THE COMMUNICATOR

Grant County Employee Newsletter

Volume 10, Issue 3,
July 2012

Meet the County Board Chair…

I'm Larry Wolf and I became the County Board Chair in April. I have been a County Board Supervisor since 2004. I grew up in South Lancaster Township, where I spent over twenty-five years farming with my wife Pam and four children. I recently sold my investment business that ran for the last twenty years. My free time is spent at our cabin on the Platte River fishing with family and teaching my grandchildren to fish.

My goal as a Board Supervisor is to listen to all concerns. I would like to meet with the community leaders and use their knowledge and expertise to help Grant County grow good paying jobs for our children. My dream is to have all County employees and supervisors working toward one goal, and that goal is to provide the very best working and living condition for all Grant County residents to enjoy.

2013 BUDGET GOAL — REALISTIC, SUSTAINABLE, BALANCED

Budget Workshop. Grant County Department Heads working together on 2013 Budget.

Anyone wishing to have a specific subject discussed in a future newsletter may contact Joyce Roling at 723-2045.

HRA Q&A SESSION — JULY 11TH

- Have you received Explanation of Benefit Statements and maybe even bills for medical treatment you received in 2012?

- Do you have questions or do you just want to confirm that you understand the deductible/HRA process correctly?

It's a learning process for all of us…As promised we are here for you!
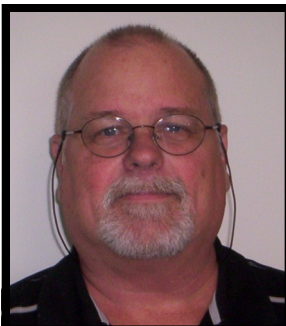
On July 11th the County will be having another HRA Question and Answer Session in the County Board Room from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You may bring your questions at whatever time is most convenient for you during this time period. We plan to have representatives available from TriCor and the Grant County Personnel Department.

Please bring any paperwork that you have received so far to help us better assist you.

The County Board Room is located on the second floor of the Grant County Administration building, 111 S. Jefferson, Lancaster, WI

Plan to attend the
Grant County Fair
Aug. 12th – 19th www.grantcountyfairwi.org

Dana's Desktop

Hello and welcome to the first contributor column from your friendly IT department. My name is Dana Andrews (IT Technician) and I will be writing about various items, announcements, interesting information, updates, tips, fixes, tweaks, and myths involving the digital technology field, especially as it applies here in Grant County.

In this inaugural article, I would like to make two brief observations:

The first is for those who think their computer is slow. In a recent topic from Extreme Tech (www.extremetech.com) about the history of supercomputers, they noted that "... (the fastest super-computer) released in 1996, had 2048 processors and a peak performance of 600 gigaflops — by comparison, a modern ... i5 or i7 CPU can perform around 100-200 gigaflops." (www.extremetech.com/extreme/125271-the-history-of-supercomputers). Think about it, the computer in front of you is faster and may have more storage than the computers that were used to model nuclear explosions during the cold war! We sometimes forget that the modern PC is still in its infancy, only being approximately 41 years old. Relating that to the development of the modern automobile, we are talking about the late 1920's models! How many fields of interest do you know where most of the founding fathers are still alive? So, is your computer slow or just not meeting your expectations?

The second, and final, observation is the explosive growth in 'social engineered marketing'. For good or bad, those who want to do business with you (legitimate and criminal) via a digital device, have come to the understanding that to be effective, they have to know you! General ads and broad appeals (hi, I am the son of a king and need you to put my billion dollars in your bank account ...) are not as effective as something that relates personally to you. While last year it was emails where it was hard to tell them from the real thing, this year's crop are items that appeal to what is believed to be your interests. Have you noticed how many of the ads on the websites are now for local businesses or relate to things you recently bought online? Same with the email scams such as notice of a speeding ticket or UPS delivery where even the return address looks legit. The average user can no longer afford to be innocent when using electronic communication these days, be it computer, laptop, netbook, tablet, or phone. Two actions that can help are to never be afraid to ask questions and break the habit of thinking you have to reply right away! To quote Dickens, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before us."

Grant County IT Department 723-1668 or helpdesk@co.grant.wi.gov

a	n	d	d	w	l	b	h	m	p	a	h	l	b	t
t	w	e	e	o	g	r	r	a	o	b	c	m	n	e
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a	t	n	s	e	s	g	g	t	t	d	i	e	t	y
r	t	l	t	d	o	i	l	a	n	b	w	t	w	b
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o	e	w	a	p	t	p	o	s	e	n	a	t	n	m

byte	keyboard	mouse	server	toner
desktop	laptop	netbook	software	usb
dongle	megabit	network	switch	workstation
gigabit	megabyte	port	tablet	
gigabyte	monitor	printer	terabyte	
hardware	motherboard	ram	teraflop	

Word list submitted by Dana Andrews, Grant County IT Technician

Service Anniversaries
(5 year increments)

Lisa Scholl, 30 years on July 12th

Lisa Edwards, 25 years on August 10th
Roger Schauff, 25 years on August 24th
Dale Wood, 25 years on August 25th
Edward Breitsprecker, 25 years on September 7th
Marla Thill, 25 years on September 14th

Peggy Hollister, 20 years on August 25th

Michele Fishnick, 15 years on July 7th
John Yanna, 15 years on August 19th
Kelly Bird, 15 years on September 22nd

Heather Swatek, 10 years on July 23rd
Steffany Austin, 10 years on July 24th
Melissa Bradshaw, 10 years on August 6th
Louise Gotzinger, 10 years on August 19th
Sarah Campbell, 10 years on August 29th
Travis Kramer, 10 years on September 3rd
Ann Brinkman, 10 years on September 13th
Melissa Hill, 10 years on September 19th

Benjamin Gavinski, 5 years on July 23rd

Congratulations on reaching these milestones! Thank you.