

# The Owens Interlink

Volume 4, Issue 11, December 2007

Best Wishes!

## "HAPPY HOLIDAYS"

*This is the time of year when we want to remember most those that have had a great impact on each of us and our businesses this past year. Without wonderful people like you, we would not be able to be as successful as we are. Please know how grateful we are to be associated with you and we look forward to a continued working relationship in 2008.*

*From our door to yours - wishing you a very Happy Holiday Season and best of everything for the New Year.*

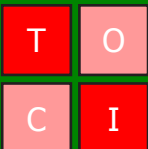
*Diana L. Owens, CEO & Jennifer I. Amato, Vice Pres.  
and all our wonderful Staff and supervisors*



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## HOLIDAY SPONSORS

Edited by Joe Owens

Each year, it appears the need is growing to sponsor more and more families who would not otherwise have a very merry Christmas. This year is no exception. With the help of several organizations, we were able to sponsor 24 families.

Of that, there were 79 children and 21 adults. As the economy continues to be an issue in our community, we are finding that “regular” families struggle just to meet their daily responsibilities and that typically means no holiday joy for the children.

Our appreciation cannot be stressed enough to those of you who participated again this year. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated. The impact that you have on these families will be remembered a life time we are sure.

We want to especially recognize First Data Resources, Regal Printing Company, Bass & Associates, Clarkson College of Nursing, Summit Software, and several private individuals who participated in our holiday drive this year. Thank You!!!

## Speaker(s) for ALL-STAFF Meeting

Edited by Joe Owens

Diane Martig, Supervisor and Kelly Brum, investigative worker from HHS, Project Harmony were the speakers for our recent all-staff meeting in December. They enlightened the group on how a call to CPS then filters on through the system.

Diane and Kelly emphasized how important each and every employee was to a family's success and that our employees truly are an extension of the investigative unit. They stressed the need for work-

ers to be factual in documenting what employees see and hear and to keep case managers continually updated on matters relating to the families referred.

Even though for some, the information may have been a refresher – for some of our newer employees, this gave them an opportunity to look beyond their own responsibilities and that assisted them in visualizing their role as a human service worker.

## Two New Babies in Our Midst

Neliesha Daws and her husband are the proud parents of a new baby girl, born November 30th. The little one weighed in at 6 pd, 11 oz and was 21 inches long.

Derrick Rakosky and his wife also have a new daughter born

November 16th who weighed in at 7 pd, 4 oz and also was 21 inches long. Congratulations to our new parents.

Those are really beautiful baby girls!

## Policy on Weather

Edited by Joe Owens

Just to remind everyone, when school functions and activities are cancelled due to the weather, we too stop transporting children. It is our philosophy that if the weather conditions are too dangerous for other activities, it too would be too dangerous for our staff to transport very young children.

However, if a session must be cancelled due to the weather, it will be made up at another time. Presently, it seems we are having to make-up the make-up sessions as the weather continues to do what Nebraska is so well known for – snow, snow and snow.



## Changes You May Have Noticed

Edited by Joe Owens

Ms. Alice Watson resigned her position as our long-time front desk receptionist late last month. Even though she will be greatly missed, we wish her the best of luck on her new position.

HOWEVER, with that being said, we hope that you will assist Doreen Watkins as she undertakes the new challenge. Doreen was a visitation worker on Candi's team until the transfer. Also switching position is Amy Kirby who is now assisting Fred Ross in our reopened Drop-In Center.

Amy also was on Candi's team until the transfer. YES Candi, we do appreciate all you do in training folks to move onto other positions. Michelle Smith has recently joined our administrative team. She will be assisting Margaret with billing and client files, etc. Both Doreen and Michelle will report to Margaret.

Congratulations on your new challenges Doreen and Amy, and welcome Michelle. AND many thanks Candi for letting us continue to "take" your people.



## New Class to Start After First of Year

Edited by Joe Owens

We have been asked and in turn put together, a program aimed at battered spouses.

It will not only help the victims look at their present situation – how they got there and why they stay, but will offer ways in which an individual can regain self-esteem and self-sufficiency.

"Standing On Your Own", is a

six week program for women who need to improve their Self-Esteem due to Abuse or Battering.

For additional information, call Cathy Wilson at 451-8404. Be watching for a start date right after the first of the new year.

This program will rotate with our present parenting program now offered.



# OES Again Recognized in December "Strictly Business"

Edited by Joe Owens



Not only was our first annual fund raiser publicized in the magazine, but again for

the holiday time, where our center youth were given an opportunity to give back to the community with a \$50.00 donation from the Silverstone Group through a program called "Pay it Forward".

The program was started by the father in remembrance of Cara Naby. The youth took the original \$50 and turned it into \$200

## Condolences To:

Lincoln Supervisor Doretta Brookins over the loss of her Aunt; also to Jeannie Hicks over the passing of her mother. As an organization, we also want to express our deepest sympathies to the families, friends and co-workers of the recent Westroads mall shooting.

We, like so many others have

## Once Again...

...Since this is the last issue of the newsletter for 2007, we want to wish each and every one of you a Happy Holiday session. Be safe and enjoy time with friends and family.

We hope that we have kept you up-to-date with current

where they purchased fans for the elderly. *Strictly Business* is a business news and marketing magazine designed to serve the Omaha and Lincoln business community.

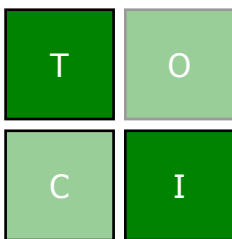
Thank you to Pam Stene, Board member for gathering the information and getting it into the magazine.

The Community does need to know that the youth we represent really are caring and giving young people. They are much more than the media makes them out to be. Good job Pam!

difficulty putting our arms around why this happened and can only express our own personal sadness over this situation. Omaha is a good place to live, and we will continue to do our part in helping the community regain its composure after such a tragic event.

happenings at the Owens Companies and that you have enjoyed learning more about us through the newsletter.

If you have any suggestions for our newsletter, please contact Joe Owens at: joemowens@gmail.com



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