



Webster County CONNECTION

AUGUST 2013

A Newsletter for Employees of Webster County, IA

WELCOME NEW EMPLOYEES!

TYPIST ADVANCED:

Adam Winner

ASST. COUNTY ATTORNEY:

Ryan Baldrige

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER:

Tasha Nielsen

PEER SUPPORT:

Ted Hammersley
Rick Huseman

JOB OPENINGS

Webster County is seeking to fill the following positions:

Bilingual Case Manager, Public Health

Social Worker, Public Health

Refer to the county's website for details!

RLGL Wellness Program Gives Healthy Habits a Go, Puts the Brake on Bad Ones

The second wellness program offering kicked off on August 5th and is titled “**Red Light Green Light**”. Members of the Webster County Wellness Committee presented “Eat and Educate” sessions on July 23, featuring a guest speaker from Active Health Chiropractic. Thank you to all who attended!



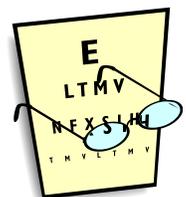
In order for the County to earn the maximum discount (5%) on premiums for 2014-15, we must have at least 90% of insured employees complete just ONE program. As of today, we have 88.5% participation in the Top of Mind program, so we're well on our way! If you did not participate in Top of Mind, please participate in the RLGL program.

The RLGL program aims for you to put into play 2 small and sustainable healthy habits. These are “green light” activities that you choose. Choose one related to healthy eating and the other focused on exercise. You are also challenged to put the brakes on two not-so-healthy “red light” habits. The first 3 weeks will focus on one red light and one green light activity. Record your activity daily on the game card. Ten miles are awarded for completing GL activities, and ten more are earned for avoiding the RL activities.

Add another red and green light activity during week four and you then have the opportunity to earn up to 40 miles daily. Be sure to turn in a copy of your game card at the 3 week mark (August 28) to be eligible for prize drawings from the Wellness Committee. Turn in your completed packet by September 18 to receive a \$75 GIFT CARD (only insured participants are eligible for gift cards)!

Two Open Enrolls for Vision Plan

Webster County is changing its open enrollment period for the Vision plan from October 1 to January 1, to match the open enrollment period for Flexible Spending Accounts. Therefore, there will actually be two open enrollments for Vision this year—October 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014.



If you would like to enroll in the Avesis Vision plan, terminate your current coverage, or make any changes to your Vision plan coverage effective **OCTOBER 1**, please contact Amy Porter in Human Resource by Wednesday, August 28th. Enrollment / change opportunities for January 1 will be announced later in 2013.

Members receive any frame with an approximate retail value between \$100 - \$150. Members also receive a contact lens allowance of \$130 which can be used for materials and services. The current rates are still in effect for October 1 enrollment. The renewal rates for January 1 have a slight increase of \$1-3 per tier.



Get to Know...



Mindy Jacobs

**Title Clerk,
Treasurer (MV)**

Years at Webster Co. = 2

When you were young, what were your favorite TV shows?

Beverly Hills 90210, Roseanne and The Golden Girls.

What would you do with a million dollars?

Build and furnish a new home.

What chore do you secretly enjoy doing?

Cooking and cleaning the kitchen.

Beach, country or city?

Beach.

What makes you laugh?

My family.

If you could go on an all-expense paid vacation, where would you go?

Any exotic destination where there is clear blue water, sun and fun.

What is your all-time favorite snack?

