

Dickinson County Courthouse Newsletter

March 15, 2015



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

The February Newsletter featured the picture of the little boy to the left. Did you guess Mike Ehret?

The following is a little personal information provided by Mike:

Start date with Dickinson County:

Contracted August 5, 2003, officially appointed Coordinator Feb. 24, 2004

Where born: Worthington, MN

Places Lived: Lake Park, Harris & Ames

Hobbies, talents, special interests: I build websites, watching the weather and travelling with my wife and kids.

Favorite Travel Spots: Northern Minnesota, Black Hills, Yellowstone/Tetons

Favorite Food: I'm a meat and 'taters guy so anything involving those two are good

Least Favorite Food: Broccoli

If I were stuck on an island, I would bring (3 things): Wife, kids and MacGyver – Because I'm sure he could build something to get us off that island

Something Few Know About Me: I want to go skydiving really really bad!

Favorite thing to do in Dickinson County: Sit on my deck and look out over the prairie that surrounds my house

Let's talk about the County Benefits:

What are all the benefits currently offered to the Dickinson County employees and where do you find out more about them. Starting with the February newsletter, all the current benefits will be listed here and then each newsletter thereafter will have a more detailed explanation about at least one benefit.

So what are the benefits offered to you as a Dickinson County employee?

- Health Insurance – Blue Cross/Blue Shield through Iowa Association of Counties (ISAC)
- Dental Insurance – Delta Dental
- Retirement benefit – Iowa Public Employee Retirement System (IPERS)
- **Deferred Compensation Plan – Nationwide through National Association of Counties**
- Advantage Flex Plan- pretax offerings
- Personal Accident Insurance Program through Iowa Association of Counties (ISAC) - for those electing to take County Health Insurance
- Voluntary Accident Insurance Plan – CHUBB Group offered through Iowa Association of Counties – paid for by the employee
- Cancer Insurance – Short Term Disability & Hospitalization through AFLAC
- Cancer Insurance through American Heritage

Dickinson County is a member of the National Association of Counties and through NACo offers a Deferred Comp Program. The Program is through Nationwide.

The National Association of Counties (NACo), in partnership with Nationwide Retirement Solutions (NRS), and state associations of counties, provides county employees with a Section 457 Deferred Compensation Program. Since its inception in 1980, NACo's Deferred Compensation Program has grown to become the largest supplemental retirement income program available to county employees.

Employee Benefits

- Helps public employees save for their future at no cost to their employer.
- Enables public employees to reduce current taxes.
- Institutes a systematic savings program for public employees.
- Automatic contribution deductions make it easy for employees to save.
- **Contributions grow on a tax-deferred basis.**
- Employees are 100% vested in their accounts.

Nationwide® has worked with public sector employees for more than 30 years, so they know the kinds of questions you may have about your plan. They will give you the tools and information to help you feel confident about investing for retirement. Keep in mind that investing involves market risk, including possible loss of principal, and there's no guarantee that investment objectives will be achieved.

A 457b deferred compensation plan is a retirement plan offered by your employer, created to allow public employees like you to put aside money from each paycheck toward retirement. A deferred comp plan can help bridge the gap between what you have in your pension and Social Security, and how much you'll need in retirement.

Here are some frequently asked questions about deferred comp plans:

- **What does tax-deferred mean?** Basically, you don't pay income taxes on your deferred comp plan contributions or earnings until you retire and/or begin to take payments from your account. This may lower your taxable income now and in retirement. Withdrawals taken in retirement are taxed as regular income.
- **How much can I put into a 457 plan?** Check out the current contribution limits*.

2015 Deferral Limits

Standard Deferral \$18,000

Age 50+ Catch-up \$6,000 The Age 50+ Catch-up provision allows people over age 50 to contribute more to their deferred comp account.

**IRS Announced 2015 Pension Plan Limitations, Internal Revenue Service, IR-2014-99 (Oct. 23, 2014)*

Qualified retirement plans, deferred compensation plans and individual retirement accounts are all different, including fees and when you can access funds. Assets rolled over from your account(s) may be subject to surrender charges, other fees and/or a 10% tax penalty if withdrawn before age 59½.

Dickinson County employees interested in a deferred comp program or already enrolled but have questions can contact the following Nationwide* professionals:

Primary contact –

Matt Ring, 877-677-3678 extension 43074
ringm3@nationwide.com

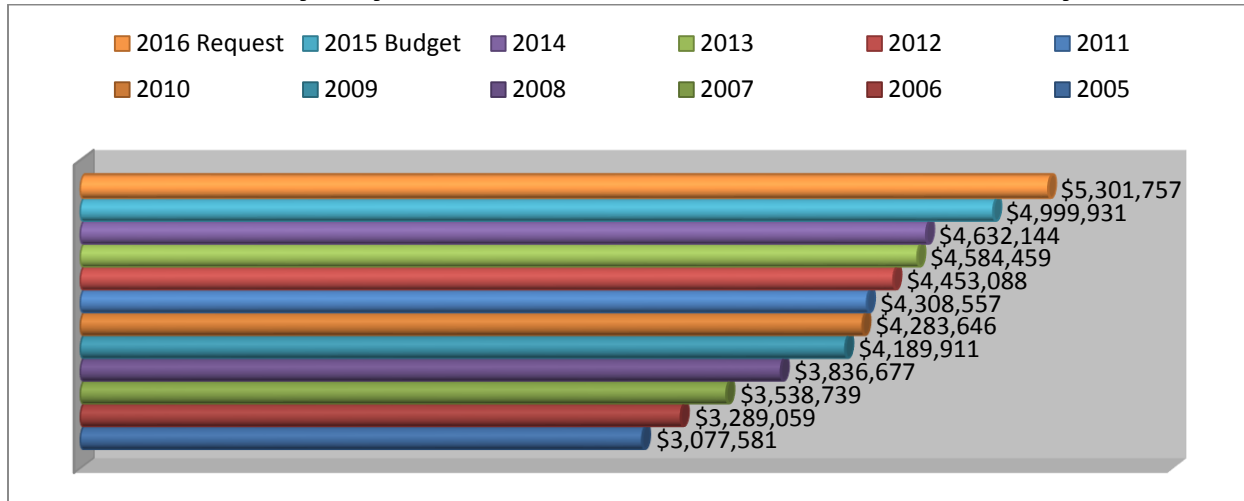
Secondary contact –

Chris Groh, 614-435-8344 or 877-677-3678
grohc2@nationwide.com

GET ANSWERS ON THE WEB: www.nrsforu.com

Just a little FY16 budget information:

Dickinson County Payroll (includes fica & ipers) charted over the years



Sweet & Sour Meatballs

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| 1-1/2 lbs. hamburger | 1/4 tsp. pepper | 1/2 cup water |
| 3/4 cup milk | 3 tsp. grated onion | 1 cup ketchup |
| 3/4 cup quick oatmeal | 3 Tbsp. brown sugar | |
| 1 tsp. salt | 3 tsp. vinegar | |

Combine hamburger, milk, oatmeal, salt, pepper and onion. Mix lightly and form into balls. Pack loosely in a single layer in a baking dish.

Combine brown sugar, vinegar, water and ketchup. Pour over meatballs and bake at 350° for one hour.

February Spotlight:

Get to know more about those who work for Dickinson County!



Find out more about this little boy in the April issue. In the meantime, can you guess who this is?

Plans are nothing; planning is everything.

— Dwight D. Eisenhower