R I C R U G A N T 0 R E

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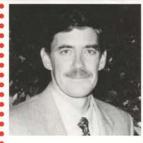
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It does not seem possible that another year has passed since we celebrated the last holiday season. It is certainly a year I will remember with gratitude and an appreciation of your hard work in serving our customers. With the dedicated service of so many talented associates, our business year was one of solid growth and performance. We are all looking

forward to the results of an outstanding holiday season and successful wrap-up to our 1998 year.

Looking forward to 1999, we will again be challenged to improve service to We will also be challenged to keep our focus on the our customers. customer as we complete our merger and become one of the largest retailers in the world. Your role in this process is by far the most important, and I am confident you will handle this as you have in the past, with professionalism and pride.

The new year will also bring new growth opportunities for many of you as we continue and even accelerate our store growth plans and provide drug store expertise for the combination stores in the new company. I am excited · about the possibilities and opportunities ahead. I look forward to working with all of you in 1999.

I wish you and your families the very best this holiday season.

Sincerely, Kevin Tripp

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Lewis Radford #3213 Carson CA 12/04/58



Ronald Roderick #3708 Lancaster CA 12/03/68



Delores Thompson #863 Terre Haute IN 12/01/73



Cynthia Cope #3039 Garden Grove CA 12/29/78



FI THE SECOND SE

Linda Garrison

#2021 Mesa

AZ 12/08/78



Linda Garza #3037 Azusa CA 12/08/78



Leann Harris #2216 Omaha NE 12/02/78



Daisy Joynt #2248 Glendale AZ 12/22/83







WI 12/27/83



Cherie Nelson #3321 Orange CA 12/06/83



#46 Hoffman Estates



Lydia Wozny #869 Carpentersville IL 12/29/83



30 Years - 1968

BERNICE PERSKY, 3109 SHERMAN OAKS, CA IRVING DONG, 8322 SACRAMENTO, CA

20 Years - 1978

NICOLETTE L. BELFI, 863 TERRE HAUTE, IN FERMIN CHAVEZ, 3145 ROSEMEAD, CA MICHELE DEA, 3173 UPLAND, CA BARBARA ELIAS, 2177 HENDERSON, NV SHRENIK GANDHI, 886 ROMEOVILLE, IL DIANE KRISTE, 3606 GARDENA, CA KATHLENE L. LASKY, 3041 NORTH PARK, CA DANIEL SWEET, 2043 BILLINGS, MT

15 Years - 1983

ROBERTA ABELT, 1390 WEST ALLIS, WI BRUCE BAXTER, 774 INDIANAPOLIS, IN DENNA BURTON, 2239 PHOENIX, AZ PAMELA DEAN, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL DIANE ESPINEIRA, 3303 ANAHEIM, CA LISA M. FISCHER, 3712 NORCO, CA SCOTT FLEMING, 2408 KANSAS CITY, MO TERRILL LEMIRE, 586 MENOMINEE, MI DONNA L. MILITANTE, 3119 CERRITOS, CA DOLORES REED, 3184 MOORPARK, CA DONNA SERVEN, 3616 TEMPLE CITY, CA JESSICA SHIELDS, 3211 CANYON COUNTRY, CA JANE SPROTTE, 3023 LOS ANGELES, CA DEEANN TAYLOR, 2094 BULLHEAD CITY, AZ ANNE TAYLOR, 998 HYANNIS, MA MARGARET WARREN, 3135 BELL, CA MARTIN F. WHITE, 3119 CERRITOS, CA FRANK WILK, 638 CHICAGO, IL

10 Years - 1988

WILLIAM ADCOCK, 2181 KANSAS CITY, KS
EVA AGUIAR, 627 EVANSTON, IL
SYED AHMED, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL
ROSALINDA ALVAREZ, 3275 SAN DIEGO, CA
ELIZABETH AMAYA, 3854 LONG BEACH, CA
EVA ARIAS, 3403 ESCONDIDO, CA
EHICHANYA ASOMUGHA, 3175 TORRANCE, CA
CASSANDRA BAADE, 246 MUNDELEIN, IL

