



I have always wondered why somebody doesn't do something about that. Then I realized that I was somebody.

Lily Tomlin

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This will be a short newsletter this month. Hopefully January will seem short as well!

Thank you to all who sent Holly Grams. We did have 100% participation from the UW Extension Department. Unbeknownst to everyone in their department they all sent Holly Grams to each other. What fun! So we have added

to our Employee Appreciation fund for 2009.

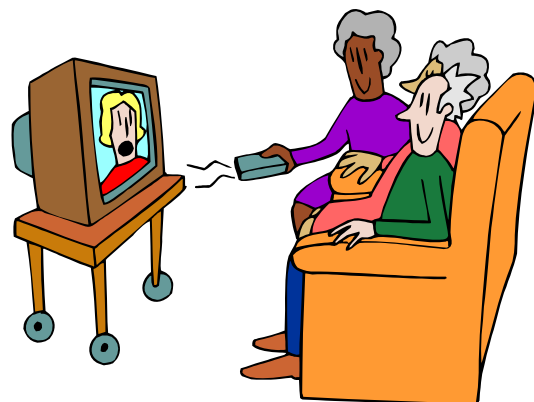
If anyone has other ideas for more ways to generate funds please let me know. We have had good response from the things we did in 2008 as appreciation for employees and plan to continue the program. So if you have ideas we want to hear them. Send them to

us at the Human Resources Department.

## Wanted

**Vernon Manor is looking for GOOD used TV's to be used in resident rooms.**

**If anyone would like to donate, they may drop them off during business hours. Or call to make other arrangements. 637-5400. Thank you!**



## Welcome New Employees

We would like to welcome the following new employees to Vernon County:

### Aging

Emma Switz, On-Call Mealsite 12/10/08

Patricia Borxham, On-Call Mealsite 12/10/08

### Human Services

Jada Brewer, Social Worker 12/15/08

### Vernon Manor

Tasha Cornell, CNA 12/18/08

Kimberly Fortney, CNA 12/18/08

Jessie Harris, CNA 12/18/08

Nakita McCann, CNA 12/18/08

Kelsey Smyth, CNA 12/18/08



## Social Security and Insurance Benefits

The Social Security Administration has launched a new retirement estimator and you can now get a personalized estimate of future benefits. The Retirement Estimator is a planning tool that allows you to get an immediate and personalized estimate. Log on to [www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/estimator) enter your first and last name, date of birth, Social Security number, mother's maiden name and place of birth. If this information matches the information that Social Security has on record, Retirement Estimator will provide a quick and reliable online benefit estimate. This conven-

ient Estimator is tied to your actual Social Security earnings record so there is no need to manually enter years of earnings information. It is also interactive and you can compare different retirement options by changing work dates or earnings. This is a secure site. You may also want to visit Social Security's main website to check out the other online services, including applying for retirement and disability benefits.

Now is also the time of year to make sure all your beneficiaries are listed in the way you

wish. Take a minute to review those listed on your insurance and retirement paperwork and make any changes necessary.



## Stock Market *Excerpts from Nationwide Retirement Solutions website*

What exactly is "Stock market"? While it's commonly referred to in the singular form "market", there are many markets all over the world. For example, The New York Stock Exchange, The Chicago Mercantile Exchange, The NASDAQ (National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation), The London Stock Exchange and so on. Almost all stock markets are auctions where traders come together to buy and sell ownership shares in companies, investment bonds, and other investment items. Similar to most auctions, prices are driven by supply and demand, the value of the item or the perceived value. It's this reason that prices continually change on the market. Usually, when people refer to "the mar-

ket" they generally mean the U.S. stock market as measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Average. The Dow tracks the stock of 30 large, well-known companies such as General Electric, Coca-Cola, Exxon and IBM. The editors of the Wall Street Journal choose the companies tracked by the Dow. The list changes periodically as companies merge, lose prominence, or rise to the top of their industry. The Dow is an index, which is simply a way to judge the overall market trend by looking at a sample of it. In other words, the performance of the 30 stocks in the Dow Jones Industrial Average is used to represent the performance of the entire market. The Dow is the most widely

used index, but there are other indices used to help gauge the market. One is the Standard and Poor's 500, also known as the S&P 500. It tracks the 500 largest U.S. companies and is considered a more accurate model of the overall stock market because its larger sample accounts for about 75% of the value of the U.S. Stock Market.

Tips to deal with Market turmoil:

- A good strategy is a good strategy regardless of market conditions.
- Don't make investment decisions based on short-term drops or gains. Evaluate how an investment fits into your overall long-term financial strategy.

