



Kiwaniis

Hastings • Nebraska

Astonisher

A newsletter of the Hastings Kiwanis Club
hastingskiwanis.org
myclub@hastingskiwanis.org
facebook.com/hastingskiwanis

*"Children have more need of models than critics."
~ Joseph Joubert, French moralist and essayist*

September 2024

If you have items you wish to be included in the Astonisher, you can send them to marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org OR Astonisher@hastingskiwanis.org



**CONGRATULATIONS TO JOHN BOLTZ
INSTALLED ON AUGUST 2 & 3 AS
DISTRICT GOVERNOR**



Upcoming Meetings & Events ~ September

*Tuesday September 3 ~ Sticker the Dictionaries ~ 8:45 a.m. at the PEACE Center
Still need help with school deliveries.*

YWCA, 2525 W. 2nd St. ~ \$13.00 per meal

Catering by Emma Baker (meals subject to change)

Thur. 5 - Kiwanis District Convention Recap, John Boltz, Michelle Musgrave, Ashley Hajny
Meatballs in Marinara Sauce, Penne Pasta, House Salad, Garlic Bread, Cookie

Wed. 11 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room ~ All members welcome

Thur. 12 - De-Accessioning Items at the Hastings Museum, Teresa Kreutzer-Hodson
Peach Glazed Pork Loin, Sauteed Green Beans, Roast Potatoes, Dinner Rolls, Dessert Bar

Thur. 19 - Watch your email for further information

Pulled Pork Sandwich, Cheesy Potato Casserole, Baked Beans, Cookie

Thur. 26 - Installation and Awards Banquet - watch your email for Location and Time

August 3rd ~ 17th Annual 4-Person Golf Scramble

Jim Krebsbach has reported the following.

- Teams = 13, same as last year
- Sponsors = 48, up from 45 last year
- Raffle prize donations = 27
- Estimate of net profit = \$6,000, up \$500 from last year.
- Many teams donated their winnings back to Kiwanis.
Winnings paid out were \$1,320; donated back was \$640
- Non-Golfing Women raised \$200
Non-Golfing Men \$180



Mackenzie Loseke, reported to be the only one to put her tee shot in the circle



Kiwanis would like to gratefully acknowledge the golfers and the following businesses who supported our recent golf tournament.
Thanks to all!

Adams County Bank • Advanced Eye Care • Associated Staffing
• Auto Zone • Bruce Furniture • Butler Volland • CASA • Coach's Corner • CORE CPA's • Culligan Water • Edward Jones Danyelle Burns • Elk's Country Club • Erik Buderus • Fill-n-Chill • First Interstate Bank • Fisk Chiropractic • Five Points Bank • Fleet Pride
• Hastings Ag • Hastings College • Hastings Ford • Hastings Vision
• Hearts & Hands Against Hunger • Heritage Bank • Hastings Federal Credit Union • Highstreet Insurance & Financial • Home Instead • Husker Power • Jacobi's Carpet • Jerry Spady • Jimmy Johns • Judy Barnes Insurance • Kathy Schultz • Kiwanis Non Golfing Men • Kiwanis Non Golfing Women • Krueger Contracting
• Landmark Center • LandMark Implement • Levanders Auto Body
• Mary Mohler • Matheson • Nebraska Realty • Milt Kennedy • North Shore Real Estate • Oakeson Steiner • Outbound Trailers
• Pinnacle Bank • Pizza Hut • PTSR • Roberta Mohler • Tribune Auction • Stans Radiator • T & M Storage • Taco Johns • Woodward Disposal • Walmart • Watson Signs • Woodward Disposal • YMCA

Tribune 8-10-24



Roger Selley caught in the act of taking team photos ... which he will get to me for the October Astonisher.

***** VOLUNTEER POSITIONS *****

If you are unable to attend Thursday noon meetings to sign up for volunteer opportunities, you can log into the website.

