



# Kiwaniis

Hastings • Nebraska

## Astonisher

A newsletter of the Hastings Kiwanis Club  
[hastingskiwanis.org](http://hastingskiwanis.org)  
[myclub@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto:myclub@hastingskiwanis.org)  
[facebook.com/hastingskiwanis](https://facebook.com/hastingskiwanis)

*"Children are gifts too ~ handle them with care."*

May 2026

If you have items you wish to be included in the Astonisher, you can send them to [george.howard@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto:george.howard@hastingskiwanis.org) OR [Astonisher@hastingskiwanis.org](mailto:Astonisher@hastingskiwanis.org)

**Inclement weather policy** ~ If HPS is closed on a given Thursday, there is no Kiwanis meeting that day. It will also be displayed on the Channel 10-11 scrolling closing information.

## Upcoming Meetings & Events ~ May



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

Thur. 7 - Chorus of the Plains with Richard Johnson

Wed. 13 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room - All Members Welcome

Thur. 14 - Bryan College of Health Sciences with Kelsi Anderson

Thur. 21 - Thermo King History with Todd Cerny

Thur. 28 - Carla and Peter Hedstrom on their Albania trip

### MAY:

MONDAY 11th: ELEMENTARY TRACK MEET @ HHS 9-12 & 12-3

THURSDAY 14TH: CITY ELEMENTARY TRACK MEET @ HHS 3:45-8 pm

THURSDAY 28TH: ANNUAL MEETING CLUB AND FOUNDATION



### SKATEPARK NEWS

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

**Total Club Donations to Date: \$54,854.77 (109.7%)**

\* Member Matching grant pledge ..... \$10,000 (received)

**Total General Public Pledges/Donations to date: \$143,531.46 (95.7%)**

\* Visitors Bureau commitment, \$50,000 Coming

\* Lions Club pledge ..... \$ 5,000 Coming

Skatepark Giving Levels

\$10,000 - Big logo on sign

\$7,500 - Small logo on sign

\$5,000 - Name on sign

\$2,500

\$1,000

\$500

\$250

All donors at \$125 and above:

- Listed in newspaper ad
- Status newsletter at end of project

Kiwanis Skatepark Fellows giving \$1,000 or more

- Name on sign

\$50,000 to put your name on the Pump Track

**\*\*\* 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 for setting up\*\***

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

**Thursday, May 21st 6 pm–8 pm**

**Faith Lutheran Owls**

**Saturday, May 30th 9:45-11:30**

**Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership**

**Friday, June 19th 9–10:30 am**

**Sertoma 8 man football**

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.**

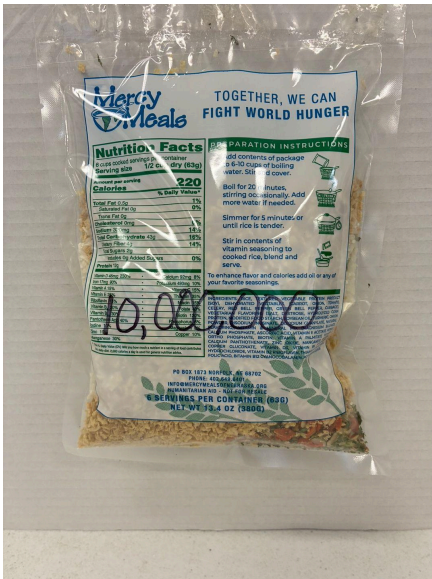
Meals are picked up at **11:15** at the Senior Action office, 212 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.  
(east of the Post Office ~ 3<sup>rd</sup> & Minnesota) and delivery usually takes 30-40 minutes.  
They have the routes set up for the most efficient delivery.

May 8 – George Howard, Need 1  
May 15 – Need 2  
May 22 – Russanne Hoff, Need 1  
May 29 – Need 2

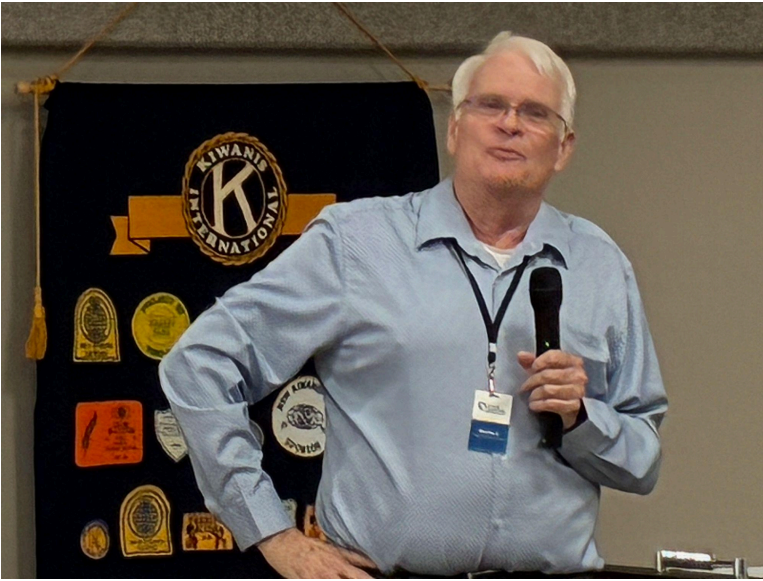
**Marge Ormsby is the Club Coordinator. Please notify her by text or call if you cannot make it or will be late. 402-469-3296**