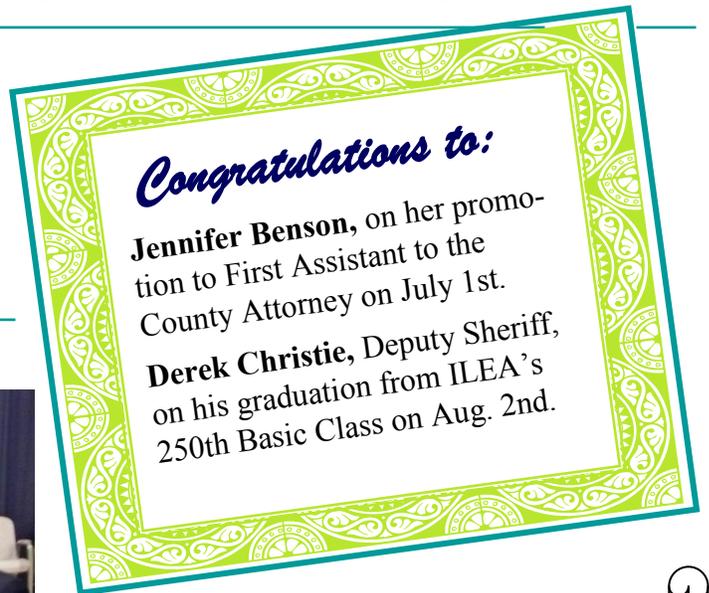
Nachos of all kinds!



Service Anniversaries

We would like to recognize the following employees for their years of service to Webster County as of August 2013. We're very fortunate to have all of you! We appreciate your service, loyalty and dedication.

- 40 years: **Michael Vandi**, Secondary Roads
- 39 years: **Kim Smith**, Assessor
- 23 years: **Randy Sheker**, Secondary Roads
- 19 years: **Brenda Angstrom**, Treasurer (MV)
- 17 years: **Rod Strait**, Sheriff Dept.
- 14 years: **David Lee**, Secondary Roads
Rod Warehime, Secondary Roads
- 13 years: **Carol Gillette**, Community Services
Janet Gadbury, Community Services
- 8 years: **Carolyn Clark**, Treasurer (MV)
- 7 years: **Mike Kenyon**, Sheriff Dept.
- 6 years: **Doreen Pliner**, Auditor
- 5 years: **Jen Sheda**, Public Health
Brian Nellis, Jail
Shawna Dencklau, Jail
- 4 years: **Tanner Nowell**, Jail
Chad Hicks, Secondary Roads
- 2 years: **Trin Lewis**, Community Services
- 1 year: **Joe Tofilon**, Attorney



Congratulations to:
Jennifer Benson, on her promotion to First Assistant to the County Attorney on July 1st.
Derek Christie, Deputy Sheriff, on his graduation from ILEA's 250th Basic Class on Aug. 2nd.



Photo (L): Webster County Sheriff Jim Stubbs with Deputy Derek Christie upon his graduation from the ILEA. Pictured with them are fellow grads FD Police Officers Alex Winninger (former Webster County Jail employee) and Kelly Midtling, and Fort Dodge Mayor Matt Bemrich.

Safety Spotlight: Be a Safety Leader

Every day we influence the people around us in a positive or negative way by what we say or don't say, do or don't do. Being around people who promote and practice safety creates a safer environment for everyone. People who are careless or don't feel they have time for safety create an unsafe environment in which to work.

New employees at a company watch the older employees and take their cues from what they do. No matter how much training new employees are given, if the more experienced workers around them are not practicing safe work habits, eventually the new employees will emulate them, putting themselves and possibly others in danger.

No matter what your position is, you can be a safety leader by quietly doing what's right and by recommending that others do the same. If someone asks your opinion about whether a safety precaution is necessary, be a proponent. You could be saving their life. Make sure that you:

- Don't take shortcuts
- Use guards and safety devices
- Focus on what you are doing – don't get distracted

Remember that not only your co-workers, but supervisors and visitors will observe what you do. Sloppy habits reflect a sloppy operation and make a poor impression. Be a safety leader. You will stay safe, and you'll help others stay safe too.

- By Dr. Isabel Perry. Dr. Perry is an internationally-known safety expert, motivational speaker, author, and safety educator based in Orlando, Florida.



IPERS Counselors in FD Dec. 3-5

IPERS Retirement Benefits Counselors will be in Fort Dodge on Dec. 3-5, 2013 at AmericInn, 100 Kenyon Road. Call the IPERS office at 1-800-622-3849 to schedule a half hour individual appointment.

Don't forget...

Online University safety training online courses are now available! Login today to begin your training—all courses due by year end.