Ongoing service projects include:

- **Hearts & Hands Against Hunger – dates and times TBA**
- **Meals on Wheels – every Friday, 11:15 a.m. – 2 routes, approx. 30-40 min.**

HEARTS & HANDS AGAINST HUNGER

PEACE Center, 622 N. Lincoln, South side
(former Middle School manual arts bldg)



****Please arrive 30 minutes prior
to the scheduled start time****

Saturday, September 7 ~ 12:30 – 2:30 p..m.
St. Cecilia's and St. Michael's Mission Group
20-30 people

Wednesday, September 25 ~ 7:00 – 8:15 p.m.
St. Ann's, Doniphan
15-20 grades 4-12 + adults
AND

Wednesday, September 25 ~ 7:45 – 9:00 p.m.
Faith Lutheran Church Youth Groups
20+ High School students + 3 adults

Hearts & Hands Against Hunger, P O Box 1293, Hastings NE 68902-1293 * 402-460-8627



MEALS ON WHEELS – This is quick and easy!
We have two (2) routes on Fridays for this service project.
Two volunteers from Kiwanis are needed.
Sign-up sheets are available at Thursday noon meetings
or sign up on the website.

Meals are picked up at 11:15 at the Senior Action office, 212 W. 3rd St.
(block east of the Post Office ~ 3rd & Minnesota) and delivery usually takes 30-40
minutes. They have the routes set up for the most efficient delivery.

September 6 – Russanne Hoff – *Need 1*
September 13 – Kathy Schultz – *Need 1*
September 20 – George Howard – *Need 1*
September 27 – Neil Grothen – *Need 1*

Marge Ormsby is the Club Coordinator. Please notify me by text or call if you cannot make it or will be late. 402-469-3296

ICYMI ~ August 2024

August 1 – Geothermal Well System at HHS, Trent Kelly



Trent is the Director of Technology and Operations and has been with HPS for 24 years. There were approximately 120 wells installed along Burlington and another 80 wells on the west side of the high school auditorium. They are part of a closed-loop system that will pump water to heat and cool the building. Since the ground maintains a temperature between 45 – 75 degrees, this system will maintain the heat in the winter and cool in the warm months of classes. A geothermal heat pump transfers heat from the water into the air.

Why did they choose to do this?

- Most of the current boiler system is from 1955 when the school was built. Repairing pipes in the tunnels is becoming a non-stop necessity.
- The units in the classrooms are loud and hard to control; teachers are growing weary of the interference.
- There are federal incentives available to implement the project.
- There will ultimately be a \$75,000-100,000 annual savings in utility costs, with a 20-25 year payback period.

The Process. K2 Geothermal out of Lincoln was the contractor. A 6-inch hole was drilled 180-200 feet down and 1-1.5 inch polyurethane pipe was inserted. Grout

filled in the excess space to keep the pipe in place. There is a 20-foot radius between each hole. Trenches were then dug to connect all the wells to the vaults, one on each side of the building.

Geothermal Basics. (Taken from slides from Trent's presentation) "Geothermal heat pump systems transfer heat through an underground system of water-filled pipes that run between the school and the ground. Just a few feet under the earth's surface, the ground maintains a stable temperature between 45 and 75 degrees year round.

"During the summer, the geothermal heating and cooling systems absorb heat from the school and transfers it to the underground loop where it is then absorbed by the cooler earth. The geothermal heat pump uses the cool water returning from the ground to create cool, dehumidified air conditioning for the school."

Funding. The total cost for the system was 3.6 million dollars. ESSER funds of \$2 million, part of the Economic Recovery program following the Covid shutdown, was designated, leaving \$1.6 million for HPS. In addition, the federal government will pay a 30 percent rebate on the original amount (\$1 million) because it is an efficiency improvement program. The remaining actual balance due from HPS is approx. \$600,000.

The type of pipe used should make the system still viable for a new high school should that happen in the future. Individual HVAC units within each room were installed. There was also electrical and plumbing work to complete the project. The East side will be fired up August 1 or 2, and the West side the following week.

