

The Owens Interlink

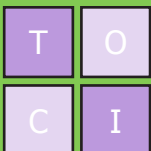
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Spring is FINALLY in the air!

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Staff recognitions

Assembled by Diana Owens

From Sarah Siemek, FSC (KVC - Lincoln): "At court on Monday, the judge did approve for mom and the kids to move back to St. Joseph. You can close the case out and thanks for all your work on this one, we know it was difficult. P.S. The family Partner, Becca was awesome on this case!"

From Kendra Shirkey, Omaha Supervisor: Just yesterday, a client stated that Mike is great and considerate. Client stated that Mike will take the time to listen to her concerns and the difficulties she is having.

From Kevin Ross, Omaha Tracker Supervisor, "Tiffany Doolittle was a very BIG help on March 10 when we received ten Electronic Monitoring referrals in one day. She not only did all the preparing for the EMs but the actual intakes as well."

From Kevin Ross, Omaha Tracker Supervisor, "I want to recognize Blake Heybrock and Sara Hansen for stepping up and helping out with anything that needs to be done or covered

for a co-worker. Blake and Sara rarely say "no" to coverage cases or anything else that I need assistance with."

From Kevin Ross, Omaha Tracker Supervisor, "I would like to express my appreciation and thanks to my whole team for being so *awesome*. They have been very flexible and have worked as a team to do some really great things in the past few months. In doing random spot checks, at schools, referral agencies and even client homes, all I hear is great things."

From Bruce Powell, CFS - DHHS, "I just wanted to let you know that your employee Aimee Rehmeier has been doing a fantastic job on one of my cases. She routinely goes above and beyond expectations and she has been prompt, polite and professional in all my dealings with her. She continues to be a pleasure to work with. Please feel free to let her know that her efforts are much appreciated."



Congratulations!

Edited by J. Owens

We want to congratulate Dorreen Watkins, our Omaha Receptionist, on the birth of her new son, London James, on March 22. The little fellow weighed in at 8 lbs. 2 oz. and was 21 inches long.

In Dorreen's absence, Angie Hartline is doing an excellent job at the front desk. It helps that Angie has field experience and understands the business before taking on the phones.

Rebecca Handley, Family Partner in Lincoln on Melissa Batt's team is the proud parent of a new baby girl named Millie who was born on March 23. We don't have the rest of the particulars yet but want to send them best wishes.

If you called into the Lincoln office after Tuesday, you will notice

April has officially taken her maternity leave. Little Emmersyn Rose arrived on March 25. She weighs 6 lbs. 6 oz. We will keep you posted with news of how she and her new mom are doing.

And finally, on March 20, Mrs. Owens adopted a rescue dog named Cassie, a 4-year-old German Shorthair Pointer from Great Plains Pointer Rescue here in Omaha. Cassie arrived at the Owens home having survived life at a puppy mill, abandonment, and a date with a kill shelter. She is no doubt more than a little glad to have found a forever home with Joe and Diana Owens.

Congratulations to all those mentioned above!



Warning from our IT department

As demonstrated on Channel 6 investigative news, hard drives are not safe unless disposed of properly. Simply deleting files by dragging them to the recycle bin and emptying the computer trash can is not enough.

Files stored on a hard drive that has been dumped and flushed can be easily recovered. Computer owners need to use a "killer" program such as DBAN that can be

downloaded from the Internet at no cost.

By copying the program to a disc and then running it on the computer, all the contents on the hard drive are overwritten. If you overwrite the entire drive with zeros as an example, it is virtually unrecoverable.

This kill program information can be located at: www.dban.org.



Becoming email savvy

Edited by J. Owens

Is it possible to clear out your email box and keep it that way? Yes, according to the experts, but you have to be willing to change your behaviors. Here are five basic behavior changes to survive the email jungle:

1. Make it your goal to process every message – which isn't the same as answering every message – and empty your inbox every day.
2. Read each message once, answering this quick question: “Am I being asked to do something?” If so, there are only three possible actions:
 - a. Take action now on the task using the two minute rule. “If you can do it in less than two minutes do it immediately;
 - b. Pass the task along to the person best qualified to handle it;
 - c. Consciously decide you will do the task later and then add it to your to-do list or schedule an appointment with yourself to complete it.
3. If the action is not actionable or you have already acted on it, you can either:
 - a. Determine whether you need the information later or delete it;
 - b. If you feel you may need it later, file the information in an identifiable folder.
4. Use keyboard shortcuts. Nearly every mouse action has a keyboard equivalent. Taking your hands off the keyboard can cost you time, so use the keyboard functions regularly.
5. Let email rules filter the low-priority stuff. You personally do not need to read every email as some are advertisements, some just “junk” and others may be totally inappropriate for business use.



If you have any questions on computer savvy or policies within Owens, please contact Andy Real. He is located in the Omaha office but does travel when needed to our Lincoln facility.



Sympathies, condolences

Edited by Joe Owens

Douglas McCoy, Family Partner in Lincoln for the loss of his father.
Albert Lucio (Lincoln Supervisor), for the loss of his fiancée's father.
Our thoughts and prayers go to both these individuals.
And we truly hope that we haven't missed anyone.



Helpful time-waster hints

Edited by J. Owens



You may own a computer, DVD player, digital television, cell phone, pro-

grammable alarm and appliances or even a robot vacuum cleaner. Run them, BUT don't let them run you.

Electronics cost money and time to upgrade, repair and use properly. If they don't save you time, maybe low tech is a better choice. Take the time and energy you would otherwise waste and use

it to accomplish something really important. A good rule of thumb is to set priorities, turn off the "gadgets," and learn to enjoy the beauty of life.

As for the Internet – avoid mind-numbing Web searching or limitless social networking. Though many find value in the information and support they find online, moderation is the key. Millions waste hours on social networking sites, when they could be interacting face to face with real people.



March new hires

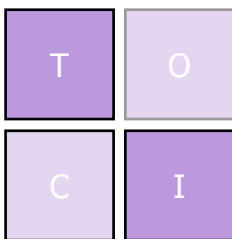
Edited by Joe Owens

Help us welcome the following new hires since our last edition of the newsletter:

Joyce Bruner-Omaha
Latisha Hansel-Lincoln
JoAnn Fisher- Lincoln
Sandra Fleissner-Omaha
Jodi Payne-Lincoln

Breeman Golden-Lincoln
Justin D'Angelo-Omaha
Diante Jones-Omaha
Jennifer Meehan-Omaha
Gayle Large-Omaha

We trust your new experiences with our companies will be rewarding for you and for the clients we serve.



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