



Kiwaniis

Hastings • Nebraska

Astonisher

A newsletter of the Hastings Kiwanis Club

hastingskiwanis.org

myclub@hastingskiwanis.org

facebook.com/hastingskiwanis

"Autumn leaves are Mother Nature's way of showing us that change can be beautiful and messy at the same time. ~ Unknown

October 2025

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



Upcoming Meetings & Events ~ October

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

Thur. 2 - Healthy Families Nebraska Heartland, Tami Marcello

Wed. 8 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room ~ All members welcome

Thur. 9 - Central Nebraska Medical Reserve Corps, Ron Pughes

Thur. 16 - RiteCare Clinic, Sydney Norton and Kris Althouse

Thur. 23 - Girl Scouts Spirit of Nebraska, Alisha Epp

Thur. 30 - United Way, Molly Johnsen and Jodi Graves



SKATEPARK NEWS

Committed to raise \$200,000 total ~ \$50,000 of that from the Club

Total Club Donations to 10-2-25: \$21,242.68 (42.49%)

* Total member donations = \$12,420.75; the rest was raised by members thru outside events

Total General Public Donations to date: \$5,724 (3.82%)

* Visitors Bureau commitment, \$50,000

* Matching grant pledge \$25,000

* Matching grant pledge \$10,000

I need assistance as to how to market the two Matching Grant pledges.
Any of you with marketing background or ideas, please get in touch with me.
mormsby50@gmail.com or text/call 402-469-3296

A NEW "ASTONISHER" NEWSLETTER REPORTER IS NEEDED.

Format as you wish. Scale it back. Make it your own.

I will provide my template as a starter.

****January 2026 is my last issue.****

Marge

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

If you are unable to attend Thursday noon meetings to sign up for volunteer opportunities, you can do so on 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****

Monday packing has resumed ~ 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Next packing currently scheduled – November 14

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.
(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.

October 3 – Heather Bolte – Kathy Schultz

October 10 – George Howard - Dale Musgrave

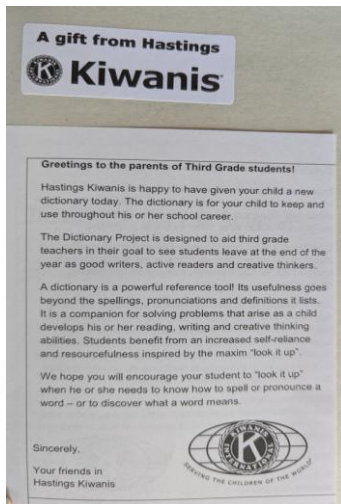
October 17 – Heather Bolte – Neil Grothen

October 24 – Dale Musgrave – *Need 1*

October 31 – *Need 2*

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

9-6-25 Dictionaries for Third Graders

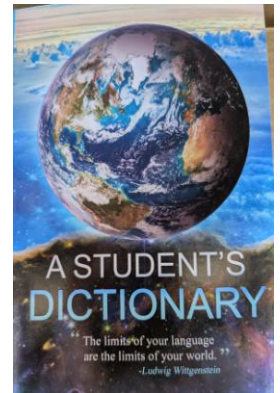


On this Husker Saturday morning 10 people gathered at the PEACE Center to prepare the dictionaries for delivery to the elementary schools. Those who stickered were: Gary Aadland, Darla Bruna, Val Erickson, Russanne Hoff, Frank Koch, Jim Lewis, Mark Moul, Michelle Musgrave, Marge Ormsby, and LaVila VanBoening.

We did 432 dictionaries in 30 minutes with "gift from Kiwanis" stickers. Inserts were addressed to the parents, with Spanish on the reverse side.

Those who had signed up to deliver were able to take their boxes with them at that time to schedule delivery. George Howard was not there to sticker, but also delivered.

Thank you to **Russanne Hoff** for organizing this each year, and to the volunteers who carry it out.



