

Adair County Employee Newsletter June 2013

Anniversaries:

Thomas Danielsons, Child Support, 12 years
Clifton Engle, Road and Bridge, 6 years
Beth Platz, Human Resources, 2 years
Michael Smith, Sheriff's Dept. 6 years
Randy Watson, Road and Bridge, 10 years

Happy Birthday!

David Hurt, Sheriff's Dept., 6/2
Pam Tarr, Assessor's Office, 6/9
Celesta Boltz, Assessor's Office, 6/10
Doug Hill, Road and Bridge, 6/10
Michael Smith, Sheriff's Dept. 6/16
Linda Decker, Circuit Clerk, 6/16
Kirby Bailey, Road and Bridge, 6/16
Ryan Crandall, Sheriff's Dept., 6/21
Troy Platte, Road and Bridge; 6/23
Chris Pavlack, Sheriff's Dept. 6/25
Jeff Waddle, Road and Bridge, 6/29

Welcome New Employees!

Bob McCarty-Road and Bridge seasonal
Alyssa Athon- Juvenile Center
Grace March- Juvenile Center
Rick Huddleston- Road and Bridge seasonal
Shawn Keim-Sheriff's Dept
Raymond Schneider, Assessor's office,
seasonal
Spencer Ross, Sheriff's Dept,
Benjamin Lemley, Sheriff's Dept.
Christopher Smith, Sheriff's Dept
Shelby Salter, Assessor's Office
Nick Panos, Sheriff's office

***AS ALWAYS: IF I'VE NEGLECTED ANYONE
BY MISTAKE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW SO I
CAN FIX IT IMMEDIATELY.***

County Events

6/1- Walk for Life
6/1-Arsenic and Old Lace Dinner Theatre



6/2- Arsenic and Old Lace Dinner Theatre
6/2- Auditions for "Broadway in the Park"
6/7- Music on the Square begins
6/10- Children's Theatre Camp
6/29- Movie in the Park, "The Lorax"

every Saturday there is the Farmer's Market, and every Friday there is Music on the Square, courthouse lawn

More information on any of these events can be given by the Chamber of Commerce, 665-3766 or the City of Kirksville at 627-1224.

County News

The County has the potential to obtain a corporate membership with the Adair County YMCA. There will be a 20% discount for those interested, and the cost will have to be payroll deducted. So, if you're a current member that has your monthly fee deducted from your account from the YMCA every month, you'd need to switch to payroll deduction to receive the discount. Also, we need 20% of employee participation in order to receive the corporate membership (Without running a report to see exactly how many employees we have, my estimation is about 18 employees needed to sign up). With the discount, the prices per month will be as follows:

Family plan: \$28.40
Adult: \$22.00
Single Parent Family: \$22.80
Senior Adult: \$15.60
Senior Couple: \$19.60
Youth: \$10

If you are interested in joining, or switching to payroll deduction for monthly payment, please let Beth know. 234-7914, bplatz@adaircomo.com, or better yet, come see me! ☺

The Health Dept. is holding a TDAP Vaccination Clinic July 22-26th. (Adult Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis). Free for ages 11 and up. Call for appointment 665-8491.

Need some feedback:

Employee Motivation Funds:

After talking to our auditor, I found out that we can have an employee motivational fund, you know...for fun stuff! But it has to be totally separate from the county, and we have to contribute to it ourselves. If everyone would donate just \$1 a month toward it, we would have quite a little bank for a couple of gift cards a month, or whatever you all wanted to use it for. I would love to have a couple of drawings a month for gift certificates gas cards, etc. for those who participate. Please let me know if you're interested (and I really hope you all are), and throw some ideas my way on what you'd like to use it for.

Recipes:

Taco Macaroni and Cheese

1 pound macaroni or shell pasta
1 pound ground beef
1 onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
1 serving of taco seasoning (or 1 packet of store-

bought seasoning mix)
1 cup salsa
1 8-ounce package cream cheese, cut into chunks
2 cups milk
1/2 cup sour cream
2 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend

1. Cook pasta according to package directions; drain.

2. Meanwhile, brown ground beef and sweat the onion together in a large skillet over medium-high heat. When the beef is completely cooked through, drain off excess fat, return to skillet, and add garlic. Cook and stir 30 seconds. Add taco seasoning and salsa and stir to combine; reduce heat to low.

3. In a medium saucepan over medium-high heat, add cream cheese, milk, and sour cream and stir to combine. Cook until cream cheese is melted and mixture is thick and bubbling. Stir in shredded cheese.

4. Add cheese sauce and ground beef mixture to pasta and stir to combine. Top each serving with salsa and sour cream, if desired.

White Velvet Cake

Grease two 9 inch cake pans and line the bottoms with parchment paper. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F.

