

The Noon News

May 19, 2008

Published by



Waterloo Exchange Club

Black Hawk County Community Services - Bob Lincoln, Community Services Director for Black Hawk County, stopped by to give us an overview of three initiatives the County is implementing in the area of mental health and disability services.



Bob Lincoln takes a question from William Kay

In a fairly recent change in the process, the State of Iowa now provides the funding for the services and deploys the assistance through the various county governments across the state through a state-wide network. The initiatives Mr. Lincoln described seem to be aimed at improving the process.

The first initiative Bob told us about is the implementation of a Call Center. The purpose of the Call Center is to provide a starting place for people needing mental health or disability services.

A licensed social worker will be accessible, for adults and children, via phone through the Center.

Next Bob discussed the management reorganization initiative underway at the Country View care facility. Country View is a 168 bed nursing home facility. It also has 34 mental health beds. The facility is transitioning from a structure where the management services were provided by staff from a private company to a structure where county employees will manage the operation. A Board of Directors is being formed with nine residents of the County to provide the policies and procedures as well as governance of the facility.

The third initiative Bob discussed is the development of a Regional Services Network. The group of ten counties contiguous to Black Hawk are working to form a regional structure that would deal with the State as a group for health and disability services rather than as individual counties. The intent is to provide a more uniform level of funding and services for the various counties. The scope of the initiative also includes the deployment of an oversight board that will negotiate with the State for services and funding.

Club Golf Outing - Exchangite Jason Martin is leading the team that's organizing the Club's golf outing. Jason asks that we mark June 26th on our calendars for this great event taking place at Byrnes Park. We'll meet around noon for a great lunch (non-golfers like your reporter will enjoy the lunch, too) and then it's off to the links for the golfers.

NEXT MEETING LOGISTICS

Program : So Proudly We Hail
Prayer : Don McGriff
Pledge : Wanda Martin
Menu : Fried Chicken

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Jun 02 : So Proudly We Hail
Jun 09 : Friendship Village Programs
Jun 16 : Quakerdale Youth Programs
Jun 23 : Peregrine Financial Group
Jun 30 : Induction of New Officers

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH

Jun 02 : Fried Chicken
Jun 09 : Large Cheese Burger and Soup
Jun 16 : Rubeen and Fries
Jun 23 : Roast Pork Loin w/ Apple Glaze
Jun 30 : Roast Beef
Order Chef Salad one week in advance

BIRTHDAYS

May 22: Mike Grillo
May 24: Dave Wyant
May 28: Scott Horan

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Fifth and Final Important Lesson on How We Treat People from President Neebel.

"Giving When It Counts - Many years ago, when I worked as a volunteer at a hospital, I got to know a little girl named Liz who was suffering from a rare and serious disease. Her only chance of recovery appeared to be a blood transfusion from her 5-year old brother that had miraculously survived the same disease and had developed the antibodies needed to combat the illness. The doctor explained the situation to her little brother, and asked if he would be willing to give his blood to his sister. I saw him hesitate for only a moment before taking a deep breath and saying 'Yes, I'll do it to save her'. As the transfusion progressed, he lay in the bed next to his sister and smiled, as we did, seeing the color return to her cheek. Then his face grew pale and his smile faded. He looked up at the doctor and asked with a trembling voice, 'Will I start to die right away?' Being young, the little boy had misunderstood the doctor; he thought he was going to have to give all his blood in order to save her."

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District Exchange Convention - The Heartland District will host the convention in Joplin, MO on June 5-7th. The convention programming is typically excellent and members are encouraged to attend.

Guests - President Neebel brought her niece Emily today. Diane says Emily spends a day or so each week with her. Emily's a beautiful 5-year old that was on her best behavior. Very perceptive, too. Upon noticing Police Chief Tom Jennings and Mark Johnson from the Sheriff's Department, she promptly alerted Diane by leaning over and whispering "Dee Dee the police are here". Well, this has some of us can't help but wonder. Have the police visited Dee Dee and Emily before...

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Published weekly by:

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Meeting each Monday at noon

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