



Department Updates

Barron County

May / June 2013

Health & Human Services

Stacy Frolik
Children's Services
Program Manager

- The Youth and Family Services Unit has been part a year long, 3 tier Trauma Initiative supported by the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. A successful Trauma Event was held on May 7th, 2013 in the Barron County Auditorium. There were about 65 participants who included many school staff, local clinicians, law enforcement as well as county social workers. Chris Foreman, a well known trauma expert was the guest speaker of the day.
- The Youth and Family Unit also has two new staff; Jessica Fehlen, Ongoing Services Social Worker and Laura Doebereiner, Initial Assessment Social Worker.
- The Behavioral Health Unit

had a "fidelity review" for the Supported Employment Program. The review is a systematic approach to determining how well a provider is adhering to best practice standards. Barron County received a moderate score which indicates that the program is heading in the right direction of solid performance and a second review will be conducted in the fall of this year to determine if the improvement strategies implemented have been successful.

- The Public Health Unit has hired Travis Peterson as an Environmental Technician. He will be assisting Carol Johnson with health inspections.
- THRIVE Barron County continues to meet monthly with roughly 45 people attending the various meetings. The focus of THRIVE is on community health issues inclu-

sive of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs, mental health, and chronic disease (specifically pre-diabetes).

- The Economic Support Unit continues to work on improvements within the Great Rivers Income Maintenance Consortium. Counties within the consortium are working to determine the impact the Affordable Care Act may have on the workload of the call centers.
- The Energy Assistance program closed on May 15th for the 2013 heating season. Barron County provided heat and electric benefits to 2316 households this year. We will continue to provide limited crisis benefits throughout the summer months. The furnace Repair and/or Replacement benefits will continue through the summer months also, which is a new policy.

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Register of Deeds

Margo Katterhagen, Register of Deeds

The contract has been signed to begin the huge task of back-scanning our older records from 1997 to 1981.

Once these records are available in a digital format (back-scanned) into our computer program, we will then begin using the specially designed service called CrowdForce to remove sensitive information (redaction) from these historical documents.

With CrowdForce, we can make sure the redaction gets accomplished by utilizing local and trusted people in our community, ensuring that our records are protected and that the money stays within our community! Basically, we will have people working on these older documents from the comfort of their own home after hours.

The next phase of back-scanning would be the documents from 1981 to 1964.....and we are hoping to sign that contract in July.

Cross training within the office continues. The entire staff is now completely trained in the process of completing the vital records, eliminating any unnecessary waiting period.

eRecordings are in the near future also for Barron County, but that process will not be in effect until later this fall. We are moving this department forward!!

Veterans Service Officer

Scott Bachowski Veterans Service Officer

I recently attended our biannual Wisconsin County Veterans Service Officer Association training and business meetings. We received outstanding training from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Veterans Affairs employees from the Milwaukee VA regional office, Veterans Financial Services and our own association trainers. This training is required biannually in order for us to meet our continuing training hours to maintain our accreditations through the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs, American Legion, Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, National County Veterans Service Officer Association and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

The Barron County Veterans Service Office hired their new Assistant Veterans Service Officer. Phillip J. Landgraf accepted the position and began employment on May 28th, 2013. Phil

comes to us with veteran advocacy experience, training and accreditations from the Winnebago County Veterans Service Office. We are off to a great start and Phil is really fitting in nicely with the rest of the employees. We look forward to continued success in the Veterans Service Office.

During our last training conference, I was given a copy of the movie "Honor Flight – One last Mission". This is the movie that was shown at Miller Park in August 2012, setting a World Record for the largest movie premiere. The official attendance number according to the Guinness Book of world records is 28,442 (based on scanned tickets to get into Miller Park). The old record was 27,022 set in Brazil in 2010 for a soccer documentary. The feature length film captures the stories, spirit and wisdom of living WWII veterans, before it's too late. Unfortunately, approximately 1,100 WWII veterans die

every day; so don't let this opportunity go by. I am willing to provide the movie to any Veterans Service Organization wishing to show it at a meeting or arranged showing. Please contact the Barron County Veterans Service Office at 715-537-6292 to reserve your date.

Our office with the hard work and dedication from Veterans Service Organizations has put together an opening ceremony flag presentation for Farm Technology Days. The Barron County Veterans Service Organizations' (VSO) are encouraging veteran attendance for the Farm Technology Days Opening Ceremony on July 9th at 9:00 a.m. in the Family Living tent. Colors will be presented as well as the posting of VSO post flags. If possible, please wear your post uniforms and hats.