ROSE BALKE, 325 REVERE, MA MARK BRASH JR, 967 MANCHESTER, NH TONI CARLISLE, 762 INDIANAPOLIS, IN JULIO CHAVEZ, 3835 ONTARIO, CA TRACY CONTRERAS, 3315 IMPERIAL BEACH, CA PATRICK DELONG, 1236 CAPE MAY COURT HOUSE, NJ JOHN DEMPSEY, 8475 WHITTIER, CA HELEN R. DICKSON, 3411 ANAHEIM, CA MARY DUVALL, 430 MISHAWAKA, IN BRENDA EGGEBRECHT, 2159 COLUMBIA, MO DIANA FERGUSON, 2224 LAS VEGAS, NV LINDA FINDLEY, 3255 ANAHEIM, CA ROBERT FORDYCE, 630 ELMHURST, IL PAULINE FREEL, 308 MILFORD, NH ROSKY GONZALEZ, 3868 TORRANCE, CA PATRICK GORDON, 3277 MIRA MESA, CA JULIANNE HARTLERODE, 2224 LAS VEGAS, NV RHONDA HARTON, 2025 PHOENIX, AZ RITA HAUSER, 234 ELK GROVE VILLAGE, IL MELVIN HINKOFER, 2310 SCOTTSDALE, AZ STANLEY HODGES, 2174 KANSAS CITY, MO CHIA HSIA, 3609 EL MONTE, CA JOHN JACOBSON, 282 CHICAGO, IL KENNETH JACOBY, 603 BOLINGBROOK, IL

(continued on page 3)

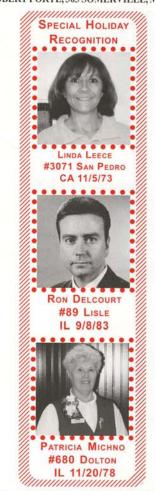
DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

SCOTT JOSH, 627 EVANSTON, IL LISA KING, 3045 DOWNEY, CA MONA KORT, 3702 GARDEN GROVE, CA WENDY LACY, 658 CHICAGO, IL LAURELLI LARSON, 2304 MESA, AZ BONNIE LESNIAK, 308 MILFORD, NH CHERYL LICAUSI, 965 LYNN, MA JAMES MC KEON, 3614 MISSION VIEJO, CA MARJORIE MC LAUGHLIN, 991 TEWKSBURY, MA BRIAN MCCLUNG, 459 BLOOMINGTON, IN SONIA MEDRANO, 3233 HAWTHORNE, CA SUSAN MEJIA, 3209 SANTA MONICA, CA KAREN LOUISE MENDOZA, 2160 SPRINGFIELD, MO VERONICA NAITO, 3315 IMPERIAL BEACH, CA KENNETH NELSON, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL JUDY PASSERO, 194 SCHAUMBURG, IL CHANDRAKALA PATEL, 3391 SOUTH LAGUNA, CA TRICIA PERALES, 3148 INDIO, CA MARIE RUSSELL, 246 MUNDELEIN, IL MARDELL SAMPAIR, 3039 GARDEN GROVE, CA CHRISTINE SAVARD, 972 LOWELL, MA KATHY SELLARD, 2244 SCOTTSDALE, AZ ERNEST SHIH, 3849 CHINO HILLS, CA DOLORES SORENSEN, 632 CHICAGO, IL ED SU, 3069 FULLERTON, CA YEE CHAW TAY, 3078 WALNUT, CA MARLENE TRAN-BANH, 3079 ALHAMBRA, CA LEA TREMBLAY, 336 MANCHESTER, NH STANLEY TYLER, 3085 LOS ANGELES, CA LINDA VILLARREAL, 123 CHICAGO, IL MICHELE WESTLEY, 3237 LAS VEGAS, NV

