



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."

SEPT. 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 ~ September



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

Thur. 3 - Wellspring Pregnancy & Health Center with Mary Hall

Wed. 9 - Board Meeting, YWCA Conference Room - All Members Welcome

Thur. 10 - New MLMH Pres Shanna Stofer; MLMH Foundation Dir Susan Meeske

Thur. 17 - Jay Beckby - Mayor

Tues. 22 - Installation Banquet Lochland Ballroom, Social 6 pm; Dinner 6:30

Thur. 24 - No Meeting

Thur. Oct 1 - 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.

Mid to late September: Deliver Dictionaries to schools

30th: Annual Dues are Due



SKATEPARK NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students

Monday, November 23rd, 6-7 pm

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.

September 4 – Dale Musgrave

September 11 – Need 2

September 18 – Russanne Hoff

September 25 – George Howard

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 ~ AUGUST, 2026:

August 4th National Night Out



On National Night Out, August 4th, Frank Koch and Marge Ormsby were running the Kiwanis table. It was the only chilly night in August.

AUGUST 6th, Skip A Meal Tour of the NEW 1882 Dormitory at Hastings College







A few stats on the building: houses 320 students, 24 washers and dryers, 22 semis of furniture, 468 windows, 200,000 bricks, 109 trees, 1,660 shrubs, 1.4 million board feet of lumber, 3,300 outlets, 230 miles of wiring and 114 each of refrigerators and microwaves. It has 63 4-BR units; 21 2-BR units and 26 1-BR studio units.

August 13th Germans from Russia come to Hastings - Becky Matticks

Before the program began, Clyde Sachtleben, 90, reported he had seen Duane "Bear" Johnson, 91, at the Kensington and he is doing well.

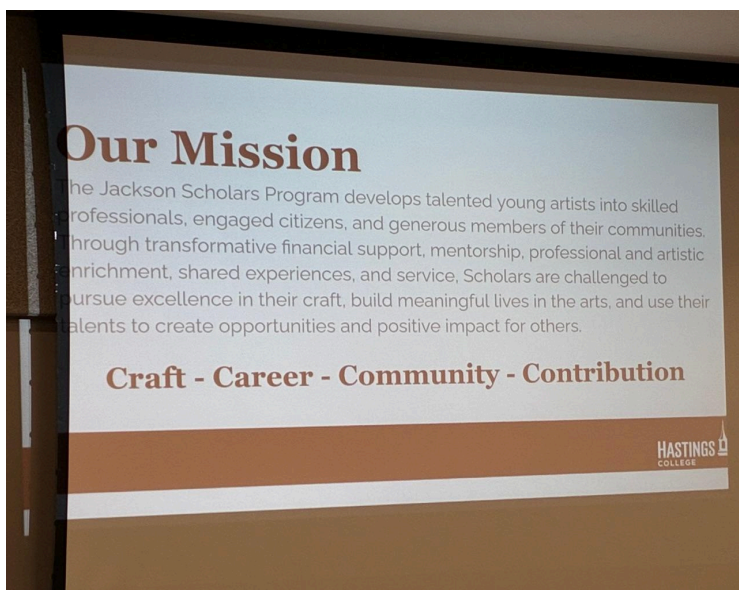
Becky gave a short history of the emigration as it began in 1763 with Katherine the Great marrying Peter, who dies 6 months later. Katherine decrees that Germans who move to Southern Russia will get free land. This goes well until 1861, then the Germans lose the land to Russia. A few years later, Russia conscripts Germans into the Russian army and most Germans over the next 3 decades move to America. Railroad, brickyard and sugar beet farming jobs were plentiful in Nebraska, so many people settled in Lincoln, Sutton and Hastings.

West of Burlington Avenue were Germans from Frank, Russia, while East of Burlington people were from Norka, Russia as both communities lived South of Hastings railroad tracks.



August 20th Hastings College - Jackson Scholars with Rachael Broadwell





Before Rachael spoke, Mike Howie announced the Hastings College Hazelrigg Union dining hall is open to the general public, besides the students for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The food is great and it is a buffet including beverages. The cost ranges from \$9.50 for breakfast to \$13.50 for dinner.

Next, before Rachael spoke, the club honored 5 people for being “Kiwanis fellows” for donating at least \$1,000 to the Kiwanis Skatepark project. Besides a round of applause, they received a mini skateboard and some candy. Their names will also be on the Skatepark sign.

Rachael Broadwell has been with Hastings College for 5 years, starting in the IT department, even though she is an artist. She now is in her 2nd year as the director of the Jackson Scholars program for visual art students.

She helps to reinforce the goals of the program, with 4 Cs, excel in their CRAFT, explore CAREER opportunities, help the COMMUNITY and be a part of it and use their talent to CONTRIBUTE to the benefit of others.

Scholars are on a 4 year renewable scholarship, but must be a visual arts major. The program will annually select 10 scholars. All tuition, room and board are paid plus \$2,000 for enrichment studies beginning in their junior year for conferences and travel. Annually, the scholars will apprentice with one of the art faculty.

August 27 Hastings Heartbeat Creative District and Related Zoning with City of Hastings employees Ember Batelaan and Kevin Kubo



Before the program started, 2 more “Kiwanis Fellows” were honored for donating at least \$1,000 to the Kiwanis Skatepark project. Honored were Dr Mike Johnson and Linda Stark.

Tim Jacobi reported the 3 weekly ice cream winners during August were Darla Bruna, Dave Kempf and Wendell Baumann. Dave was drawn for the monthly free lunch.

Ember Batelaan reported the Hastings District is a partnership between the City of Hastings and the Business Improvement District (BID). It has about the same boundary that the BID works with: The area East and West between Bellevue and Eastside and the area North and South between 7th St and South St.

The goal of the district is to support creative projects, increase cultural events and Hispanic events since Eastside Blvd has several Hispanic businesses, obtain signage for district, make a better pedestrian experience (increase outdoor greenspace, increase benches in the district and increase in-ground landscaping instead of planters).

In the Spring of 2027, a painting project has been organized to decorate 19 crosswalks in the district.

Regarding zoning, Kevin has been working on aligning zoning rules and eliminating spot zoning where a small area is zoned differently within a larger area surrounding it.

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)

Taylor Musgrave (2)
taylorm@hastingskiwanis.org

Kathy Hohensee (2)
katherineh@hastingskiwanis.org

Mike Howie (2)
mikeh@hastingskiwanis.org

Greg Schultz (2)
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John Boltz (1)
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Brandon McDermott (1)
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Casey Mohler (1)
casey.mohler@hastingskiwanis.org

Dale Musgrave (1)
dalem@hastingskiwanis.org

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

6 ROGER EIGENBERG
13 MARK JOHNSON
18 JOHN BOLTZ
29 DAVE SCHULTZ



