

# The Owens Interlink

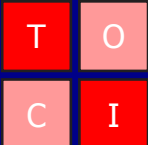
Volume 5, Issue 6, July 2008

The heat is on!

**Diana L. Owens**  
President & CEO

**The Owens Companies**  
7415 N. 30 St.,  
Omaha, NE 68112  
Tel: 402 455 1118  
Fax: 402 455 4506

**5800 Cornhusker Hwy.,**  
Lincoln, NE 68507  
Tel: 402 464 0784  
Fax: 402 464 0786



**The Interlink**  
7415 N. 30 St.,  
Omaha, NE 68112  
Tel: 402 455 1118  
Fax: 402 455 4506  
joemowens@gmail.com

## More changes; change is good!

By Diana Owens

In last month's newsletter, we advised you that for the Omaha and surrounding areas (eastern service area), we would be subcontracting through Omni Behavioral Health to conduct our present services with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

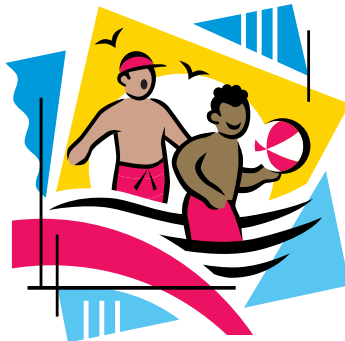
Less than two days before this change was to take place, there was another change in plans. Now, the exact program that we were contracted to collaborate with Visinet in the southeast service area will also be the program of choice for this area. For both service areas that we serve through DHHS the program will be the same.

Cheers were heard not only in our office, but with our many referral sources when the announcement was made. However,

this means that our whole world turned on its side.

Staff, supervisors and administrative people have been under the gun and working multiple hours to assure that all requirements of the state are met, training completed and that of greatest concern – our families and youth continued to be served. To view pictures of the massive training and to gain more information on Families F.I.R.S.T. – go to our website.

This of course has also been a wonderful opportunity to hire many of the folks who were left unemployed in the human service field with the State's changes. If you know of an individual who loves working with youth and families, we are looking for them. Please send them our way, or they can go on line and complete an application form there.



## It's arrived in style

Edited by Joe Owens

Our NEW and UPDATED website is up and running. Thanks to Andy Real – our now internal IT Tech – we have a website that everyone can be so proud of. Right off the bat you will notice changes to the layout, format and of course current information on our companies that will always be at your finger tips. The new site is much more “user friendly”.

The process has been exciting,

## Our staff and friends

By Diana Owens

Leslie VanWinkle and her husband are the proud parents of a baby girl born on the 4th of July, Conner Elizabeth, weighing in at 6 lbs 14 oz and was 19 ¼” long. Best wishes to the proud parents on their new little “fire cracker”.

Board member, Melodae Lane was married on the 5th of July to Jerry Morris in an evening ceremony. To send them your best

## Fred does it again

Edited by Joe Owens

With all the program changes, the necessity also came to change the office setting. Thanks to Fred Ross and one of Anthony’s staffing employees, in one day – we have a new look. Hard work and dedication has brought about a new look for the inside our office.

watching Andy at work – not knowing what he is saying in his computer language – but seeing the end results is amazing! In addition to the website, Andy is also the “go-to-guy” for updating our computers internally. What did we ever do without him? Kudos to Andy – that is for sure. So to see his magic – go to:  
[www.theowenscompanies.com](http://www.theowenscompanies.com)

wishes, their home address is: 17637 Josephine Street, Omaha, NE 68136. Congratulations Melodae and Jerry!

As of July 15, Joe M. Owens is back full time with us. He will not only continue to write the monthly newsletter, but is training on payroll, benefits and other HR functions with the company. Welcome back Joe.

We can always count on Fred when a job needs to get done! In his spare time, Fred is still running all the diversion programs and victim empathy classes. Speaking of, he just started a new group of sixteen this past Monday. Good Job Fred.

# News from our Human Resources Division

Edited by Joe Owens

In these difficult times, many employers are looking for ways to motivate and inspire their employees. Here are 7 of the best ways to get across your vision, values and mission to the employees:

1. You can't inspire unless you are inspired. Let your employees see your "true colors".
2. Make your vision as vivid as you can. If employees can picture it in their own minds, they are more likely to grasp the concept and go with it.
3. Be sure to remember that the customer is still number one. They want to know when you approach them – what's in it for me. Take time to mentor good customer service techniques to your employees.
4. A personal connection with your message carries it best. Help your people relate to what you are saying.
5. Listen. Focus on listening, and not just hearing what people are saying. Make a point of listening thoroughly to what your people are saying.
6. As General Colin Powell once said, "optimism is a force multiplier". Stay positive and make sure your employees are included.
7. And last encourage your people by praising them for good work. Praise is like watering a flower – with it the flower thrives, without it – it dries up.

If you find that your supervisory personnel are not meeting the above suggestions, contact Diana at 451-8404 to get them enrolled in a supervisory/management

training program. The grass-roots training will develop your leadership personnel so they in turn can demonstrate true leadership to the line personnel. ■



# Owens Staffing Services

Edited by Joe Owens



Yes it is back and in operation. Under the direction of Anthony Erwin, we have

again taken on the challenge to find employment for those who are trying to do it on their own without much success. Anthony has taken a new approach with the service to employers.

Not only are there thorough interviews conducted and background checks completed, he also

## River boat fundraiser

Edited by Joe Owens

The second annual River Boat fund raiser for OES is fast approaching (August 19th).

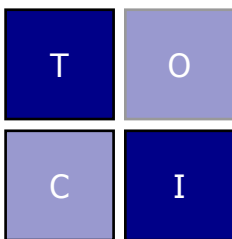
If you have not purchased your tickets and reserved a spot on one of the most exciting evenings of the year – you can do so by going on-line and completing the reservation form, or visit with any of our staff or Directors and they will

offers employers either initial or on-going drug-testing while our employees await hiring from the company. Anthony has been out visiting with several potential customers to find employment for the many who have come in and applied. If you are in need of good people, and do not want the expense of payroll taxes, benefits, etc. until you are sure the candidate is working out – contact Anthony at 455-6337 and he will come meet with you to discuss your specific employee needs.



be glad to save you a spot. Don't forget, raffle and auction items, entertainment, food and a ride down the river will make this a memorable evening.

We truly want to thank all of our sponsors to date and to our Board of Directors who have been so hard working and dedicated to assuring this event happens.



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