ICYMI ~ September 2025

September 4 – Corvair Museum of America, Chris Shade



Chris is one of five children. His father was a college professor and they eventually found themselves in Kearney. His Dad was a big car guy. They would take trips together, and sometimes come back with a Chevrolet Corvair. Chris got his first Corvair in high school.

When he met his future wife, they bonded over music and

Corvairs. He taught band for 6 years at Hastings Public Schools, but then already felt that he was in a rut. He needed to spend more time with his family. He started a car lot his last year of teaching with just a variety of regular cars. By 2010 he started buying Corvair parts and they sold very well. He decided to pursue Corvairs more and the business continued to grow. By 2015 he exclusively handled Corvairs.

As his collection of Corvairs grew, people commented that it was like a museum. So he decided to go with that

and organized the Corvair Museum of America. It's a 501c3 with a five-member board of directors. They are all from different states, and even a lady from Paris. She had visited the museum and fell in love with the cars and asked if she could be a part of the organization. She attends meetings by video.

Chris refers to it as a "living museum," because they do mechanic work and restoring, as well as selling them.

He provided his dream rendering of a newly built Corvair Museum of America for displaying the cars, his Plan A, for which he is currently raising money.



His Plan B is to simply expand the current shop. Plan C is to just keep doing what they're doing.

He has roughly 100 Corvairs, which were manufactured by Chevrolet from 1960 to 1969, and also has some Pontiac Fieros, a commuter car built in the 1980s.

The museum does bring people to Hastings so he is planning to add an RV park and a CorvAirBNB. Museum hours are Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. but Chris suggests calling ahead to be sure someone is available.

The Corvair was an outside-the-box design, with unibody construction and an air-cooled 6-cylinder engine mounted in the rear. It was referred to as the American Porsche.

Its four-wheel independent suspension was intended to reduce weight and simplify assembly.

It has many innovative features and was 15 years in development, with 10 years of production. It was notorious for its poor handling. Several Kiwanis members admitted to owning one in their younger years and shared the many difficulties it gave them.

Still, it is considered important for its innovation and unique engineering and safety design. It paved the way for significant advancements in the automotive industry.

Chris has a special display and tribute to the Yenko Stinger. Don Yenko created a high performance version of the Corvair in 1966 for SCCA road racing. (Sports Car Club of America)

The museum is located at 1016 South Burlington, just north of McDonald's. The website is www.corvairmuseum.org. You can contact Chris at Chris@corvairmuseum.org or 402-460-7097.

September 11 – Wound Care Services at Mary Lanning, Jayne Nelson

They mostly handle outpatient wound care, but also screen all inpatients quarterly at Mary Lanning for pressure injuries. They treat head to toe, front and back.

The types of wounds that they treat include:

- Chronic and acute wounds
- Pressure injuries
- Traumatic wounds
- Surgical wounds
- Burns
- Radiation tissue damage
- Ostomy services
- Failed skin grafts

It is one of few inpatient care centers with full-time availability. They have a dedicated inpatient wound care team including APRNs and RN. They are on site Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., meaning they can handle same-day consults.

As a dedicated wound care center, they provide continuity of care for patients from inpatient to outpatient

status. They communicate with a patient's entire healthcare interdisciplinary team.

Wound education to hospital staff is also provided.

The Wound Center provides access to hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT). The patient breathes 100% oxygen inside a treatment chamber where the whole body goes in. Treatment for one area also helps other areas of the body. It can even improve sudden loss of hearing. HBOT can be the primary treatment or used in conjunction with other treatments.

The volume for HBOT continues to increase. The next closest HBOT is in Omaha. They are also located in North Platte and Lincoln. St. Elizabeth's is mostly for burn wounds and CO (carbon monoxide) poisoning.



September 18 - New HPS Superintendent, Christopher Prososki

Christopher has been on the job for 45 days. He feels he has inherited the district in a very good position.

He indicated that 60% of our tax cost is for school budgets. His theory is that we can either spend the money on schools or correctional facilities. He believes education is an investment.