5 Years - 1993

NICHOLAS AMODEI, 477 CHESTERTON, IN LINDA ARONOVITZ, 996 HOLBROOK, MA MARY BALLARD, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL CHARLIE BOLTON, 2211 TUCSON, AZ KIMBERLY BOZEMAN-ASH, 409 MOLINE, IL CAROL BROWN, 2169 INDEPENDENCE, MO EARNEST BROWN, 2149 KANSAS CITY, MO SHERRY BUFFINGTON, 50 FRANKFORT, IL RITA CABRAL, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL MARINA CARRASCO, 30 CHICAGO, IL SUSAN CASE, 336 MANCHESTER, NH PATTI CLIFFORD, 697 WHEATON, IL NELLIE CUNNINGHAM, 2139 OUINCY, IL STACEY DANIEL, 2302 MESA, AZ MAUREEN DAY, 2125 COUNCIL BLUFFS, IA LORENA DIAZ, CDC WOOD DALE, IL ROSE DORMAN, 2207 CARSON CITY, NV DENISE DOWNARD, 2196 TUCSON, AZ FELICITAS DURAN, 3135 BELL, CA

TERRY EDWARDS, 2184 KANSAS CITY, MO LINDA ELWOOD, 3133 THOUSAND OAKS, CA CRISTINA FELICIANO, 967 MANCHESTER, NH ROBERT FORTE, 303 SOMERVILLE, MA



WILLIAM GAMBLE, 876 SPRINGFIELD, IL DANIEL GARNER, 770 INDIANAPOLIS, IN JEANINE GERAMBIA, 289 PARK RIDGE, IL JOANNE GIACALONE, 969 NORWOOD, MA KIMBERLY GILLETT, 3125 LAKE FOREST, CA PHIL GRICE, 2362 INDIANAPOLIS, IN ADAN GUTIERREZ, 762 INDIANAPOLIS, IN LUPE HERNANDEZ, 3817 SYLMAR, CA SUSAN HILD, 2139 QUINCY, IL CHRIS JAKUB, 917 LINCOLN, NE JERINA JOHNSON, 3620 ONTARIO, CA VICKI KIRK, 2133 WICHITA, KS KEVIN LAURIO, 3041 NORTH PARK, CA GAYLE LEE, 3403 ESCONDIDO, CA ANGELA LEHR, 946 LINCOLN, NE RONALD LEYNES, 3375 PACIFIC PALISADES, CA JEFFREY MARTIN, 2409 LEE'S SUMMIT, MO

CYNTHIA MILES, 770 INDIANAPOLIS, IN SYLVIA MILES, 2323 PHOENIX, AZ LUZIDALIA MORENO, 632 CHICAGO, IL SHELIA MOSELY, 3375 PACIFIC PALISADES, CA JOHN NGUYEN, 3321 ORANGE, CA RUBEN ORIOLA, 3277 MIRA MESA, CA FRANK PACE, 2161 LEAWOOD, KS CHARLENE PAREDES, 3835 ONTARIO, CA MICHAEL PEPIN, 906 WALTHAM, MA LORI POCHOWSKI, 1379 GREENFIELD, WI CHARLES PORCH, 2175 KANSAS CITY, MO KARREN REED, 3737 PALM SPRINGS, CA ADA ROBINSON, 517 LINCOLN, NE STACEY ROSS, 421 SOUTH BEND, IN PATRICIA RUMMLER, 3109 SHERMAN OAKS, CA GERALYNN SALOMONE, 960 LONDONDERRY, NH LESLEI SCHMIDT, 3309 STANTON, CA DAWN SCOTT, 421 SOUTH BEND, IN LOUIS SEIBEL, 2186 OVERLAND PARK, KS CHRISTOPHER SMITH, 405 COLUMBUS, IN HILDA SOLIS, 3602 CANOGA PARK, CA MARIA STINNETT, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL ANN STOKR, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL LISA SULLIVAN, 2332 TUCSON, AZ FERN TRUAX, 908 HINGHAM, MA EDMOND TSANG, 3221 RIVERSIDE, CA JEFF VAN OSDOL, 776 INDIANAPOLIS, IN JENNIFER VANEARWAGE, 2390 ROCK ISLAND, IL PAULO VAZQUEZ, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL ANTHONY VERRICO, 974 REVERE, MA REY VITO, 3233 HAWTHORNE, CA MARGARET WALKER, 779 INDIANAPOLIS, IN RITA WHITED, 3024 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA DAVID WOLFE, CDC LUNT, ELK GROVE, IL ANNA ZABIELSKI, 69 GLENVIEW, IL

