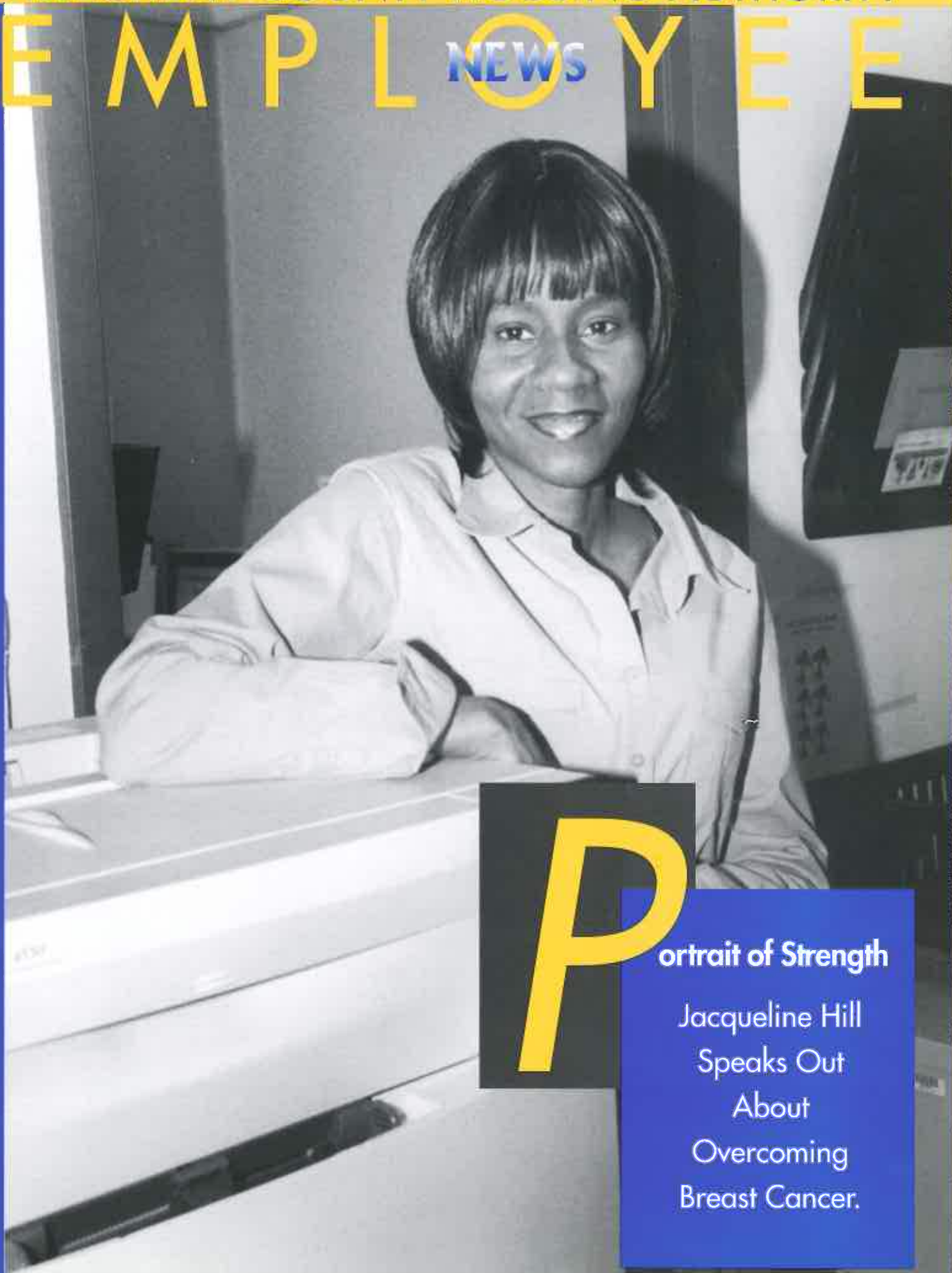


EMPLOYEE NEWS

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Portrait of Strength

Jacqueline Hill
Speaks Out
About
Overcoming
Breast Cancer.