Approximately 85% of the school district budget is for personnel, with the rest being for fixed costs such as utilities. Hastings is the 17th largest school district in the state, with 600 employees. 70% of its students are at the poverty level.

In preparing the budget for 2025-26, they kept the mill levy at the same rate. However, with the increased



property valuation by the county assessor, they will collect more tax revenue than 2024-25.

This will be needed to fund necessary facility repairs and equipment replacements. Alcott needs \$600,000 in HVAC repairs, and Longfellow needs replacement of membrane roofing. In

addition, they already have Middle School repairs scheduled for 2029.

For the 2024-25 fiscal year, HPS received 37% of its funding from state aid, and 9% from federal aid. Property tax accounted for 32% of its revenue.

With the recent passage by Congress of the One Big Beautiful Bill, Nebraska is expected to lose \$217 million

in tax revenue over the next two fiscal years. This leaves future funding for schools in jeopardy.

September 25 – INSTALLATION BANQUET AND AWARDS PRESENTATIONS



President Frank Koch introduced Jen Barker, the Nebraska-Iowa District Lieutenant Governor, who then installed Club directors, officers, and Key Club officers. They are as follows:

- Club directors Greg Schultz and John Boltz
- Club Secretary Dave Kempf, and Assistant Secretary Susan Price

- Key Club Secretary Eva Magallanes
- Club Treasurer Jim Krebsbach
- Key Club Treasurer Kenya Chavez
- Club Vice President Marge Ormsby
- Key Club Vice President Sophia Reynolds
- Club Immediate Past President Frank Koch
- Club President Dr. Mike Johnson
- Key Club President JoJo Gowen

Next, President Frank presented Legion of Honor awards to:

- Clyde Sachtleben, 60 years
- Dr. Mike Johnson, 35 years
- Marge Ormsby, 25 years



Clyde shared his first encounter with Kiwanis and some memories over the years. He especially enjoyed the singing led by Don Goodrich and Mabel Blaschke. In their remembrance he led us in singing...with gusto...“Home on the Range” and “God Bless America.”

The evening also included induction of **new member Christy Rickert** by George Howard. Christy is the faculty advisor for Key Club. George reviewed the Six Objects of Kiwanis, and then presented her with a membership pin and packet. Her sponsors were Dave Kempf and Ashley Hajny.

The four officers of Key Club came forward and shared their experience so far with Key Club and how they became involved. **President JoJo Gowen** said she had been researching online to find ways to become involved in volunteer activities. She came across Key

Club and shared that with the other girls. They liked the idea and approached

Christy about being their faculty advisor. She was their only choice. Christy told them she had been president of Key Club when she was in high school and readily agreed to work with them.

Vice president Sophia Reynolds spoke about some of the activities they have already participated in. One of those was the color run in May for Mental Health Awareness Month.

Secretary Eva Magallanes talked about helping at track events, Hearts and Hands Against Hunger, and their recent bake sale and book drive.

Treasurer Kenya Chavez talked about upcoming activities such as a sports gear fundraiser in October, trash pickup, a Thanksgiving-related activity in November, and caroling at nursing homes in December. They also have a couple of things already set up for 2026.



JoJo Gowen



Sophia Reynolds



Eva Magallanes



Kenya Chavez

President Frank then proceeded with the awards presentations.

Kiwanian of the Year: John Boltz, who is ending his term as the Nebraska-Iowa District Governor

Perfect Attendance: John Boltz, George Howard, Dr.

Mike Johnson, David Kempf, Frank Koch, Jim Krebsbach, Michelle Musgrave, Marge Ormsby and Kathy Schultz.

[This designation is obtained by attending meetings, participating in sponsored activities, and service hours.]

