

Sheboygan County News

All Newsletters for County Employees can be found at www.co.sheboygan.wi.us

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4th Quarter, 2012

United Way Needs Your Help to Help Those in Need

by Adam Payne, County Administrator

We all have an important role in making our community a great place to live, work, and raise a family. As most of you are aware, there are many in our community who are really hurting and need our help. Helping people suffering from mental illness, child abuse, domestic violence, or economic crisis, the United Way of Sheboygan County supports critical programs and services to help people get back on their feet. In order for people to get the help they need, it requires all of us to do what we can.

I'm proud that Sheboygan County employees generously donated \$25,970 last year, and we increased our overall contribution six of the last seven years! Thank you for your generosity and I hope you will consider a similar or even more generous contribution for 2012.

I respectfully ask that if you haven't made a donation to United Way in the past, that you consider doing so this

year. In fact, if every county employee who has never participated before contributed \$1 from each of their respective 26 paychecks through our payroll deduction option, that would generate another \$15,990! If we all pull together, we can make an even greater impact.

This year, the United Way of Sheboygan County established a goal to raise \$2.5 million, a 1.9% increase. Contributions help fund 58 programs provided by 23 non-profit affiliated agencies. Rest assured the donation you make will help your Sheboygan County neighbors in need; 99% of every dollar stays right here in Sheboygan County.

The donation forms will be distributed this month, and, if you prefer, you may designate a specific non-profit or-



ganization that is or is not an affiliated United Way agency.

As you know, you may choose to give either a one-time donation or request a payroll deduction plan to deduct your donation directly from your paychecks.

In appreciation for your participation, you will be entered in a random drawing to win prizes generously donated by members of the County's United Way Campaign Ad Hoc Committee—winners will be announced in November.

Thanks again for your generosity in the past, and considering participating this year. The United Way of Sheboygan County is critically important, and we all can make a difference. We are family, and I sincerely encourage and appreciate your participation. Thank you!

Inside this Issue:

Policy Allows County Use of Social Media	2
Order Sheboygan County Clothing for the Holidays or Work	2
Upcoming Personnel Policies & Benefit Training Sessions	2
Biermann Joins InHealth Clinic Staff	3
Redesigned County Website Coming Soon	3
Herzog Enjoys Variety at Home and Work	3
Cooperative Extension Celebrates 100 Years	4

Record Numbers Attend 5th Annual All Employee Appreciation Picnic

by Adam Payne, County Administrator

A record number of employees attended our All Employee Appreciation Picnic on Thursday, September 20th. I hope all those who attended had a nice evening, and THANK YOU, again, for all that you do. We have an excellent team in place.

The All Employee Appreciation Picnic is for YOU. If you weren't able to attend this year, we hope to see you next year. If you attended and have any suggestions or comments, please send an email to my assistant, Kay Lorenz, at lorenkbl@co.sheboygan.wi.us or call her at 459-3103.

My sincere thanks, appreciation and respect to all of you for your hard work and striving to help make good things happen.



Did you know that Safe Harbor provided 3, 922 nights of safe shelter to victims of domestic violence last year?

THE PINK BRIGADE

MARCH FOR CANCER
EDUCATION, AWARENESS &
PREVENTION

**2 MILE / 5K
FUN WALK/RUN**

**SATURDAY, OCT. 20
AT THE SHEBOYGAN
COUNTY YMCA
7:00 A.M.—10:00 A.M.**

MASS START ~ 9:00 A.M.

**BASKET RAFFLES DRAWN
AT 10:00 A.M.
(DO NOT NEED TO BE
PRESENT TO WIN)**

Policy Allows County Use of Social Media

by Josh McDermott, Information Technology Manager

With the ever-increasing need to use social media in the workplace, the iMedia Committee has developed a social media policy. The goal of the policy is to provide the proper framework on how social media is expected to be used in conjunction with Sheboygan County's mission and values. The policy outlines how to make the initial request to use social media, how to incorpo-

rate the Sheboygan County brand, as well as how to maintain the social media accounts properly. The policy also defines the rules that need to be followed to maintain a valid Sheboygan County social media account.

To make information related to this policy available to everyone, IT has created a "Social Media" folder on the

shared drive within the Sheboygan County folder. Here, you will be able to find the Social Media policy, a listing of all of the iMedia Committee members, as well as the form to apply for a Sheboygan County social media account.

Please feel free to contact me at 459-0335 or mcderjrm@co.sheboygan.wi.us with any questions or concerns.