August 8 – United Harvest Mobile Food Pantry

Peter Hedstrom (R) & Roger Wright (L)

Peter is the president of the 9-member board and Roger is vice president. United Harvest has been around for 10 years. It started after a local doctor took a sabbatical to study food insecurity in Hastings. The First Presbyterian Church and First United Methodist Church were also looking at the same issue and decided to come together to build on the concept of a mobile food pantry.

Food is distributed on the 3rd Saturday each month at the First Presbyterian PEACE Center parking lot beginning at 9:45 a.m. and they are usually finished by 11:45. Food is received from the Heartland Food Bank in Omaha on the same morning. It arrives in pre-portioned boxes that will feed a family for about a week. They receive 350 boxes of commodities and 350 boxes of non-perishable items.



Time slots are assigned every 15 minutes for certain letters of the alphabet based on the last name of the driver.

The letters are rotated each month. Food is provided to whoever shows up, no questions asked. There is no charge and is intended to assist those in poverty. The average age of those getting food is 58 years old, and are basically those with lower end jobs. Usually 350-400 cars show up. If they run out of food, remaining cars are given a \$20 certificate for Russ's Market for food only. They are trying to get the number of family boxes increased to 375.

They are very fortunate to have never had to worry about funding. With both churches and their members

supporting, the bank account builds without knowing how. They also now participate in Give Hastings Day in May.

They initially started with a “grocery store” model whereby people would come and select what they needed. When Covid disrupted the process, they went to a drive-

thru system. By the tail end of Covid they were feeding about 600 families monthly.

The grocery model required about 100 volunteers to pull it off, but the drive-thru system only requires about 40. There is a bi-lingual person available to assist. If you want to volunteer, all you have to do is show up.

August 15 – Hastings Food Pantry, Don Gronemeyer



Don retired as principal at Alcott School 13 years ago and was “strongly encouraged” by his wife to get involved in something. Someone from church approached him about needing help at the Food Pantry.

The Hastings Food Pantry started in 1982, 42 years ago, by a group of people who saw a need. It is located in the brick building by First St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (918 W. 4th St.) and is open 11-4, Monday thru Friday. Its purpose is to distribute emergency food on a short term basis to those who need it. Anyone can come. It is overseen by a Board of Directors.

They operate using the grocery store model, unlike United Harvest that distributes once a month. There is a distribution list that people can order from and a volunteer will complete the order for pick up at a scheduled time. They pack for the specific number in the family for seven days worth of food. They are working on a food list specific to diabetics. And they will try to accommodate food allergies if they are notified in advance. There is a “choice” shelf with random donated items that are not on the distribution list that are free to pick up.

People can also just drop in to select what they need. Some agencies will also make requests if they are working with families who need the service. There is no limit to the number of times people can come. However, if someone seems to be overusing the service, they cannot restrict USDA-marked items, but they do not have to give them donated items.

In the last 12 months, from 8-1-23 to 7-30-24, they filled 1,352 orders, affecting 4,061 people in Hastings and the surrounding area.

There are three main sources for the items they distribute:

- **Donations**, both monetary and non-perishable food items. Please check expiration dates on food donated; they cannot accept out of date products. Some organizations have annual food drives, such as Adams Central and the Post Office. They are very appreciative of excess garden produce.
- **Heartland Food Bank** in Omaha provides requested items. Stores such as Wal-Mart and Target also donate items. The USDA provides products as well and must be specifically marked as such.
- **Purchase** perishable food and other items as needed. They spend about \$3,000 a month purchasing what is not donated and perishable items.

There is one part-time paid office person; everyone else is volunteer. Ninety-seven percent of its budget goes for food.

Specific current needs are: Hamburger Helper and Tuna Helper, soup, and cereal. Typical needs are peanut butter and jelly, boxed and instant meals (mac-n-cheese, Ramen, potatoes, pancake mix-no eggs needed, etc.), canned fruits and vegetables, syrup, Jello, crackers, pasta and sauce, pasta and rice sides, salad dressing, canned meats.