PORTRAIT OF STRENGTH

Jacqueline Hill Speaks Out About Overcoming Breast Cancer

Jacqueline Hill had her life placed in the hands of doctors before. As a child in the third grade, she was severely injured in a car accident, resulting in a hospital stay of three months.

So as she lay on an operating room table at Magee Women's Hospital in Oakland in March of 2001 — with doctors ready to perform an eight-hour radical mastectomy, Hill flashed back to her childhood, confidently thinking to herself: "God delivers through doctors. If He didn't take me then, He ain't taking me now."

Hill, a deeply spiritual woman, has served as a confidential secretary for the Allegheny County Housing Authority's resident services department for the past seven years. But she is so much more than that.

She is also a breast cancer survivor; living proof that through faith and trust, cancer can be defeated.

"I prayed for everyone who was going to touch me that day — the doctor, the nurses, the anesthesiologist," Hill said. "I'm mostly a shy person, but on that day, I asked God for Holy Ghost boldness, which enabled me to pray effectively for those dealing with my surgery."

By all accounts, her prayers have been answered. Following the procedure (which resulted in the removal of her left breast) and subsequent chemotherapy treatments from June through September of 2001, doctors say Hill's outlook is cancer free.



"Praise God, all the cancer was removed through both treatments," she said.

But her recovery has not been without struggle. Hill referred to her initial chemotherapy appointment as "doomsday" and said that during her four months of treatment she was very ill. Her hair fell out. She couldn't eat. She suffered from extreme nausea and was afraid of her dramatic weight loss, since she was already quite thin.

Adding to her struggle was the emotional roller coaster of the diagnosis itself. Hill discovered her lump in 1999 and went for a mammogram. After confirmation of the mass, she was told to come back every six months to gauge its progress. It wasn't until two years later, however, that doctors called her at work with the devastating news.

"My immediate reaction was 'yeah, right,'" Hill said with disbelief. "But thoughts of death and fears regarding the diagnosis crept up on me for the rest of that day. When my husband, Michael, picked me up from work, we prayed immediately and sought healing through the prayers of our friends at the Pentecostal Temple, our church in East Liberty."

Hill also credits the support of her family (daughter, Jontay, 17, and Michael Jr.,

2; mother, Bernice Gains, and sister, Kim Dorsey).

For women, losing a breast is a traumatic experience, impacting their view of themselves and their femininity. But remarkably, Hill has kept her loss in healthy perspective, while even maintaining her sense of humor.

"I don't miss what I don't have," she said. "I've always been flat chested. I didn't care so much about the removal of my breast as I did wanting to live. Because I have survived, I feel that God has shown off!"

Being open about her illness has been a positive experience for Hill. When she returned to work, she posted a "thank you" card on her desk and invited her ACHA co-workers to pose questions, telling them not to be afraid to ask. Since then, many women have approached her voicing concerns about breast cancer test procedures and results.

Hill emphasized that Magee Women's Hospital offers a good support system for those who wish to participate and also offered this advice to women who may be facing the same illness.

"First, trust God to take you through the whole process," she said. "Second, surround yourself with a good support system. And lastly, educate yourself about the illness."

Hill recently underwent reconstructive surgery on March 20, 2002, and summed up her ordeal with trademark confidence.

"After going through this," she said. "I feel I can conquer anything."

Happy Birthday!