Order Sheboygan County Clothing for the Holidays & Work

by Kay Lorenz, Assistant to the County Administrator

Sheboygan County employees now have many items to select from to wear their Sheboygan County logo with pride. We continue to work with a local vendor in Sheboygan Falls—Creative Premiums, and you can view all items at the following website:

www.companycasuals.com/sheboygancounty/start.jsp

You may place an order at any time of the year.

If there's something you're interested in that you don't see on the website, please give me a call at x3103 and

I'll see what I can do to make the requested item(s) available on the website for you to select.

Items ordered may be either picked up at the County Administrator's Office or forwarded to employees via interdepartmental mail.

I will place the next order by Friday, November 16th so items are received in time for holiday gift giving. Orders you complete on the website will be routed directly to me via email for processing. I'll send you a confirmation.

Christmas is just around the corner, so please take a look at the website and consider placing an order soon. Contact me at 459-3103 with questions or to let me know you've placed an order so I can watch for it!

For those of you that attended the All Employee Appreciation Picnic, as you know, there are many stylish selections!

Upcoming Personnel Policies & Benefit Training Sessions

by Mike Collard, Human Resources Director

Questions about the new Personnel Policy Manual will be answered at training sessions to be held at the UW-Sheboygan campus' Wombat Room on Wednesday, October 31 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; on Friday, November 2 from 8:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and on Monday, November 5 from 1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Benefit changes for 2012 will also be covered at these sessions.

As the union contracts expire, the new personnel policies will become much more important for many employees. We all need to understand the rules that govern our employment with Sheboygan County. The training will cover many topics such as new vacation and sick leave programs, recruiting, promotions, corrective action, overtime rules, leaves of absence, and workplace policies.

You also need to know about benefit changes for 2012, which include the new long-term disability program, prescription benefits, health plan changes, and how to understand your EOB's.

All employees are strongly encouraged to attend one of these three sessions.

Biermann Joins InHealth Clinic Staff

by Mike Collard, Human Resources Director

The next time you call the In-Health Clinic for an appointment with your nurse practitioner or chiropractor, you may be greeted by a new voice. It belongs to Nicole Biermann, an LPN with 15 years experience, mainly with Aurora facilities in Manitowoc

County, who is joining our Clinic as a full-time employee. Nicole will be starting on October 29.

Nicole is looking forward to working at a patient-oriented clinic with a focus on personal wellness. She had previously

worked with Rhonda Zimmerman, the nurse practitioner who joined the Clinic earlier this year, and is sure to be an asset to the Clinic staff. Please join me in welcoming her to Sheboygan County.



Redesigned County Website Coming Soon

by Josh McDermott, Information Technology Manager

The Sheboygan County website is getting completely overhauled. Members of the iMedia Committee have been working with Vision Internet to redesign and reorganize the Sheboygan County website. Vision Internet is a company located in Santa Monica, California that specializes in government website design and content organization. The website will have all new graphics, improved navigation, and greater functionality built on new technologies to make Sheboygan County's online presence more relevant. The redesigned site will allow employees and taxpayers to find information much faster

and easier. In addition, the new site will be mobile compatible!

How could this get any better? The redesigned site allows each department to make their own updates! The IT division will still provide support and expertise, but each department will have the ability to log in and update their own pages. Departments will no longer need to create a help desk ticket and wait for IT support to complete the update.

WOW—This sounds great! When will we get to start using it? The iMedia Committee is

working with Vision Internet on the look and feel of the redesigned site. Once this phase is complete, Vision Internet will start building the new and improved website! Training will occur in October to train users on how the system works and how to complete their own updates. Go-live for the redesigned website is projected for early November.

Questions? Give me a call at 920-459-0335 or email me at mcderjrm@co.sheboygan.wi.us

Herzog Enjoys Variety at Home and Work

by Sara Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator, UW Extension

Ann Herzog has worked with UW-Extension Sheboygan County since 1999. She is a down-to-earth woman who enjoys variety in life, like the work she gets to do at UW-Extension. Among Ann's memories of her work with UW-Extension is one particular phone call she received. Ann said, "We get some pretty unusual calls at UW-Extension. I had a call from someone wanting to know if they could still eat their noodles if they were green. At first I thought they were crazy for asking such a question. After getting more information, I found out they hadn't cooked the noodles yet (they had been colored green when they received them) and they were really concerned about how long they had had them sitting in a cupboard (one year)."