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EDITOR: Brandon Bates
EDITORIAL
ASSISTANTS: Venus Northrup,

Scott Hoskins, and Briget Plouzek

"THINK SERVICE...THINK SHRINK...THINK SAFETY" WEEK



Above) Celebration at store #822 South Bend, IN.





(Above) Celebration at store #3323 Los Angeles, CA.



Above) Celebration at store #3417 Santa Ana, CA.

American Drug Stores Celebrates 2nd Annual "Think Service...Think Shrink...Think Safety" Week.

November 15, 1998, American Drug Stores kicked off it's second annual "THINK SERVICE...THINK SHRINK...THINK SAFETY" WEEK in all 29 districts throughout American Drug Stores. Each and every Osco and Sav-on Drug Stores celebrated this week in many unique and exciting ways.

During this week all stores were asked to decorate their breakroom in a fun and festive way to bring the spirit of Service, Shrink and Safety to the forefront this holiday season. Many stores really took the time and outdid themselves in not only decorating their breakrooms but several stores took pictures of all associates within that store and posted them to show what really counts within American Drug Stores...and of course we all know that's our people.

Once again, Director of Loss Prevention, Peter Bartholomew made his way from coast to coast during this week and stated "All the stores I had an opportunity to visit this week all hit home runs. It was terrific to see the excitement in all stores with regards to Service, Shrink and Safety Week. Every year we do this and it keeps getting stronger and stronger...I can't wait to see what the stores will do in 1999!"



Above) Celebration in District 5, L.A. Northwest.

"THINK SERVICE... THINK SHRINK... THINK SAFETY" WEEK

Also another big part of our Service, Shrink and Safety Week was that all stores had Service, Shrink and Safety Suggestion Boxes in their breakroom. Managers held raffles and gave prizes away for the best service, shrink and safety ideas. "There were barbecues, pot lucks, pizza parties, you name it...we saw it! That's what makes working for American Drug Stores so special...that we're able to do this, to give thanks to all our associates for being the leaders in Service, Shrink, and Safety." stated Western Divisional Loss Prevention Manager, Terry Sullivan.

"Think Service, Shrink, and Safety week had three goals" reported Divisional Loss Prevention Manager, Randy Ferris. "Raise awareness, motivate ourselves, and create some Ballyhoo!. All throughout the East and Central Regions we saw many great things including some outstanding motivational posters, backroom murals, and "The Adventures of Safety Man" comic book. Without question, our goals were met with overwhelming success."

The Regional Vice Presidents, District Managers and District Loss Prevention Safety Managers would like to again thank all the General Managers and their store teams for their great support in celebrating American Drug Stores' 2nd Annual "Think Service, Shrink and Safety" Week! We look forward to another awesome week in 1999.

HIGH FIVES AND

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL STORES!!





(Above) Celebration at store #2127 Omaha, NE.



(Above) Celebration at store #2096 Kansas City, MO.



(Above) Celebration at store #5276 Santa Fe, NM.



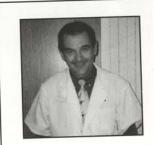
(Above) Celebration in District 3, Southwest.