Aging & Disability Resource Center / Office on Aging

Charlene Oftedahl, Director

Volunteers Make a Difference - The ADRC/Office on Aging, the Barron County Circuit Court, and Volunteer Services of Barron County, Inc. hosted a picnic in Barron's Anderson Park for approximately 125 volunteers who ventured out despite storm warnings on May 30th. They are among the many volunteers who generously give their skills and time in delivering meals, building wheelchair ramps, driving people to medical appointments, filing taxes, visiting homebound persons, helping at Senior Dining and Daybreak, participating on committees, guardians, and more. Volunteers are our "greatest natural resource" because every day throughout Barron County they are helping family, friends, neighbors, and our customers. Did you know that several county employees volunteer by taking turns to

deliver meals-on-wheels on Mondays during their lunch time?

Collaboration between County Departments Makes a Difference too.

It's always nice to be able to brag about our own programs, but sometimes it's nice to point out how important other departments are in our own success. One such department is Barron County's Land Information. Our Meals on Wheels & Transportation Program staff rely on the maps that Land Information provides. In fact, stop in and look at our transportation (AddLIFE Transit) dispatch office and you'll see exactly why we appreciate them. According to Leslie Fijalkiewicz, manager of both programs, "These maps help our programs save money. We can quickly locate any address and make sure passengers get picked up and meals get delivered in the most efficient manner."

Datesavers:

Friday, June 21

Dr. Pebler will discuss dementia at Friday Facts, 10 a.m., Government Center Room 110.

Tuesday, July 2

"Independence Your Way" free event showcasing available local resources to help people maintain in their own homes and apartments. 3 pm to 6 pm at the Elks Club in Rice Lake.

Friday, July 19

Centenarian Celebration at the County Fair honoring persons born in 1913 or earlier. 11:00 a.m. in the Fairtime Chapel.

Human Resources

Rachael Richie, HR Director

<u>New/Replacement Positions</u>				
<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Office/Department</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Date Filled</u>	<u>New/Replacement</u>
Part-time Civilian Communication Officer	Sheriff	Michelle Lowe	4/5/13	Replacement
Sanitarian/Environmental Health Specialist	Health/Human Services	Travis Peterson	5/16/13	Replacement
Seasonal Parks Caretaker	Maintenance	Bud Moe	5/23/13	Replacement
Assistant Veteran Service Officer (AVSO)	Veteran's	Phil Landgraf	5/28/13	Replacement
Part-time Civilian Correction Officer	Sheriff	Ian Hall	6/3/13	Replacement
Part-time Civilian Communication Officer	Sheriff	Amanda Reed	6/15/13	Replacement
Secretary 1 (Part-time)	Child Support	Julie Shanks	6/24/13	Replacement
Mechanic	Highway	Recruiting		Replacement
<u>Internal Transfers</u>				
<u>New Position Title</u>	<u>Office/Department</u>	<u>Incumbent</u>	<u>Transfer Date</u>	
Legal Secretary 1	District Attorney	Deanne Klang	5/20/13	
Legal Secretary	District Attorney	Sue Ellis	5/20/13	
Clerk/Typist	Health & Human Services	Jalene Scovell	6/3/13	

Treasurer's Office

Vonnie Ritchie, Treasurer

Real Estate Taxes

	<u>2012 Tax</u>
Total taxes levied (Co, Muni, State, Schools & WITC)	\$75,901,819
January and February payments to the Municipalities	-46,156,304
School Credits, Lottery Credits and First Dollar Credit	<u>- 8,673,471</u>
Balance to be collected by July 31, 2013.	\$21,072,044

Tax Deed Foreclosure

The Notice of Commencement of Proceeding In-Rem to Foreclosure Tax Liens By Barron County, was filed with the Clerk of Court on May 8, 2013, with the final redemption date of July 31, 2013. There were a total of 101 parcels listed in the notice that have delinquent 2009 taxes. Eleven parcels had been paid as of June 7, 2013. The notice is listed on the Barron County website at www.barroncountymi.gov under "What's New". The list was published in all Barron County Newspapers for 3 weeks in May and June. Payment information and amounts due can be found under the "Treasurer's" tab. If you have questions about any of the parcels or about the foreclosure process, please contact the Treasurer's Office.