

# HOWARD COUNTY TODAY

February 2009

Volume 10 Issue 5

## **PUBLISHED BY PERSONNEL FOR HOWARD COUNTY EMPLOYEES**

### **Welcome New Commissioners!**



Wow, what a wonderful opportunity to introduce myself to everyone. My name is Bill Thompson and I am one of the two new County Commissioners. I was born in Kokomo; attended grade school at St. Pat's and graduated from Kokomo High School in 1972. My father Jack Thompson was a School Teacher; my Mother Lillian (Daily) was a nurse and a stay-at-home mom. I have two brothers, six sisters, two children, three grandchildren, and I am married to Terri in Superior Court III. I am

currently the Business Manager of I.B.E.W. Local 873 and retired military with 33 years of active and reserve duty from the United States Air Force. I want you to know that I work for you. Not just because you are a tax payer but also because you are a county employee. You are a valuable asset to our community, our country, and to our American way of life. Along with Commissioners Dave Trine and Tyler Moore, I hope you will call on us for anything we can do to make your jobs better. Thanks for making us a part of your team.

It is with great honor and humility that I take this opportunity to introduce myself to you, fellow Howard County employees, as one of your new County Commissioners. As many of you know by now, my name is Tyler Moore and I am the oldest son of Dick and Margi Moore. Originally born in Huntington, Indiana in 1970, I came to Kokomo with my parents in 1972 when my father accepted the position as manager of the then Anderson Abstract Company. Four and a half years span between my three sisters and me: Terri Burke (37), Mindy Dean (36) and Shelly Wood (34). Some of you already know my brother, Mike (27), who spends part of his days in the Admin Building harassing the staff in each of office!  
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### **DON ENGLAND FISH & TENDERLOIN BENEFIT**

Please join the Howard County Sheriff's Department and Macedonia Christian Church

**March 20, 2009**

**Kokomo Shrine Club**

**4:30 to 7:30**

**Adults \$8:50 Children \$5.50**

Assisted by: Dan's Fish Fry & Class Act Catering

*Deputy Don England's health required him to medically retire on January 1, 2009 after 19 years of dedicated service to Howard County.*



Staff Personnel: Wanda McKillip, Brittany Campbell, Megan Brown, and Cynthia Cavanaugh

### **Words to Live By**

Personality can open doors, but only character can keep them open.

*Elmer G. Letterman*

### **"Dear Personnel"**

Wanda McKillip, Personnel Administrator, and Brittany Campbell, Administrative Assistant, respond to questions about Howard County Benefits and Personnel issues.

### **Dear Personnel:**

Hey! It's after February 1st. I still haven't received my Anthem ID card in the mail yet... Where is it?

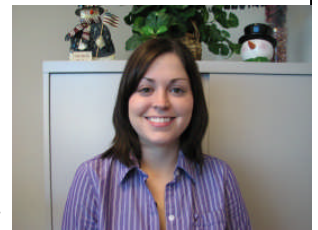
### **Confused at the Clerk's Office**

### **Dear Confused:**

The Anthem ID cards are already ordered and should be received by no later than February 13, 2009. If you do not receive your card, please call the Personnel Office and let us know so we can get one for you.

### **A New Face in the Personnel Office**

My name is Megan Brown. I am an intern from Indiana University-Kokomo where I am studying Human Resources and Management. I will finish my Bachelor's Degree in May 2009 and I hope to begin my Master's Degree in the fall of 2009. I have only been an intern for a short amount of time, but I have already learned a tremendous amount of information that I am positive will help me excel in my future. I am extremely grateful to Wanda and Brittany for allowing me to have this opportunity.



### **INSIDE -**

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**Page 4** - Britt's Community Corner



**Second Annual Holiday Party: A Success!**

With over 250 people in attendance, the second annual holiday party turned out to be a great success! The golf outing raised enough money to have a delicious catered meal from Windmill Grill and live DJ. Thanks to over 80 merchants and the help of several employees, there were many great prizes available. Randy Hainlen donated a 6 night stay at his lakeside cottage in New Buffalo Michigan and the commissioners handed out three one hundred dollar bills. A cash drawing brought in almost \$600 which was distributed between three lucky winners. There were many other wonderful prizes as well. However, the holiday party would not have been possible without the help of several key people. Thank you to the decorating committee and to those who helped with donations. A special thanks to the commissioners for making this party possible, but most of all thanks to the employees for making our second annual holiday party a great success.




