



Kiwanis

Hastings • Nebraska

Astonisher

A newsletter of the Hastings Kiwanis Club

hastingskiwanis.org

myclub@hastingskiwanis.org

facebook.com/hastingskiwanis

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

October 2026

If you have items you wish to be included in the Astonisher, you can send them to
george.howard@hastingskiwanis.org OR 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 ~ October



YWCA, 2525 W. 2nd St. ~ \$11.00 per meal or less

Thur. 1 - Youth Protection Training by Dave Kempf

Thur. 8 - Battle Bus Arcade with Brandon Jewell

Wed. 14 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room - All Members Welcome

Thur. 15 - Nebr Commission for the Visually Impaired with Jason Baker

Thur. 22 - Salvation Army Volunteers with Rachel Irvine

Thur. 29 - Ducks Unlimited with Ele Nugent

Thur. Nov 5 - Skip A Meal - Tour of Remodeled City Hall - Noon - Meet Inside
New East Entrance- Bringing Guests is OK - No Donation Necessary

SEPTEMBER:

Now: Signup for 3rd grade school DICTIONARY DELIVERY.

Late September: Deliver Dictionaries to schools

September 30th: Annual Dues are Due

OCTOBER: 22nd: Concessions at Bingo Night Adams Central 4-8 pm



SKATEPARK NEWS

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

Total Club Donations to Date: \$59,432.52 (119%)

** Member Matching grant pledge \$10,000*

(received)

Total General Public Pledges/Donations to date: \$151,128.36 (100.5%)

** Visitors Bureau commitment, \$50,000 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/annex bldg)

****Please arrive 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time for setting up****

Monday packing will resume in the Fall ~ 2:00-3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 30, 8:30–10:30

St Cecilia High School

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

Friday, October 9th, 7-8:30 pm

Christian Church Regional Assembly

Wednesday, October 14th, 7-8 pm

St Ann's from Doniphan

Friday, November 20th, 6:30-8 pm

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

Monday, November 23rd, 6-7 pm

Cub Scout Pack

50-60 people: K-5 and Adults

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 2 – George Howard - Need One

October 9 – Need 2

October 16 – Need 2

October 23 – Need 2

October 30 – 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 ~ SEPTEMBER, 2026:

SEPTEMBER 3RD, Wellspring Pregnancy and Health Center with Mary Hall



9-03-26 Mary Hall, Wellspring Pregnancy and Health Center

Mary has been with Wellspring for 9 years as its director. Wellspring helps and supports moms and babies throughout the pregnancy process. They support both single and married people. They provide free pregnancy tests and STD tests, as well as ultrasounds.

Sometimes pregnancies are unexpected and Wellspring provides all options to expectant moms.

They also provide parenting classes with videos available to help parents throughout the pregnancy and on into parenting. They offer baby delivery information, but not Lamaze classes.

Its new location is on the second floor of the Wells Fargo building. They now have additional space for counselors, a devotional space, as well as a store for big ticket baby items such as car seats. Diapers, wipes, bottles etc are also available.

By attending parenting classes, parents earn points that can be used in its store. They keep classes short and flexible to accommodate busy parents. Options are morning, daytime, and online.

Wellspring offers "No judgment. No pressure. Just support." They are on the Give Hastings Day roster and serve approximately 40-50 people per month.

Its website is www.wellspringhastings.com. Call/text 402-463-7785 for an appointment.

September 10th: New MLMH President & CEO Shanna Stofer with the Director of the MLMH Foundation, Susan Meeske



Shanna Stofer



Susan Meeske

Susan indicated the Foundation's search for a new president and CEO was for someone with excellent personnel interaction as well as professional hospital management experience. Its choice was Shanna Stofer, whom she then introduced.

Shanna has ties to Nebraska and specifically the Tri-Cities area. She is originally from Elkhorn and attended Kearney State College (now known as UNK) on a basketball scholarship. (She's 6'1".)

She is in her first 60 days of this position and has spent a good deal of her time meeting with physicians, department heads, and getting to know the staff. She said she would much rather be on the floor hearing from the staff on the good things that are happening, as well as the difficult barriers to completing their work.

One of her goals is to improve community connections through:

- Determining what the community needs
- Workforce development in the schools, and
- Partnership with other healthcare clinics

She wants to increase palliative (quality of life) care options, which are different from hospice. She would like to see improved coordination of care through centralized clinics. They have added walk-in orthopedic and acute care services. She noted the unique wound care facility that includes a hyperbaric chamber.

Current investments in the community include:

- Defibrillator campaign to replace all defibrillators in the hospital, \$250,000
- Improved MRI/CT technology, and
- Emergency department refresh with possible improvements in the future

They are working with assisted living facilities and hoping to have some physician services on site.

MLH is actively seeking referrals of young people who are pursuing health careers, even those still in high school. They can be introduced to all healthcare possibilities, not just nursing and physician positions. MLH is offering scholarships to nursing students who stay following graduation.

