

Dickinson County Courthouse Newsletter

May 15, 2016



Let's get to know those that work in the Courthouse!



The April Newsletter featured the picture of the little girl to the left. Did you guess Jean Martin?

The following is a little personal information was provided by Jean :

Start working at Dickinson County: 7/1/12

Where born: Racine, Wisconsin

Places Lived: Wisconsin, Massachusetts, Alabama, West Virginia, Missouri, Illinois, Iowa (since 2010)

Hobbies, talents, special interests: Sailing, Dog Training and Agility, Needlepoint, Bridge, Reading

Favorite Travel Spots: Anywhere in Europe (still have a

lot of places to go!), National Parks

Favorite Food: Asparagus

Least Favorite Food: Pickles

If I were stuck on an island, I would bring (3 things): iPad with Kindle app fully loaded, charger, my dog

Something Few Know about me: Did a three week African photo safari –hiking, game watching from jeeps, canoeing near hippos

Favorite thing to do in Dickinson County: Live music

Jean's favorite Motivational Quote:

“Do one thing everyday that scares you” – Eleanor Roosevelt

“Never Never Never Quit” -Winston Churchill

Software Upgrade by Alissa Holtz:

Many of you have experienced at least one of the software changes during your time at Dickinson County.

2004 – Alchemy

2005 –GT to Eden

2012 –Incode to Tyler 10

2013 - Recorder Alchemy and Incode to Eagle

2015 – Nemesis to Shield

2016 – Alchemy to Tyler TCM

2017 – Eden to Tyler 10

The upcoming fiscal year will bring on more software changes at Dickinson County. We will be phasing Alchemy out of the county and will be using Tyler Content Manger as our document management software. This change will allow for better integration to our Tax and Financial software. The other change will be from Eden to Tyler 10. This change should provide better reporting and allow users to be more intuitive. It has been challenging and exciting to see how the software have transitioned over the years and changed how we do business at Dickinson County.

Okoboji Tourism Director, Rebecca Peters:

At the April 12th Supervisors' Board meeting Julie Fillenwarth introduced the new Okoboji Tourism Director, Rebecca Peters. Ms. Peters came highly qualified as the former marketing director of the Clay County Fair. She is enthusiastic about promoting the Iowa Great Lakes, and after the meeting emailed the Board the following stats for Dickinson County's tourism.

Some of the 2014 economic impact of travel highlights for Dickinson County:

- \$275,480,000 in expenditures
- \$32,550,000 in payroll
- 1,950 employees
- \$14,170,000 in state tax receipts
- \$4,750,000 in local tax receipts

The Iowa Tourism Office within the Iowa Economic Development Authority puts together an annual report of the economic impact of travel on Iowa counties. The most recent report available is 2014. The report shows *Dickinson County 9th in the State for economic financial impact*, with only Polk, Linn, Scott, Johnson, Black Hawk, Dubuque, Pottawattamie, and Woodbury ranking higher.

Ms. Peters provided this link below.

http://www.traveliowa.com/UserDocs/2015_County_Impact.pdf



Telepharmacy in Lake Park:

April 19, 2016, Lake Park City Administrator, Marie Matthiesen updated the Board of Supervisors regarding Tele-Pharmacy, a new resource that will be coming to the City of Lake Park in the near future.

Telepharmacy is the delivery of pharmaceutical care via telecommunications to patients in locations where they may not have direct contact with a pharmacist.

As you can see in this picture, an off-site pharmacist approves all the prescriptions before distribution using teleconferencing technology and consults one-on-one with patients on a touchscreen, if they have any questions.

Telepharmacies help lower the operating costs for small-town pharmacies by sharing the expense of an off-site

pharmacist, while also freeing up the pharmacist's time to actually consult with patients, rather than trying to run the store.

The Iowa House of Representatives and Senate recently passed a bill that allows the Iowa Board of Pharmacy to issue telepharmacy licenses. Lake Park has applied for the license and hopes to bring a telepharmacy to the area in the near future.

Highlights of the Supervisors' Board meetings in April:

There was discussion and possible action on each of these topics and for more information check the Supervisor's Board minutes located on the County website.

- 4-5-16 Purchase of Tyler Software, Roadside Vegetation Management, Dock permits on County property.
- 4-12-16 Introduction of Rebecca Peters Director of Okoboji Tourism, Presentation on health insurance self-funding options by Cottingham & Butler, Substance Abuse Prevention Services Grant, Further discussion on issuance of dock permits on County property.
- 4-19-16 Employee Benefit Systems 3rd party agreement, set date for DD#17 public hearing, Annual Iowa Drainage District Assoc. update, County CRP Land.
- 4-26-16 Claim and Bond payments, 2 part-time dispatchers to full-time, contract for paint striping, Transfer of jurisdiction agreement with Lake Park.

Employee Spotlight:

April 10-16 was National Public Safety Telecommunicates Week. Dickinson County currently has 6 full-time dispatchers and operates 24/7. Over the next couple of months, we will be spotlighting our Dispatchers so we can get to know them better.



My name is Kathy Sprague, but most know me as “Kat”. I moved to NWIA in July 2010 from southeast Indiana. I started with the Dickinson Co Sheriff’s Office in August 2010. I grew up on a farm in Indiana. I’m a military wife. My husband has been in the Army for 20 years now. I’m a mother to two little boys who are 4 and 2 years old. Needless to say, they keep me on my toes.

What I like about my job:

There is absolutely no better feeling than having a hand in saving someone’s life. We are the first line of contact when someone has an emergency, whether it’s someone that isn’t breathing, to a house fire or maybe a bad car accident. It can be an extremely stressful job, but I love what I do and I love helping others, even in non-emergency situations. No two days are the same, it’s a fast-paced environment, especially in the summer months, and I have the ability to learn something new every single day. This is where I thrive and I couldn’t imagine doing anything else!