While Ann loves adventure and variety, she is a hometown girl at heart. If she could live anywhere in the world, she would choose to stay right here in Sheboygan County. "Even with complaints about the weather, I do enjoy something about all the seasons in Wisconsin," Ann said. "I'm sure there are many beautiful places I could go, but I already have one right here and I feel safe here."

Here in Sheboygan County is where she lives, works and plays, except for the occasional trek to her cabin near Crivitz, WI. She goes fishing and has participated in the Powder Puff Derby, winning 3 times! Ann bowls in a league at Pine Grove and maintains a respectable average of 176. She loves to work on all kinds of puzzles, which gives her

a skill that comes in handy in her work with UW-Extension.

If you were ever to visit Ann at UW-Extension you would see her hard at work surrounded by several important items she has at her workspace including her pictures of her kids. Per Ann, "They remind me of all the good things in my life. They mean the world to me and I am proud of them."

UW-Extension is proud of the contributions Ann Herzog has made to our department. She is generous, efficient and cares about her work. Finally, when asked to choose Chocolate, Mint, Strawberry or Vanilla? Ann says, "Chocolate."

Imagine how much easier it would be for us to learn how to love if we began with a shared definition.

*Bell Hooks
Writer & Critic*



**Ann Herzog, Secretary,
UW-Extension**

Cooperative Extension Celebrates 100 Years

by Sara Tarjeson, 4-H Youth Development Educator, UW Extension

What do Cooperative Extension, the National Cherry Blossom Festival, Branson, Missouri, and Life Savers all have in common? They are all celebrating 100 years this year! UW-Extension Cooperative Extension has served the citizens of Wisconsin since 1912. This year marks a century of education and outreach to families, youth, farmers, businesses, and communities. Cooperative Extension is a unique partnership of counties, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the University of Wisconsin working together to help people put knowledge to work. It reflects the vision that has become known as the "Wisconsin Idea," that the boundaries of the University are the boundaries of the State. With offices in each of Wisconsin's counties, Cooperative Extension supports educational programs available to all citizens of Wisconsin.

In Sheboygan County, one of the earliest documented educational programs took place in 1918, when the County Agricultural Agent started a calf-raising contest to promote the purebred dairy cattle industry. Throughout the 1920's, the Agricultural Agent also oversaw numerous 4-H clubs that had sprung up in the County. In 1932, due to the influx of girls interested in 4-H, the County hired a Home Agent and Club Leader, which was the forerunner of today's Family Living Educator and 4-H Youth Development Educator positions. In the early 1990's, substantial population growth in the County and accompanying economic, land use, and natural resource issues led to the appointment of a Community Resource Development Agent. The federally funded Nutrition Education Program was also added in the early 1990s with the primary purpose of

improving the nutritional well-being of food stamp eligible recipients.

Today, your local Extension office provides educational programs that focus on a variety of areas including crops and soils, dairy and livestock, horticulture, strengthening families, nutrition and food safety, local land use issues, non-profit organizational effectiveness, youth and adult leadership development, and 4-H community club development. Together, Sheboygan County Extension educators annually conduct hundreds of educational programs, and make thousands of educational contacts with residents of Sheboygan County. Your local County Extension office partners with over 1,400 youth and adult volunteers who donate approximately 30,000 hours of service throughout Sheboygan County. In addition to the Centennial celebration, 2012 is also about saying thank you to our clients, community partners, elected officials, and other stakeholders. Their contributions have helped Cooperative Extension grow into a thriving educational resource.

Can you pass this UW-Extension, Cooperative Extension quiz?

1. What Cooperative Extension Program enrolls about 400 volunteers each year?
 - A. Master Gardeners
 - B. 4-H Youth Development
 - C. Home & Community Economists
 - D. Comprehensive Planning
2. What portion of the Sheboygan County workforce is engaged in agriculture related business?
 - A. 65%



E.L. Luther, hired in 1912 as the first Extension agent in Wisconsin.

- B. 3%
 - C. 11%
 - D. 7%
3. Which program, facilitated by Jane Jensen, Family Living Educator, has proven to reduce emergency department and overnight hospital stays by participants?
 - A. Food Preservation & Safety
 - B. Employed Family Caregiving
 - C. Raising A Thinking Child
 - D. Living Well with Chronic Conditions
 4. What does CNRD stand for?
 - A. Community & Natural Resources Development
 - B. Creating New Resources for Development
 - C. County Neighbors Reviewing Democracy
 - D. Clowns, Noodles, Roosters & Donkeys

Answers: 1. B 2. C 3. D 4. A

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