**ICYMI ~ April 2026**

# April 1st - HHAH 10 Millionth Meal Packed Pictures



## April 2 - Good Samaritan Village with Chuck Conrad



Chuck Conrad was the Senior Living Specialist for 7 years and his new title is the Senior Living Sales Specialist and Marketing Director for Good Samaritan Village in Hastings. “Good Sam” is part of the Evangelical Lutheran Society, which is a subsidiary of Sanford Health. The Good Sam campus is 6 blocks by 6 blocks. Goldbeck Towers is in the campus and used to be part of Good Sam, but was sold recently. The Evangelical Lutheran Society is a 101 year old national organization. The campus now has a walking trail with plaques on the trail. The area was originally recreational when Delavin Cole homesteaded 80 acres as a park. During WWII housing was built for the NAD workers. Later, the Spencer Brothers bought the area. In 1957, Rev. Goldbeck and a partner renovated the homes and buildings. Each building had 4 to 6 chimneys for heat. Today, apartments range from efficiency size to up to 3 bedrooms with a garage. Golf carts are legal on campus, but can’t leave the campus. The diner is privately owned. The thrift shop raises money for the community center, the fitness center and activities. The Community Theatre used to be a school and is a tenant. There is also a golf course. Good Sam additionally offers Assisted Living and Long Term Skilled Care as well as rehabilitation Services.

## April 9th - Skip A Meal Airport Tour with Aaron Schardt, Secretary-Treasurer of the Airport

The airport manager is Matthew Kuhr and it was mentioned that Glen Bredthauer had over 25,000 flight hours. We saw 8 to 10 antique planes in the large hanger. One plane was once owned by a famous movie director



We saw their new modern professional stainless steel kitchen (which was not there



when Kiwanis had their 2-day pancake feed). They also now have potable water (which was not there during our 2-day feed).

We were shown their class room for hobbyists and pilot license students.

We got to see their workshop which local hobbyists and enthusiasts can use to build their own airplane. Aaron is building one now. He says this project may be a 15-year effort.



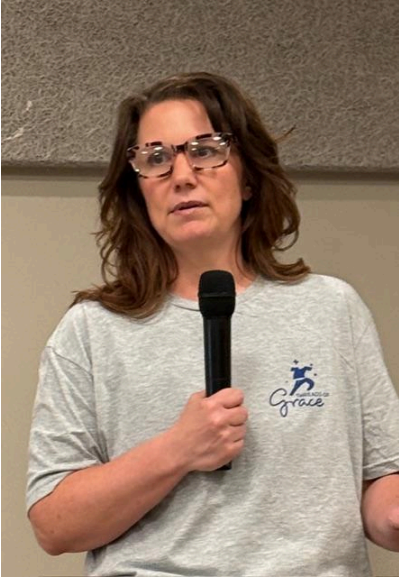
## April 16th - Our Little Angels with Arryn George



Before the program, we honored the new Kiwanis Skatepark Fellows because of their recent donations, Kathy Honhensee, Patty and John Boltz and Jim Krebsbach. John and Patty's grandchild was a special guest.

The non-profit provides money for medical expenses and burial for small children up to 2 years old who have died, as well as still born children. They help parents all across Nebraska. They have support groups in our tri city area in each of the cities. Every March, they have a gala fundraiser and every October they have a 2k and 5k fundraiser run at Hastings College.

## **April 23rd - Threads of Grace with Kelly Augustin**



This organization was started by Kelly and her friend Julie Samuelson in 2021. They provide clothes and items to kids from birth to 19 years old who find themselves removed from their parents and are placed in the foster child system. They work with DHHS and social workers. Last year they helped 377 kids and so far this year, they have helped 89 kids. The entity provides each child with 5 outfits, 3 pajamas, a coat, hat, gloves, socks, underwear, blanket, hairbrush, bras, diapers and wipes, depending upon the age. Donations of brand new clothing are accepted at 2837 W Highway 6 (Ruhter Auction building) by appointment only. Their cell phone is 402-469-8528 and email is: [threadsofgrace.ne@gmail.com](mailto:threadsofgrace.ne@gmail.com)

## **April 30th - Royal Family Kids Camp & Connections Mentoring-Ethan Merchant**



You missed a dynamic 22 year old guy who is a co-director of this organization. Even though he is based in Central City, this entity has a local office at 501 N Burlington in St Paul's Lutheran Church. Duane and Diane Tesch started this organization in 1985 as a 1 week camp for foster kids. It still

does the camp in several states for 6 to 12 year old kids, but added a mentoring program in 2008 where foster kids meet with adults once a month to discuss issues, do crafts and then have lunch. Miranda Dukes runs the Nebraska camp and it is now branded "For the Children." The Mentoring Club meets locally with kids at 1st St. Paul's Church. Last year 6,811 kids were removed from their homes in Nebraska and placed in the foster care program, so the need for mentors is great.

## 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

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

Dale Musgrave (1)  
dalem@hastingskiwanis.org

### MAY BIRTHDAYS

4 Clyde Sachtleben & Patty Boltz  
17 Ashley Hajny  
23 Chuck Hastings  
27 Molly Johnsen  
30 Tom Genung