Swearingen, James S. March 2
 Gribble, Timothy March 3
 Kobert, David A. March 6
 Velar, Gina L. March 6
 Brown, Donna K. March 8
 Sowers, Rebecca A. March 8
 Hohman, William E. March 10
 King, Lance O. March 10
 Meister, Lee A. March 10
 Mioduski, Edward E. March 12
 Carson, Kathleen M. March 13
 Vogel, Michael J. March 13
 Fusaro, Frank March 18
 McGee, William J. March 19
 Polinski, Mark R. March 20
 Beatty, Charles March 21
 Rossi, Robert C. March 23
 Victor Jr., Mario March 27
 Livadas, Nannette March 28
 Rose, Kathryn J. March 30
 Hayden, Ricardo March 31
 Majewski, John W. April 1
 Loos, Mark L. April 4
 Davis, Charles April 7
 Brough, Ronald G. April 12
 MacFann, William S. April 13
 Reed, Anthony G. April 13
 Jackson, Martin April 15
 Contos, Judith April 19
 Moik, Deborah April 21
 Allen, Dean A. April 22
 Hayes, Robert P. April 22
 Simko, Nicholas R. April 22
 Hovanec, Joan B. April 27
 Coleman, Tracey April 28
 Javorsky, Portia April 30
 Norgren, Charles M. April 30
 Ingold, Roy D. May 7
 Habarka, John C. May 8
 Kotchey, John W. May 15
 Nelson, Inez D. May 15
 Smith, Jack A. May 17
 Brown, Charles May 20
 Kearney, John E. May 21
 Charlie, Marsha L. May 22
 Peddicord, Rena L. May 22
 Gabbianelli, Robert May 23
 Marshall, Shirley L. May 23
 Fields, Erica May 26
 Fuqua, Tasha C. May 28
 Vetterly, George May 30
 Falconer, Kimberly May 31
 Krally, Robert F. June 2
 Murrell, Anthony J. June 2
 Woodson, Holly June 2
 Cole, Thomas L. June 4
 Kormick, Gina M. June 8
 Johnson, Toi R. June 9
 Thorn, William E. June 14
 Johnson, Lamar June 18
 McCary, Eli June 18
 Collins, Janice June 21
 Carter, Marvin J. June 22
 Poits, Art W. June 22
 Proud, Dennis K. June 22
 Bowman, Carolyn A. June 23
 Kichty, Kristine C. June 24
 Ammon, Donald June 25
 Bennett, Tony June 26
 Robinson, Norma J. June 28
 Kudrov, Kenneth G. June 30
 Hayes, Melvin L. July 1
 Donatelli, Raymond July 2
 Lawhorn, Matthew S. July 3
 Graham, Richard July 4
 Diven, Christopher July 6
 Francescon, Louis A. July 6
 Kelly, Joseph D. July 7
 Ayers, Mary July 10
 Watkins, Marian E. July 12

Waters, Bryan M. July 15
 Banaszak, Susan E. July 17
 Powell, Florence G. July 17
 Turner, Michelle G. July 17
 McCorkle, Antionette July 18
 Kier, Jeffrey J. July 19
 Stohlberg, Charles A. July 21
 Paganucci, Elva July 23
 Parker, Ellen S. July 23
 Dinkins, George July 26
 Johnson, Mabel E. July 26
 Maiorano, Stephen J. July 26
 Carey, Thomas J. July 28
 Carson, David A. July 29
 Cassidy, Patrick July 29
 Demko, Constance July 30
 Peterson, Gary J. July 30
 Castello, Charles J. July 31
 Lancaster, Diane L. July 31
 Bostick, Macheo J. August 3
 Davis, William August 3
 Hvizdas, David P. August 6
 Frederick, Reed August 8
 Bishop, Joseph M. August 9
 Thrower, Dionna L. August 9
 Stephenson, Karen K. August 11
 Parker, Deanna August 12
 Majeski, David August 13
 Doyle, Mary Ellen August 14
 James, Michael H. August 16
 Stock, Kellie R. August 16
 Manion, Philip J. August 17
 Vasques, Rick E. August 21
 White, Nicole L. August 21
 Owen, William J. August 22
 Thompson, Travis L. August 23
 Petrocelli, Paul J. August 24
 Nazarek, Vincent August 25
 Allison, Charles A. August 26
 Hill, Jacquelyn August 27
 Aggazio, Frank A. August 30
 Buchko, Catherine D. August 30
 Barczyk, Agnes G. September 1
 Memmo, Donna L. September 1
 Merida, Maxine September 1
 Smith, Donald O. September 2
 Alberti, Linda A. September 4
 Allen, Patricia A. September 4
 Skosnik, Randall J. September 4
 Bugajski, Roberta A. September 5
 Higan, Jeanne September 6
 McDougald, Carla J. September 7
 Wetmore, Harry V. September 7
 Caslin, Patricia J. September 9
 O'Brien, Mark September 9
 Jones, Richard J. September 12
 Pacacha, Robert R. September 13
 Wright, William M. September 17
 Durah, Tammy September 18
 Mogus Jr., Edward J. September 18
 Joyce, John W. September 19
 Thomas, Sharon L. September 20
 Gibson, Tiffany L. September 22
 Arnold, David B. September 25
 Cunningham, Robert September 27
 Frazier, Rachel September 30
 McGraw, John M. September 30
 Payne, Tamiko L. September 30
 Rojas, Daniel September 30

