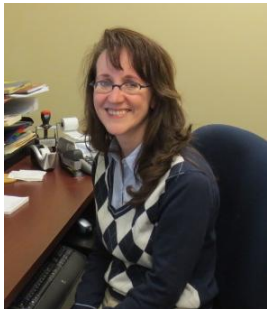


Dickinson County Courthouse Newsletter February 2013

February 13, 2013

Employee Spotlight! Let's get to know our County employees!

The January Newsletter featured the picture of the little girl below. She is Ann Ditsworth, recently elected Dickinson County Recorder. Below is a little personal information supplied by Ann.



Ann Ditsworth – Dickinson County Recorder

Start date with Dickinson County

November 14, 2012

Places Lived:

I've lived in Milford, IA; Vermillion, SD; Sioux Falls, SD

Hobbies, talents, special interests:

Some of my hobbies include: photography, bird watching & kids crafts, I enjoy singing, playing piano & community projects and events, My special interests include: kids sports and special programs, environmental preservation & land conservation

Favorite Travel Spots:

My favorite travel spots have included: Bayfield, WI; Sanibel Island, FL; and Sydney, Australia My USA travel 'bucket list' includes: the states of Hawaii, Maine, Texas and Connecticut

Favorite Food:

My favorite foods are pasta or ham steak and I love sweets – meals are incomplete without dessert! My favorite drinks are Lipton passion fruit & mango green tea or Diet Coke

Least Favorite Food:

My least favorite food is coconut

If I were stuck on an island, I would bring (3 things):

The three things I would want to have along if I were stuck on an island: a big beach towel, a big jug of green tea, and a boat load of snacks!

Something Few Know About Me:

In 2006, I flew in a KC135 mid-air refueling mission with the 185th IA Air Guard...which required passing Pentagon clearance!

Favorite thing to do in Dickinson County:

Play tourist...enjoying the long list of activities & attractions we're blessed with!

Dickinson County K-9 Unit News:

The Dickinson County K-9 unit first started up in the mid-eighties with the first handler being Deputy Mike Workman. After about ten years K-9 Mollie retired and another k-9 unit dog (Maggie) was purchased by the Sheriff's office. Deputy Jon Marder was Maggie's handler. These dogs reside with their handlers and as can happen, Maggie became a part of the Marder family. When Jon moved on to become the SL Police Chief, K-9 Maggie was given a second handler but because of the attachment to the Marder family, it just didn't work. Maggie retired and went to live with her former handler. Currently the Dickinson County Sheriff's Office has one certified K-9. Sasha is a female German Shepherd/Labrador mix and is handled by Sheriff's Deputy Josh J. Johnson. K-9 Sasha was purchased through Midwest K-9 of Des Moines where she was trained to perform her duties. K-9 Sasha assists the Dickinson County Sheriff's Office and its deputies in several ways including the detection of narcotics, searching for missing or lost persons, apprehending criminals, searching residence and buildings, and working with schools and



service groups within Dickinson County. In the picture to the right, you see Sasha trying to get her "reward toy" from Sheriff Baloun. As seen in the picture, during training that is the reward Sasha gets when she finds a person hiding. This is a technique that is used



to build the drive of the dog and makes Sasha want to keep working. Also to the right, Deputy Johnson is demonstrating to students of the Terril grade school on how Sasha searches and locates illegal substances. Over the past 1 1/2 years, Deputy Johnson and Sasha have been instrumentally involved in resolution of many cases in Dickinson County. Sasha started her career with the Dickinson County Sheriff's office on July 11, 2011. Deputy Josh Johnson joined the Dickinson County Sheriff's Officer June 2008. Prior to that, he was a patrolman with the Denison Police Department. Deputy Johnson started his career with the Akron Police Department in January 2006. He graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy in 2007. Before attending the Academy, Deputy Johnson received his Associate of Science Degree in Criminal Justice at Western Iowa Tech in Sioux City. In his free time, Johnson enjoys spending time with family, sports and boating.



DHS Review of 2012:

The Iowa Department of Human Services has several financial assistance programs available for Iowa residents. These programs are intended to help support our families and individuals, so they may be able to live healthy, stable and self-sufficient lives.

In 2012, residents from Dickinson County participated in the following programs, contributing to their own well-being, as well as assisting with the economic growth of the local community and the state:

Food Assistance Program

Average # monthly households receiving FA = 659

Average # monthly individuals (in the households) receiving = 1,367

Average monthly Food Assistance benefits issued = \$150,085, or an average of \$228 per active household

Twelve month total issuance in Food Assistance for Dickinson County recipients = \$1,801,018

Medicaid

Average # monthly individuals receiving Medicaid = 1,871

Average monthly Medicaid benefits (provider claims paid) = \$1,122,265, or an average \$599 in Medicaid paid claims per individual, per month

Twelve month total issuance of Medicaid assistance for Dickinson County recipients = \$13,467,176

Family Investment Program, or FIP (formerly called AFDC, or ADC)

Average # monthly households receiving FIP = 39

Average # monthly individuals (in these households) receiving = 104

Average monthly FIP benefits issued = \$13,070, or an average of \$335 per active household

Twelve month total issuance in FIP benefits for Dickinson County recipients = \$ 156,841

Employee Spotlight!

Let's get to know our County employees!



Find out more about this Dickinson County employee in the March issue. In the meantime, can you guess who this is?