Webster Warriors Take Second in Division

The Webster County Warriors Dragon Boat Team did the county proud on Saturday, August 3rd at the CJ Bio America Badger Lake Dragon Boat Bash at Kennedy Park. The team participated in two time trials in the morning, and began racing in the early afternoon. Placed in Division C, the Warriors won their first race against Unity Point Blue, and came extremely close to defeating team Hope Sweet Hope for the 1st place spot. Final rankings for Division C: 1) Hope Sweet Hope—137.66, 2) Webster County Warriors—138.08, 3) Law and Order—144.29, 4) Unity Point Blue—146.58. Despite their division assignment, the Warriors actually had the 4th best time out of all 24 teams!

Special thanks to the Webster County

Vending Committee and to all of the county employees who came out to support the Warriors in their first ever Dragon Boat races. We definitely had the best cheering section! Front row: Jamie Brown, Jamie Saxton, Jen Peterman, Jen Chance, Angie Roderick. Middle: Amy Porter, Jen Sheda, Missy Grell, Jan Messerly, April Jawish, Jamie Johll, Kellie Orres, Laura Geist, Lindsay Kavanaugh, Rick Zimmermann. Back: Patrick Sheda, Karen Schoon, Tanya Martinson, Tim Martinson, Dan Peterman, Kari Prescott, Brian Prescott, Joe Gregory, Doreen Pliner, Jordan Brackey, Andy McGill.



Schedule of Events

- * 8/28—Vision open enrollment ends
- * 8/28—copy of 3-week RLGL scorecard due for prize drawings
- * 9/2—**Labor Day (County holiday)**
- * 9/3—Board of Supervisors Meeting, 10am
- * 9/10—Board of Supervisors Meeting, 10am
- * 9/17—Board of Supervisors Meeting, 10am
- * 9/21—Chase the Firefly 5K at Kennedy Park
- * 9/22—Autumn Begins
- * 9/24—Board of Supervisors Meeting, 10am

September 2013

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Chase the Firefly 5K is a New Event



Get your glow on! Participate in the first ever “Chase the Firefly 5K”, a family friendly fun run at Kennedy Park on Saturday, Sept. 21st. Luminaries will light your way along the trail—starting and ending at Kennedy Park. Wear your glow stuff and enjoy the “block party” with fun and music!

The registration fee is \$15 Single (\$30 on race day) or \$40 per family, with proceeds going to Friends of Webster County Conservation. The deadline to register is September 14th—those that register by this date will receive a t-shirt and race bag. Participants will check in at Kennedy Park between 7-8pm. Glow accessories will be available for purchase before the race.. To register, visit www.webstercountytia.org.

Upcoming September Events at Webster County Conservation:

Sept. 19: Adventure Series—Shooting Basics: Guns, Bows, Atlatls, 6-8pm (location TBA). Session 4 of 5 in a series. A basic introduction to the shooting sports. See brochure at <http://www.webstercountytia.org/Conservation/Publications/2013-AdventureSeries.pdf>.

Sept. 22: Fall Park Festival at Kennedy Park. Join us to practice outdoor skills such as bb gun shooting, archery, atlatl throwing, animal calls, canoeing, kayaking, geo-caching, etc. Event time to be announced.

R.I.P.P. Visits Missouri State

Three Webster County employees - Jeanette Thanupakorn (Assessor), Karen Schoon (MIS) and Caroline Steinberg (Treasurer MV) - are part of a paranormal investigation team called R.I.P.P. (Researchers in Paranormal Phenomenon), along with Caroline’s husband Mark and Jeannette’s husband Aey, daughter Haley and aunt Carol. The RIPP team recently traveled to Missouri on August 16th to investigate the Missouri State Penitentiary with members of the television crew “Ghost Hunters”, featured on the SyFy channel! This prison is the oldest prison west of the Mississippi. It has been closed for a number of years, and is said to be extremely haunted. This will be their 3rd time with the Ghost Hunters crew—they twice visited the Stanley Hotel with them in Colorado.



Clockwise from L: Aey, Jeanette, Haley, Karen, Mark, Carol and Caroline.