She herself happened to be good in chemistry but had no thought of applying that to healthcare. Someone along the way suggested she try pharmacy. She eventually earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from UNMC in 1995.

As her experience grew, she became pharmacy manager at Bryan Health and then pharmacy director for various organizations. In 2013 she helped open Kearney Regional Medical Center, pivoting to hospital leadership. She completed a Master of Healthcare Administration degree from Bellevue University in 2021.

On the financial side, post-Covid the hospital was \$7-10 million in the negative. By the end of July of 2026, they are at \$2.5 million in revenue and have room now for deferred maintenance.

Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement are ongoing issues throughout the healthcare industry. They receive cents on the dollar for their services and must fight for every dollar they receive.

Recruiting professionals to move to rural central Nebraska is a challenge. Those who do come have a definite commitment to working in the rural environment.

Shanna can be reached at shanna.stofer@marylanning.org

September 17th Jay Beckby-Mayor and Tony Herman-City Public Information Manager



Jay stated when he ran for mayor, he ran on 5 platforms to represent his work in City government if elected. They were:

- 1) Leadership for the Mayor
- 2) Accountability
- 3) Fiscal Responsibility
- 4) Accessibility
- 5) Transparency

Jay believes he is accomplishing all of those so far. To help do these things, he has started a podcast every week, called Thursdays with the mayor where people can interact with him.

To help correct a budget deficit, the next budget set the tax levy at 40 cents. However, the city tax levy has declined in the last 5 years from 45 cents to 40 cents.

The taxes collected by the City are only 19% of your Adams County tax bill.

September 22nd Annual Kiwanis Installation Banquet at Lochland



Honored for NE-IA District Leadership
Michelle Musgrave



Honored for Skatepark Committee work
Marge Ormsby, Mike Howie & Kathy Schultz



Honored for Pancake Day Leadership
Jim Krebsbach & Kathy Schultz



Honored for Bowling Tournament
Leaders Susan Price & Maureen Mohlman



Honored for Golf Fundraiser work
Jim Krebsbach & Greg Schultz



Perfect Attendance honorees: Mike Johnson, Chuck Hastings, George Howard Dave Kempf Jim Krebsbach Marge Ormsby and Kathy Schultz



Board members for next year: Jim Lewis, Karen Kempf, Taylor Musgrave, Michelle Musgrave, Greg Schultz & Mike Howie



Dave Kempf honoring Mike Johnson for a great year as President and Mike Johnson honoring Dave Kempf as a great Secretary for the club.



Dave and Karen Kempf honored for being In the club 25 years each and Jim Lewis Honored for his 40 years in the club.



Mike Johnson honoring Jim Krebsbach for his work as Treasurer



Mike Johnson helping Assistant Lt Governor Jen Barker install Sheena Irish as Vice President and Marge Ormsby as President Elect



Dave Kempf and Christy Rickert, Hastings High School Key Club sponsor, honored for their work with the Key Club



Hastings High Key Club Officers, Sophia Reynolds, President, Eva, Vice President, Alondra, Social Media chair, Lila Adam, Secretary and Urike, Treasurer.

The Key Club has 35 members and has the following events planned for the next year:

- 1) Mental Health Color run, where the runners have colored powder thrown on them
- 2) Kindness cards to be spread around to students, spreading positivity during thanksgiving week, Valentine's day and Easter week.
- 3) Fundraising by decorating a car for Halloween
- 4) Going to elementary schools to help kids build gingerbread houses
- 5) Having a Christmas Angel tree where members buy gifts for kids

Other notes from the event:

- 1) As the skatepark begins the remodeling effort, equipment from the park will be pulled and reconditioned to be used at an indoor rink in Seward.
- 2) It's hard to explain how good the hot fudge was on the ice cream after dinner. Maybe we'll see you next year.

2026-2027 Hastings Kiwanis Leadership

Officers

President ~ Russanne Hoff
russanneh@hastingskiwanis.org

Past President ~ Dr Mike E Johnson
michaelj@hastingskiwanis.org

President-Elect ~ Marge Ormsby
marge.ormsby@hastingskiwanis.org

Vice President ~ Sheena Irish
sheenai@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)

Taylor Musgrave (2)
taylorm@hastingskiwanis.org

Kathy Hohensee (1)
katherineh@hastingskiwanis.org

Mike Howie (1)
mikeh@hastingskiwanis.org

Greg Schultz (1)
gregs@hastingskiwanis.org

Karen Kempf (2)
karenk@hastingskiwanis.org

Michelle Musgrave (2)
michellem@hastingskiwanisd.org

Mike Howie (2)
mikeh@hastingskiwanis.org

(2)
@hastingskiwanis.org

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

5 RACHEL IRVINE
12 HEATHER BOLTE
13 WENDELL BAUMANN
23 SHEENA IRISH
28 KAREN KEMPF

