



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Calhoun County encourages employee retention by promoting a culture of engagement through communication, appreciation and recognition.

Please join us in congratulating **RAY MASON** who has been recognized as Calhoun County's Employee of the Month for **AUGUST!** Ray, Correctional Officer is hard working and helpful. He is constantly on the move, completing his work and helping the jail operate smoothly. He always has a smile on his face. He is a pleasure to work with and you know his work will be well done. Deputy Mason also received the **Tommy the Trailblazer** award. For this honor, Ray received a rubber goose and bragging rights for a week. Why a goose you ask? You can learn a lot about teamwork and leadership from geese.

- *When in migration, geese fly in a V formation. Each goose takes their turn in a leadership role at the front of the flock.*
- *When geese fly in this formation it creates air patterns that lift the flock of birds and increases the efficiency of their flight. It is much more efficient for them to fly in a group than individually by themselves.*
- *The key to their success is rotating geese in the front of the flock. When they fly in front of the formation there is more drag and causes the goose in front to become exhausted. When the goose is tired it moves down the formation and another goose takes the lead.*
- *Geese often honk to encourage the geese ahead of them, it's also a way of communicating their position and maintaining their speed as a group.*

The idea behind Tommy is that he is given as a trophy to employees who use creative thinking to solve a problem or who step into a leadership role and assist their co-workers. In Tommy's language that process is otherwise known as "blazing a trail" for the other employees who work with them. If an employee receives the trailblazer award, Tommy is gifted to them for the week.

Number of Years at Calhoun County:

3 years & 7 months

Why do you like working for Calhoun County?

All the interesting and complex people that I get to work with on a daily basis.

Favorite thing about your job:

I get to go to work and try to make my co-workers daily jobs a little more manageable. Hope that I can at least manage that!

Favorite hobbies:

Farming, tennis, beekeeping, and some day Clydesdale owner.

Congratulations

Submit your Employee of the Month nominations online:

https://www.calhouncountymi.gov/departments/human_resources/employee_of_the_month_nomination_form.php