Name for the Employee Newsletter

We have received a few suggestions for the Employee Newsletter. The suggestions are as follows:

"The Accolade"
 "Bits and Pieces"

This is your last opportunity to submit a choice of your own. We will list all of the suggestions in the next edition and allow the employees to vote on their favorite name. You should submit your name to the Human Resources Department.

Safety Committee

The ACHA Safety Committee meets on the third Thursday of each month. The times are 9:00 AM and the locations vary. Bill Hohman, Safety Officer, is the chairperson of the committee. Please contact Bill if you would like to receive copies of the minutes or make suggestions. He can be reached at 412-292-1249. The next edition of the newsletter will feature an article on the Safety Incentive Program.

The Good Times Committee

The GTC would like to remind everyone that they are here for the employees all year long. The Christmas Party is the main event, but activities are held throughout the year to help reach the financial goals for a successful party. Your support is needed to do this. Call Linda Alberti (355-2188) or Kim Falconer (642-2101) if you'd like to participate on the committee.



Please make sure that your information on file for benefits, payroll, etc. is current and up-to-date. Please submit the proper paperwork if you have a change of address, phone number, add or change dependents. These changes should be submitted to Human Resources to ensure that your records are correct.

Thank you for your participation in the

BLOOD DRIVE

on Friday, August 16.

Allegheny County Housing Authority LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

For the past two years, the Authority has offered a special opportunity to staff members interested in developing their personal and professional leadership capacity through the Leadership Development Initiative, an intensive six-month class led by facilitators from RDP Consulting Services. The Leadership Development Initiative uses a combination of empirical and discovery learning techniques through which individuals:

- Discuss and come to better understand the organization's challenges and leadership needs.
- Explore their own individual leadership challenges and opportunities through a process of self-assessment, self-development and peer learning.
- Practice leadership techniques and skills through hands-on approaches, comprehensive study of current thinking, and observation of proven leaders at work.

As a result, participants are able to assist the Authority in becoming more effective in:

- Collaborating across functional and organizational boundaries.
- Attracting top talent by creating a desirable work environment.
- Innovating more effectively to increase efficiency and enhance outcomes.
- Functioning as a cohesive team.
- Serving a diverse clientele with excellence.
- Motivating employees to do their best work and reach their full potential.

In addition to a half-day classroom session once a month, the program includes:

- Outside readings.
- Self-reflective homework and journaling.
- Individual leadership enhancing project.
- Field trips.
- Meetings with mentors.

If you are interested in applying to participate in the next leadership class, please contact Lynn Greer, Human Resources, at 412-355-2152.

ACHA Babies Can You Identify Them?



A.



B.

If you think you know who these adorable babies are, send your answer to Lynn Greer, Human Resources.

EMPLOYEES of the Month



C. Lynn Greer, Human Resources
March 2002 Employee of the Month



Lance King, Maintenance
April 2002 Employee of the Month



Jackie Cecere, Development
May 2002 Employee of the Month



Jerome Hill, Investigative Services
June 2002 Employee of the Month

QUOTE OF THE MONTH...

"Success often leads to arrogance,
and arrogance to failure."

— Quoted from *The 22 Immutable Laws of Marketing* by Al Ries & Jack Trout



Pictured: Frank Aggazio presents Award of Recognition and Gratitude to Kenneth Pangburn.

Stroke of Genius

Kenneth Pangburn's skills as a painter made new ACHA residents feel at home.

Chances are, Kenneth Pangburn will never be mistaken for Michelangelo, Picasso or Pollock, but if a painter's legacy is determined in part by public response, then Pangburn, too, will forever be known as an artist.

Pangburn, an employee for 28 years with the Allegheny County Housing Authority, retired in June after serving the past 10 years as a painter for ACHA residences in Clairton, Duquesne, Wilkensburg and Wilmerding.

