 28 has tentatively been scheduled.

If anyone has other ideas for activities, please present them at the library.