Commissioner Dave Trine thanking Howard County employees for their hard work

Howard County employees enjoying the catered meal from Windmill Grill

 **A Job Well Done!**   
 Sheriff Talbert,  
 I just wanted to send you a note to let you know how appreciative I am of your staff and the hard work that the Sheriff Department does. On Sunday, January 18, I was on my way to church and because of slick road conditions, I slid off the road and hit a mailbox. One of your Deputy Sheriff's, **Bryan Fitzgerald** was the lucky one who assisted me. He was so nice, caring, and professional which helped ease my worry and frustration with the situation. A big thank you to Bryan and to you for having a wonderful staff.  
 Sincerely, Kelly Goad

**"HOW I LOST 100 LBS IN 14 MONTHS WITHOUT BARIATRIC SURGERY!"**



I topped out at 299 pounds summer 2006. I felt uncomfortable in my own skin. There were many signs that I was not healthy. I suffered from high blood pressure, high cholesterol and shortness of breath. My clothes were getting larger and larger. I could not tie my shoes without gasping for air. I have exercised most of my adult life but did not lose and maintain significant weight loss from it. A change had to be made.  
See continued story of Gene's weight loss on page 4!

  
***Valentine's Winner!***  
  
**KeyBank Main St. Bank Manager Dana Horvath and Howard County Employee Konny Zurcher!**  
See Dana for details about earning a \$100 Key Possibilities Card!  
**765-868-6030**

**Welcome New Commissioners! ... Continued from page 1.**

I attended St. Joan of Arc for grade school, Lafayette Park for middle school and Kokomo for high school. After graduating in 1989, I was blessed with the opportunity to attend the University of Notre Dame for college, from which I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration in 1993. After spending a short time in the South Bend-Elkhart area in both title insurance and banking, I headed back "home" to Kokomo to work with my folks in our family's title business. Since that time I have been actively involved in a number of organizations and clubs which include United Way, Rotary-Early Risers Club, Knights of Columbus, Realtors Association, Homebuilders Association, Community Foundation, Downtown Association and Chamber of Commerce. I was a member of St. Joan of Arc Catholic Church until marrying my wife and best friend, Ann (Hobson), on Christmas Day in 2000. Ann was/is a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, so I switched to the "north end Parish" after our wedding and continue to worship there. Ann and I have been blessed with five children: Claire and Jacob (7), Emma (6), Joseph (4) and Owen (2). (The jury is still out as to whether or not we're going to "round out the number"! ) God has definitely blessed me throughout my life, and I feel this is yet another way He has allowed me to serve Him while serving you. I am excited with the relationships I have formed with Commissioners Trine and Thompson and am confident that together we will achieve many things for the betterment of Howard County. I am looking forward to working with each of you as well in your respective capacities, and I encourage you (as I'm sure Dave and Bill do) to contact me with any ideas, opinions, suggestions or concerns you may have. My door is always open—at home or at work—and my phone is always on! Thank you for all you do for Howard County.

## A Winner !!



## Cynthia's Favorite Recipes

### "Chili in a Biscuit Bowl"

#### Ingredients:

- Vegetable oil cooking spray
- 2 cups biscuit baking mix (recommended: Bisquick)
- 2/3 cup whole milk
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- Flour, for dusting the work surface
- 1 pound ground chuck
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped
- 2 (14-ounce) cans Mexican-style stewed tomatoes
- 1 (15-ounce) can kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 2 tablespoons chili powder
- 1 teaspoon salt

#### Toppings:

- Shredded sharp Cheddar
- Sour cream
- Sliced green onions (white and green parts)
- Corn chips



#### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees F. Invert a muffin tin and spray the underside with vegetable oil cooking spray. Stir together the baking mix, milk, and cayenne. Shape into a ball. Turn out onto a floured surface and knead 3 or 4 times. Divide the ball into 6 pieces. Roll each piece into a 6-inch circle. Place a dough circle over the back of each muffin cup. Press around the cup to form a bowl shape. Bake for 10 to 12 minutes, until lightly browned. Let cool slightly. Remove the biscuit bowls and reserve.

Brown the ground chuck over medium heat in a Dutch oven. Add the onion and green pepper and continue to cook until the meat is completely browned and the vegetables are tender. Drain off any fat and discard. Stir in the tomatoes, beans, chili powder, and salt. Bring the mixture to a boil, cover, and reduce the heat to low. Simmer for 35 minutes.

When ready to serve, spoon the hot chili into the biscuit bowls. Garnish with shredded cheese, sour cream, sliced green onions, and corn chips.

Courtesy of Paula Deen

## WE HAVE A WINNER!!!

Linda George, a senior secretary from the Surveyor's Office, won the drawing for a "\$25.00 MasterCard", donated by "City of Firsts Community Federal Credit Union", located at 1135 South Main Street.

Howard County would like to thank "City of Firsts Community Federal Credit Union" for their generosity!