During this time, Pangburn used his skills with a brush and roller to transform hundreds of "lived-in" apartments by previous tenants (units splashed in every conceivable color and decorated in every possible taste) into clean, fresh and inviting living areas for incoming residents.

"It makes you feel really good when people tell you they like their place," Pangburn said of his behind-the-scenes contributions.

But while the job may have seemed cut and dry, Pangburn experienced his share of challenges. "I once walked into an apartment in Burns Heights in Duquesne, expecting it to be a basic job," he said, noting that the average two-bedroom apartment requires two weeks to prepare. "But when I opened the door, every wall and ceiling was painted blue. They even painted all the woodwork."

"I'll admit, part of me wanted to walk out right then. The color gave me a headache just looking at it. But I had a job to do and I did it."

Whether as a painter or maintenance associate for the ACHA, Pangburn did his job well. Now, with his retirement upon him, the 62-year-old is eager to devote his energies to more "colorful"

endeavors (no more painting in strictly off-white) by tending to the numerous flower gardens around his Clairton area home. "I'm looking forward to spending time with my wife, Lillian, too," he said.

Pangburn summed up his experiences preparing the ACHA's residences philosophically. "There's a lot of good ones and bad ones out there," he said of the state of apartments after tenants move out. "We all worked together (the carpenters, the plumbers and I) to make them better. Thankfully for me, toward the end, there were a lot of good ones."

As for painting around his house?

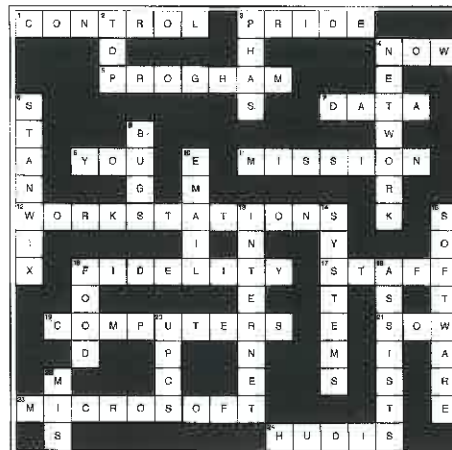
"Only if it's absolutely necessary," he said.

Do-It-Yourself

Kenneth Pangburn's tips for proper paint application:

- Clean the walls and ceilings thoroughly. "Unless you get rid of the dirt and grease, paint will not stick well."
- Use matte or satin finish acrylics instead of oil-based paint. "Oil takes forever to dry."
- If leaving woodwork bare, mask trim carefully. Failure to do so can lead to messy problems.

MIS DEPARTMENT CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWER KEY



NEW HIRES



Pictured Left to Right:
1st Row: Ava G. Johnson; Sarah L. Jones; Lorrie A. Barone; Frank Aggazio, Executive Director
2nd Row: Martin Jackson; Jack A. Smith; Ian S. Black; George L. Vetterly

NEW BABY! ▼

Mitchell Don Allen

Born: July 21, 2002. Time: 7:47 AM
Weight: 8 lbs, 11 oz. Length: 21 inches
Parents: Ann and Dean Allen



Congratulations To:

- Lori and Brian Waters (Operations) on the birth of their daughter, Megan Marie, who was born on 3/9/02.
- Renee and Frank Magliocco (Finance) on the birth of their daughter, Allyson Nicole, on 4/12/02.
- Ann and Dean Allen (Development) on the birth of their son, Mitchell Don, on 7/21/02.
- Kimberly Falconer (Investigative Services) on her engagement to Clinton Robinson.
- Nannette Livadas (Resident Services) on her engagement to Sheldon Goettel.
- Robert Gabbianelli on his promotion/transfer from HCVP to the Quality Control Department.
- Patricia Caslin on her promotion/transfer from the Intake Dept. to the Quality Control Department.
- James Bulls on his promotion/transfer from Operations to the Intake Department.
- Barbara Marasco and Luther Dupree on their promotions to Supervisor/Trainers Operations.
- Jeannie Higman on her promotion to Property Manager Tax Credit.
- Nicole White (Intake) who received her Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice in April.