Music Committee: Dr. Mike Johnson

Skatepark Committee: Marge Ormsby, Kathy Schultz

Pancake Day Committee: Kathy Schultz, Jim Krebsbach

Golf Committee: Greg Schultz

Astonisher: Marge Ormsby

Meals on Wheels: Marge Ormsby

Bowling Committee: Susan Price

Secretary: David Kempf

Treasurer: Jim Krebsbach

Nebraska-Iowa District Membership Chair: Michelle Musgrave

Key Club Advisors: Ashley Hajny, Dave Kempf

Key Club Faculty Advisor: Christy Rickert

Secretary Dave Kempf presented Frank with a Lifetime Nebraska-Iowa Foundation membership as outgoing president.

Frank then talked about the highlights of his year as president, indicating the club put in 2,252 service hours. He thanked all club members who devoted their time to accomplish that. He also thanked the outgoing and incoming board members. And offered a special thanks to George Howard for providing our dessert of Peach Cobbler a la mode.

Frank then turned the mic over to incoming president Dr. Mike Johnson. Mike recalled his first memories of Kiwanis living in Sidney where his dad, Duane, belonged to the Kiwanis Club. He had especially good memories of the Christmas parties. His sponsor was Clyde Sachtleben.

Dr. Mike feels he is inheriting the club in a good spot. The skatepark project is well on its way, and Key Club is back in full force under its own initiative and drive to make it happen. Hearts and Hands Against Hunger is a successful ongoing sponsorship, and the December Salvation Army shopping and bell ringing, and bowling events continue to serve the kids that are our focus.

He is hoping that we can build on membership, and that Aktion club can return.

His theme for the upcoming year is "Choose to Be."

Be present

Be active

Be committed

Be a difference, as an individual and as a group.

Frank ended the meeting with the quote of the day: **"Volunteers don't necessarily have the time; they just have the heart."** Elizabeth Andrew



Perfect Attendance

Frank, Dave, Mike, Marge, George, Michelle, John, Jim, Kathy



Award Recipients

Frank, Dave, Mike, John, Marge, Kathy, Jim, Greg



*Christy Rickert, Key club sponsor, with
2025-26 Officers JoJo, Kenya, Sophia, and Eva*



*Peach Cobbler was the perfect ending
to our Lochland Italian Buffet*

9-27-25 Hastings College Melody Roundup Parade

We had a wonderful turnout on this beautiful Fall parade day! There were 11-12 Key Club members; six Kiwanis members; Landon, our local design guy, brought two with him; and then another eight or so random kids showed up. A total of 28 people for our entry.

We had skateboards, scooters, and bikes. They carried signs and handed out mini 3-in skateboards and candy.

Kiwanis members were Dave Kempf; Michelle, Taylor, and Tom Musgrave; Kathy Schultz and Marge Ormsby.

Photos have been posted on Facebook. I will include videos in the newsletter transmission email.





2025-2026 Hastings Kiwanis Leadership

Officers

President ~ Mike E. Johnson (Dr. Mike)
michaelj@hastingskiwanis.org

Immediate Past President ~ Frank Koch
franklink@hastingskiwanis.org

President-Elect ~ Russanne Hoff
russanneh@hastingskiwanis.org

Vice President ~ Marge Ormsby
marge.ormsby@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)

Heather Bolte (2)
heather.bolte@hastingskiwanis.org

Kathy Hohensee (2)
katherineh@hastingskiwanis.org

Mike Howie (2)
mikeh@hastingskiwanis.org

Greg Schultz (2)
gregs@hastingskiwanis.org

John Boltz (1)
johnb@hastingskiwanis.org

Brandon McDermott (1)
brandon.mcdermott@hastingskiwanisd.org

Dale Musgrave (1)
dalem@hastingskiwanis.org

Casey Mohler (1)
casey.mohler@hastingskiwanis.org

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5 Rachel Irvine
12 Heather Bolte
13 Wendell Bumann
23 Dan Rutt
23 Sheena Irish
28 Karen Kempf



*Winter is etching,
Spring a watercolor,
Summer an oil painting,
And Autumn a mosaic of them all.
~ Stanley Horowitz*