Donated dairy and meat products are great and saves purchasing these. They are currently flush with green beans, the most donated item. Other items such as dish soap, bath soap, toilet tissue and shampoo are needed as well.

Donations or checks can be brought to the office at 918 W. 4th St. Call 402-463-2911 to learn of volunteer opportunities.

August 22 – Adams Central Foundation, Kate Portenier

Kate has been the Executive Director of the A.C. Foundation for one year. She is an Adams Central alum and spent 20 years in public education in Omaha and at Adams Central teaching Consumer Science. The Foundation is a non-profit entity separate from the school district. Many school districts have gone this route as a way to provide additional support and opportunities for their students.

She became involved when she overheard two students talking about how they would fund their



graduation celebrations. They both worked 40 hours a week, were good students, and involved in extra-curricular activities, but had little support at home. It was disheartening to her that they were struggling to just celebrate this educational milestone. She went to

Superintendent Shawn Scott and he suggested she check with the Foundation to see if there was a way to help. And now she's executive director.

The Foundation believes that when you invest in kids, it leads to stronger communities and leaders. Its support is 3-fold:

Patriot Pride Program ~ This provides broad support to kids from pre-school to high school and staff. This might be a winter coat to a child in need, a mini classroom grant, or Science Fair registration.

JumpStart Program ~ Started in 2023, it provides a \$500 scholarship to every Senior who pursues additional training for any career path. They believe in the power of networking and help the students make connections, provide tours, and assist with interview skills and job shadowing.

Service of Excellence Program ~ Offers recognition of teachers and staff, providing appreciation events, awards, and professional development opportunities.

The Foundation also supports general Adams Central district projects, such as the video boards in the gym and the football field. The students learn graphic design and content creation, as well as how to run the boards on game day.

The Foundation serves as the umbrella for the child care center so that it can operate as a 501c(3) organization. The Rising Stars campaign supports the fine arts programs.

The district has a 300-square mile service area. It serves over 1,000 students from the Early Childhood Center, the Elementary, and the Jr/Sr High. It employs 156 staff. Graduation rate is 98.2 percent and college-bound rate is 94 percent.

Funding is primarily through Give Hastings Day donations, alumni, memorials, and the Patriot Legacy Club, a monthly giving program. They are looking at starting an annual fundraising event, perhaps this coming April.

Contact Kate at kate.portenier@adams-central.org.

August 29 – Bikers Against Child Abuse, Bulldog (R) & Magnus (L) (road names)



B.A.C.A. Mission Statement (taken from its website)

Bikers Against Child Abuse, Inc. (B.A.C.A.) exists with the intent to create a safer environment for abused children. We exist as a body of Bikers to empower children to not feel afraid of the world in which they live. We stand ready to lend support to our wounded friends by involving them with an established, united organization. We work in conjunction with local and state officials who are already in place to protect children. We desire to send a clear message to all involved with the abused child that this child is part of our organization, and that we are prepared to lend our physical and emotional support to them by affiliation, and our physical presence. We stand at the ready to shield these children from further abuse. We do not condone the use of violence or physical force in any manner, however, if circumstances arise such that we are the only obstacle preventing a child from further abuse, we stand ready to be that obstacle.

The organization was founded in 1995 in Provo, Utah by a child therapist who had one particularly difficult case where the child was being abused by someone in the neighborhood. This therapist also happened to be a Biker with a large network of friends. Twenty-six of those friends were enlisted to go visit with the child and hang out awhile. The next day the mother contacted the therapist and said, "I don't know what you said to him, but I have never seen him happier."

It is a 501c(3) organization with chapters in 46 states and 22 countries. All chapters use the same guidelines and operate in the same way. Bulldog is the president of the Central Nebraska Chapter and Magnus is vice president and security officer. Members are only known by their road names for security.