President Denny Condon

## Important Dates



**Boston Mutual Life Insurance Open Enrollment** will be held the week of February 23rd. Look for a notice in your payroll. The following options are available to you:

- ♦ If you are currently enrolled in the "Employee Life Option", you may now add new dependents, spouses, grandchildren, or increase your insurance coverage.
- ♦ If you DID NOT enroll when you were first eligible, you may now do so subject to medical underwriting approval.
- ♦ If you were hired between 4/1/2007 and 9/30/2008, you are newly ELIGIBLE. This is your ONE-and-ONLY opportunity to obtain insurance on a guaranteed issue basis for yourself, children and grandchildren. *Spouses are subject to medical underwriting questions.*

**You will be notified of meetings in your department/area.**

### Announcement from the Personnel Office

Brittany Campbell replaced Anne Williams as the Personnel Administrative Assistant effective immediately.

Contact Brittany at 765-456-7010 or e-mail [brittany.campbell@co.howard.in.us](mailto:brittany.campbell@co.howard.in.us). Thanks!

We wish Anne the best of luck in her future endeavors!

## Britt's Community Corner



Everyone can use a little bit of "direction" in their life from time to time. Direction is especially important when a student is in school trying to decide what goals they would like to achieve in their life. Bridges Outreach program is a not-for-profit after-school mentoring program for students in high school and middle school. The program is known for tutoring, mentoring, and helping kids develop personal education plans while providing wonderful opportunities for middle school youth that attend middle schools here in Kokomo. Middle school students are not the only group of students that are benefiting from Bridges Outreach though. Bridges to College (BTC) is a high school program that meets on Tuesday and Thursday nights at the YMCA that helps prepare students academically, emotionally, socially, and spiritually for college. The BTC program also helps students relieve the stress of transitioning to college by helping with scholarships, SAT/ACT preparation, college visits, financial/application aid, and spiritual retreats.

Bridges Outreach is always in need of mentors who are willing to spare some of their time to impact a child's life. If you are interested, please contact Bridges Outreach at (765) 452-5723 or visit them online at: [www.bridgesoutreach.com](http://www.bridgesoutreach.com)



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



(1st Quarter 01/01/09 to 03/31/09)

### 25 Years

Laura Johnson-Auditor's Office

### 20 Years

Ted Cain-Highway Dept.  
Barton Taber-Sheriff's Dept.

### 15 Years

Peggy Andrews-Kinsey Youth Center  
Ernest Shirey-Sheriff's Dept.  
Yolanda Phillips-Sheriff's Dept.

### 10 Years

Leslie Ellison-Councilman  
Lori Hittle-Prosecutor's Office  
Katina Silver-CASA  
Stephen Kline-Sheriff's Dept.  
Jeannie Vondersaar-Purdue Extension

### 5 Years

Stacey Harrington-Sheriff's Dept.  
Raymond Thompson-Clerk's Office  
Jacob Welker-Clerk's Office  
Teresa Keller-Purdue Extension

### FREE DRAWING!!!

All Howard County Employees will automatically have the chance to win in an upcoming drawing!

**City of First Community Federal Credit Union  
located at 1135 South Main Street will be giving  
away,**

**"A \$25.00 Gift Certificate".**

**A special thanks to**

**Denny Condon, President of**

**"City of Firsts Community Federal Credit Union"**

**Good Luck to all Employees!!!**

Corporate/Loan Office - 1135 S. Main Street

#### LOCATIONS:

Teller Branch - 1120 S. Main Street  
South Branch - 314 Southway Blvd. E.

#### TELEPHONE:

Corporate/Loan Office - 765-454-5590  
Teller Branch - 765-459-0758  
(Toll Free 800-310-0905)  
South Branch - 765-865-2444

#### HOURS OF OPERATION:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Friday Drive-Up: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.



### Continued from page 3...

I started walking 5 or 6 days a week for 30 minutes. Sometimes I went for 45 minutes and sometimes walked more than once a day. I cut back on eating out and joined the YMCA so I could walk in cold or wet weather. My wife walked with me almost every time. My son would be waiting after work for his daily ride in the stroller. Our dog was also enthusiastic about getting out walking. They kept me on track when I did not feel like exercising.

I had lost 20 pounds when my family doctor told me I had type II diabetes. They put me on a low-carb diet and in 3 months I lost another 20 pounds. (I continued my exercise routine.)

Then my wife and I joined a program for health management recommended by her doctor. (Conducted by Health and Nutrition Technology) We did it together so we would have more chance of succeeding. It is a lifestyle-change program not a diet. We meet in Peru once a week to talk with our classmates and our "coach".

We ate Meal Replacements (MR's) exclusively at first but are now working in grocery store food. I lost 60 pounds and my wife lost 40 pounds in the 4-month first phase of the program. You can learn more about the program at [www.myhealthone.com](http://www.myhealthone.com).

We are still attending classes, exercising and keeping track of our calories in and out. We are meeting the challenge of maintaining our weight loss over the long-term together. It is not a diet, so it will not end. It is a long-term commitment - a lifestyle change.

***Congrats Gene on your weight loss!***