Submitted by: Terry Sullivan Regional Loss Prevention Manager

PEOPLE WHO CARE!!!

#3083

I would like to compliment John Freudiger at store #3083 for his outstanding customer service. I had a crisis with my foster baby who possibly was having a withdrawal seizure. My baby had taken



the wrong concentrate of a prescription which caused her to overdose. John saved my baby's life. John calmed me down and handled the situation calmly and professionally. He reassured me while I was on my cell phone taking my baby to the hospital.

I would like to compliment John for his excellent service and informative care.

Gratefully

Margret Robbins

#2209

To Whom It May Concern:

I just had to write and "Thank You" for the great service I received from your pharmacy. I had a very sick child in the car with me when I went through your drive through service.



Without even mentioning that to the pharmacist, he very quickly filled my sons prescription and I was on my way.

I sure appreciate that! I am a working mother with four children and time is a big issue, so I can't thank you enough!

With Sincere Gratitude,

Clarise McMichaels

#637

(1)

I would like to tell you about the most wonderful associate at your Osco store #637 Merle Benson. She is truly an outstanding and helpful employee. She definitely is an asset to your company and should be honored as such.



Sincerely,

Carol Killian

(2)

I just had to write to you about your associate Merle Benson, she is just great! I have come to Store #637 many times. I always look forward to being waited on by her. She is always a pleasure to deal with and makes me feel very appreciated for my business.

Thanks Merle, your the greatest!

Very Sincerely,

Mr. Charles Willows

PHARMACY NEWS



(Above) Associate Spotlight, Laverne Lexing Pharmacy Tech from store #2176 Las Vegas, NV. Wishing You Happy Holidays!!

ne of the greatest challenges of a disease-state management program has been to get managed care organizations and patients to realize the value of educational services. Paying now for services that will prevent severe complications of diabetes is much more cost effective than paying for the actual complications later in life.

Two new partnerships now let us offer services to our patients with diabetes at little to no cost:

Roche Diagnostics is the national sponsor of our Diabetes Care Seminars. A series of four classes gives the patient general knowledge about their diabetes and how to effectively treat it. Because of our partnership, the patient can now attend the complete series (normally retailing at \$120-\$180) if they purchase a box of Accu-Chek Advantage test strips (average retail of \$35). In addition, the patient will receive a FREE Accu-Chek Advantage Blood Glucose Monitor (average retail \$65) at the first class. Blood glucose monitoring is a vital part of the treatment of diabetes. This offer is extremely valuable to the patient and very exciting

for our program. For legislation purposes, this offer is not currently available in our Indiana markets.

Another opportunity that is going to make it easier for the patient to utilize our services is our new partnership with Novo Nordisk Pharmaceuticals. The Diabetes Care and Share Program was jointly developed to help bring quality product and education to our patients with diabetes. Novo Nordisk manufactures the NovoPen 3 insulin delivery system which offers safety and convenience to people who need to inject insulin. Our specially trained Diabetes Care Pharmacists can teach patients how to use this device and how to properly manage their diabetes through insulin therapy. A large percentage of insulin users do not use the

proper injection technique. Mistakes in injecting insulin can be serious, so proper training is very important. In addition to receiving this valuable training at no cost, the patient can also receive the NovoPen 3 and Novofine needles at no charge with purchase of Novolin Insulin cartridges.

If you have Diabetes Care Pharmacies in your market and know of a patient that can benefit from either of these services (the Diabetes Care Seminars or NovoPen 3 training), please contact your local Diabetes Care Pharmacist for more information.

Submitted by: Anthony Provenzano, Pharm. D., CDE Diabetes Care Program Manager

STORE DISPLAYS READY FOR HOLIDAYS



Photos taken in Sav-ons located in the Las Vegas Market, and Osco #502 Minot, ND.

HIGH FIVES TO ALL STORES FOR YOUR HARDWORK IN THE