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Sift together and set aside:

- 1 1/4 cups sifted all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 cups sifted cake flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 1/2 cups sugar

In the bowl of an electric mixer beat together well at high speed with whisk attachment until light and fluffy :

- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup vegetable shortening at room temperature
- 3 tablespoons good quality vanilla extract

Beat in, one at a time,

- 3 large eggs
Fold in the dry ingredients alternately with:
- 1 1/2 cups buttermilk

add dry ingredients in three divisions and liquid ingredients in 2 divisions. It is important to begin and end the additions with the dry ingredients. Do not over mix the batter. As soon as it has no lumps in the batter, pour into the two prepared 9 inch cake pans.

Bake at 325 degrees F for 30-35 minutes or until a wooden toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Allow the cake to cool in the pans for 10 minutes before turning out onto wire racks to cool completely.

Butterfinger Cake Mix Cookies

1 box yellow cake mix
1 egg
1/3 cup oil
1/8 cup water
1 1/2 cups crushed Butterfingers

Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. Combine cake mix, egg, oil, and water in a large bowl and mix until mostly smooth. Stir in Butterfinger pieces.
3. Scoop dough by heaping tablespoons onto prepared cookie sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes. Cool on pan for 5 minutes, then move to cooling rack

Chicken Breast Recipe

- 4 boneless chicken breast halves
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese
- 1 1/2 teaspoons seasoning salt
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

- 1 teaspoon garlic powder

Directions:

Mix mayonnaise, cheese and seasonings. Spread mixture over chicken breast and place in baking dish. Bake at 375°F for 45 minutes.

Potato Salad with Dill and Greek Yogurt

2 pounds red potatoes, diced
1 tsp. dijon mustard
1 cup plain greek yogurt
salt and pepper to taste
2 teaspoons chopped dill

1. Place the diced potatoes in a medium stockpot and cover them with cold water. Throw in a teaspoon of salt and bring potatoes to a boil. Cook for about 20 minutes or until potatoes are easily pierced with a fork.
2. Drain potatoes and return them to the stockpot. Let cool for a bit – 15 minutes is usually good.
3. When the potatoes have cooled, add dijon, greek yogurt, salt, pepper, and chopped dill to potatoes and mix well. The amount of dill, like the salt and pepper, is really a matter of personal preference – add as much or as little as you'd like until it tastes right!
4. Store potato salad in the fridge until you're ready to serve.

CERF 457 Plan (Savings Plan) Quiz:

- 1) You are 100% vested in the CERF match, as well as any investment return the match earns, after 8 years of service. True or False?
- 2) If you leave county employment before you have five years of service, you will forfeit all matching contributions along with the

corresponding investment returns.
True or False?

- 3) The maximum amount the Board of Directors can approve is 50¢ for every dollar that you contribute, up to the first 8% of pay. True or False?
- 4) The savings plan is flexible; meaning you can put all of your money in a single investment option or you can invest in a combination of options.
- 5) Enrollment forms do not have funds listed on them for selection upon enrollment. Therefore, your money will be invested in the most aggressive option, the Great-West Portfolio fund.
- 6) You must begin receiving a required minimum distribution (RMD) by April 1 of the year following the year in which you reach age 70-1/2 or sever employment, whichever occurs later.
- 7) The minimum amount you can contribute is \$10 each month.
- 8) You cannot change your investment elections after enrolling.
- 9) Although CERF's match is based on your voluntary contributions to the CERF 457 plan, the actual matching funds are deposited into your CERF 401(a) account
- 10) You may receive a distribution from your 457 account if you:
 - Leave county employment;
 - Reach age 70 1/2;
 - Have an "unforeseeable emergency;" or
 - Die. True or False?

Answers:

- 1) False. You are vested in the 457 plan after 5 years
- 2) True
- 3) False, the first 6%
- 4) True

- 5) False, options are available for you to choose upon enrollment. If nothing is chosen, your money will be put in the most conservative option.
- 6) True
- 7) True
- 8) False, you can change your investing choices at any time
- 9) True
- 10) True

I thought it might be interesting to break down how much our benefits are REALLY worth with the county. They are worth more than you might think. For instance: the county pays the following expenses on each employee:

- 14 paid holidays annually
- Paid sick leave
- Paid vacation days
- Social Security (at 6.2%)
- Medicare (at 1.45%)
- Unemployment insurance (at 1.04%)
- Worker's Compensation Insurance (at 6.09%)
- 100% LAGERS retirement (at 12.80%)
- 50% CERF retirement (at 2%)
- Health insurance (\$652.01 per employee a month)
- Life insurance (\$6.75 per employee a month)
- Compensatory time (if any)

Using these numbers, an employee who makes \$12.30 an hour (or annual salary of \$25,584) at 40 hours a week, can calculate what their hourly wage really is if we include benefits. Here's how:

- Annual salary of \$25,584 * Social Security tax at 6.2% = \$1586.21
- Annual salary of \$25,584 * Medicare tax at 1.45% = \$370.97

- Annual salary of \$25,584 * Unemployment insurance tax at 1.04% = \$135.20
- Annual salary of \$25,584 * Worker's Comp. Insurance at 6.09% = \$1558.07
- LAGERS retirement at 12.8% (*annual salary of \$25,584) = \$3274.75
- CERF retirement * annual salary example * 2% = \$511.68
- Health insurance for 12 months on employee at \$652.01 a month = \$7824.12
- Life insurance for employee at \$6.75 a month = \$81

All of these figures are county paid. To finish the calculation you would need to take:

**Annual salary plus all of these figures together: \$25,584 + \$1586.21 + \$370.97 + \$135.20 + \$1558.07 + \$3274.75 + \$511.68 + \$7824.12 + \$81 = \$40,926.

Then we would take hourly wage of \$12.30 * accrued vacation of 119 hours, which = \$1463.70 (we want to figure in the accrued vacation because that is something we would pay out to employee upon separation from the county, as is comp. time. However, in this example, employee has no accrued comp. time). Now we'll add the \$1463.70 (accrued vacation time) + \$40,926 (from above figures), = annual salary with benefits at **\$42,389.69**, or hourly wage of \$20.38.

**This figure will vary of course, depending on your own annual salary, hours worked in a week, accrued vacation time, accrued comp. time, and if you're using county health insurance. **

This is important to realize. Adair County has **3 retirements** available to full time employees: LAGERS, CERF PENSION,

and CERF SAVINGS.....and LAGERS is completely county paid. There is no cost to the employee.

When you're discouraged with your paycheck at times, please take into account the extras that we have, that many others do not. When you add it ALL up together, really, we have it great!!

Trivia Challenge #1

Approximately 80% of a child's _____ is acquired from the mother.

- a) weight
- b) eye color
- c) intelligence
- d) personality

Trivia Challenge #2

A lost wallet is more likely to be returned if you have a photo of _____ in it?

- a) A puppy
- b) A wedding
- c) An old couple
- d) A baby

Trivia Challenge #3

Who was buried with a red Gibson guitar, a Bible opened to Psalm 23, and a bud of marijuana?

- a) Bob Marley
- b) Jimi Hendrix
- c) Kurt Cobain
- d) Ronnie Van Zant
- e) Freddie Mercury

Trivia Challenge #4

In 2001, _____ pledged \$94 million to America's poor.

- a) Fidel Castro
- b) Saddam Hussein
- c) Oprah
- d) Bill Gates
- e) The Salvation Army

Trivia Challenge #5

Believe it or not, Adolf Hitler and Josef Stalin, who combined murdered 40 million people, were actually what?

- a) Mathematical geniuses
- b) Nominated for a Nobel Peace Prizes
- c) Awarded Medals of Honor
- d) Given Honorary Doctorates

Trivia Challenge #6

_____ watched his mother die of typhoid fever, only to go upstairs and watch his wife die of birth complications.

- a) Theodore Roosevelt
- b) Robert E. Lee
- c) Benjamin Franklin
- d) Charles Lindberg
- e) Ralph Waldo Emerson

Trivia Challenge #7

During his Presidency, _____ never collected his salary of \$150,000 a year. Instead, he donated it all to charity.

- a) Dwight Eisenhower
- b) Harry Truman
- c) John F. Kennedy
- d) Franklin D. Roosevelt
- e) Herbert Hoover

Trivia Answer #1: c

Trivia Answer #2: d

Trivia Answer#3: a

Trivia Answer#4: b

Trivia Answer #5: b

Trivia Answer #6: a

Trivia Answer #7: c

Facts you didn't know.....

Lack of sleep leads to sugar cravings

A can of diet coke will float in water, while a can of regular coke will sink

McDonald's hamburgers contain only 15% real beef, while the other 85% is meat filler and pink slime cleansed with ammonia. YEEEEEEUCK!

Some restaurants in Japan use monkeys as waiters

In Oklahoma, it's illegal to take a bite out of someone's hamburger

You cannot dream of strangers.....the people you see but don't know, are of people you've seen at some point in your life.

High heels were originally made for men. Butchers used them to avoid stepping in blood.

In 1980, a Las Vegas hospital fired employees for betting on when patients would die

Honey is the only food that will not rot. A jar of honey may remain edible for over 3000 years

Yawning is contagious. Even thinking about it is enough. In fact, there is a 50% chance that you're about to, or just did, yawn.

Earthworms have up to 9 hearts

The ice cream you see in ice cream commercials, is often mashed potatoes, since they do not melt during production

Most laughs that you hear on TV shows today, were recorded in the 1950's.....so technically, we're listening to dead people laugh.