Locally, they have enough members to get the job done, but can always use more. They would like to see

more chapters in western Nebraska. They can't take cases beyond about an hour's ride because prompt response to the child is not possible.

The Process

They are contacted by an agency or individual with a referral of a child who is fearful of their situation. All cases that they participate in have already been reported. They do not interfere with random requests. Sadly, most cases are not the "stranger danger" type; the abuser is someone in the child's orbit.

The B.A.C.A. telephone line is monitored by its Child Liaison, who is given the name and address of the child. The Board reviews the information and if it feels the situation is compatible, an initial meeting is set up with the parents, child, and two BACA members who will be the "primaries." These primaries cannot be married nor have any personal relationship, and will not meet with the child alone. No one besides the Liaison knows the child's name.

Level 1 Intervention

A group of Bikers will roll up to the house or other location to get acquainted. The "primaries" will be the child's special contacts. The child is given a road vest with the BACA patch on the back. They can pick out a road name and will get a patch for the front, just like the BACA members. They are now part of the BACA family and are empowered with the Biker affiliation.

There are other patches they can also choose, and the child receives other gifts as well, usually a blanket or teddy bear. These items are passed around to all the Bikers present who instill courage into the item. It gives the child comfort when they are afraid. If it ever runs out of courage, they contact their primaries who will refill it. The child gets a dog tag with a phone number that they can always call for support at any time. BACA members have been known to receive a call at 2 a.m. to ride by and scare the bogeyman away from the house.

They meet with the child every two weeks for a couple of months, then monthly. They try to gradually wean the children off the regular visits because they don't want to become a crutch. They still have the dog tag with a phone number when needed. They want the child to know "It's okay to be afraid. We're here for you 'til you're not." They are officially not a BACA member after age 18.

Level 2 Intervention

This involves more security detail. If the child continues to be harassed, abused or intimidated, BACA members will set up a 24/7 presence at the home or location of threat. They do not condone the use of violence in any manner, but if they are the only obstacle to prevent further abuse, they are ready to be that obstacle. If the child or family is fearful transporting to court, BACA members will escort them to the courthouse.

Court Appearances

Testifying in court can be the scariest for a child to endure, especially if the perpetrator shows up. If the judge allows, members will attend to give the child courage to find their voice and tell what happened. The child is given a special BACA coin to hold while testifying.

Criteria to become a BACA member

An individual must be at least 18 years old. They come to a public meeting and after attending two meetings they are eligible to become a member. A background check is obtained and then they receive 90 hours of intense training with a child psychologist. They get their first patch.

The Central Nebraska chapter meets the third Sunday every month at 2:00 at the DAV. They occasionally hold fundraisers to purchase the gifts and patches, but welcome donations at any time.

2023-2024 Hastings Kiwanis Leadership

Officers

President ~ Michelle Musgrave
michelle.musgrave@hastingskiwanis.org

Immediate Past President ~ Tom Musgrave
tomm@hastingskiwanis.org

President-Elect ~ Frank Koch
frkoch@windstream.net

Vice President ~ Elizabeth Musgrave
elizabeth.musgrave@hastingskiwanis.org

Treasurer ~ Jim Krebsbach
jimk@hastingskiwanis.org

Secretary ~ David Kempf
davek@hastingskiwanis.org

Assistant Secretary ~ Susan Price
susanp@hastingskiwanis.org

Board of Directors (# of years)

Ashley Hajny (1)
ashleyh@hastingskiwanis.org

Michael A. Johnson (1)
michaelaj@hastingskiwanis.org

Marge Ormsby (1)
marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org

Mary Plock (1)
marypl@hastingskiwanis.org

Russanne Hoff (2)
russanneh@hastingskiwanis.org

Kathy Hohensee (2)
katherineh@hastingskiwanis.org

George Howard (2)
georgeh@hastingskiwanis.org

Taylor Musgrave (2)
taylor.musgrave@hastingskiwanis.org

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



6 Roger Eigenberg
13 Mark Johnson
18 John Boltz
24 Brian Fisk