## Quick and Easy Recipe: Arizona Bars

Melt 50 caramels in 2/3 cup of evaporated milk over low heat. Stir until smooth. Set aside to cool.

Mix together:

- 1 box German Chocolate cake mix
- 2/3 cup melted butter
- 1/3-cup evaporated milk

This mixture will be clumpy, but should be moist enough to pat 2/3's of it into a greased 9x13 cake pan. Reserve the rest of dough for topping.

Bake 8 minutes in 350-degree oven.

Remove from oven and sprinkle with 6 oz of chocolate chips and cup of chopped nuts. Pour caramel mixture over the chips and nuts. Sprinkle/distribute the rest of dough over the top.

Bake 15-18 minutes. Do not overbake. Enjoy!



# Vernon County Calendar

## January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Land Info 9A CB	6 Land Use 9A Ag	7 LWC 9:30A Ag Hwy Saf 10A CB	8 Build Fac 9:30A BR	9	10
11	12	13	14	15 Fin 9A 309 PC 10:30 A 309	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Dept Head 9A SH	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### Special Dates

For more dates and to confirm dates check the calendar at our website:

[www.vernoncounty.org](http://www.vernoncounty.org)

### Abbreviations

BR—Boardroom  
 BOH—Board of Health  
 HS—Human Services  
 HR—Human Resources/Personnel  
 EOB—Erlandson Office Building  
 Hwy —Highway Department Bldg  
 VM—Vernon Manor  
 Vet Ser—Veterans Services  
 LWC—Land And Water Conservation  
 Ag/Ext—Agriculture/Extension

Leg Aff—Legal Affairs  
 Zon—Zoning  
 Bldg Fac—Building/Facilities  
 VCCPC—Vernon County Comprehensive  
 Planning Commission  
 Land Info—Land Information  
 SWR—Solid Waste/Recycling  
 RF—Recycling Facility  
 Em Plan—Emergency Planning  
 BB—Banta Building  
 Sec/Fac—Security and Facilitie

## Employee Anniversary Dates January

### Thank You

Thank you to those who sent Holly Grams.

Thank you to Alice Olson for the recipe this month.

#### 40 Year

Judy Clark, Vernon Manor

#### 25Year

Verna Brye, Vernon Manor

#### 20 Year

Barbara Frank, Sheriff

#### 10 Years

Hope Messenberg, Aging

Julie Simpson, Human Services

Tyler Trugillo, Human Services

#### 5 Year

Janice Raasch, Aging

Jeremy Melby, Highway

Donald Krzewinski, Sheriff



### Upcoming Events

Tentative Schedule of Events for 2009

Feb 12 Lincoln's 200th birthday

July 28 Employee Picnic

Sept Employee Anniversary Recognition at Board Meeting

Oct 30 Halloween Extravaganza

Dec 14-15 Holly Gram deliveries

Watch for news on these and other exciting events from your Human Resources Department!

**You can read Vernon County Connections on your personal computer! The newsletter is now available each month at the Vernon County website for those who may not have computer access at work. Go into the Personnel page and click on the newsletter link. Please pass the word!!**

**It has been my experience that folks who have no vices have very few virtues.**  
Abraham Lincoln

## County Board Contact Information

Harry Baller, District 27  
489-2288

Maynard Cox, District 7  
648-2599

Kevin Larson, District 14  
634-3439

Jack Robinson, District 24  
337-4445

David Banner, District 16  
6372451

Karen Dahl, District 17  
637-7710

Chet Lee, District 18  
637-3990

Jim Servais, District 5  
483-2800

Geoffrey Banta, District 20  
637-3286

Frank Easterday, District 22  
634-4521

John McClelland, Jr, District 6  
634-2341

Tom Spenner, District 26  
489-2302

Will Beitlich, District 1  
483-2664

Sherman Erlandson, District 11  
634-4327

Frank McCoy, District 21  
629-5262

Leo Verbsky, District 29  
489-3295

Dennis Brault, District 13  
634-2146

Kevin Gobel, District 2  
457-2638

Ray Moser, District 12  
634-4995

Ole Yttri, District 23  
625-2601

Richard Brose, District 9  
452-3923

Philip Hooker, District 4  
648-3574

JoAnn Nickelatti, District 3  
689-2491

Jerry Cade, District 19  
637-7435

Francis Hynek, District 25  
625-2205

Todd Overbo, District 15  
637-8102

Herbert Cornell, District 8  
452-3901

Robert Johnson, District 10  
634-3156

Brian Richardson, District 28  
489-3563