

NEWSLETTER



Village of Bertrand

March 2018

By Lori Vinzant

I have been going around and around in my head as how to introduce myself to everyone. There are many things that I am: a wife, a mother, a fanatic reader, a former Miss America (just kidding on the last one... I did watch it on TV once though!). But a writer, I am not! So I figured I would just start off by telling you a little about my family and see where it goes from

there...

The ring leader of the Vinzant Circus is my husband, Josh. He was born and raised here in Bertrand. Even though we live in Holdrege, please do NOT refer to him as a Duster. He is a Viking through and through! He is currently employed at Cargill Ag Marketing Systems. He is an avid golfer, a way better tennis player than me, and an absolutely wonderful cook. He is the sole reason why our kiddos know what a vegetable is!!

Our munchkin #1 is Kellan. He just turned seven, going on 23, and is in the first grade. He wants to be his daddy when he grows up. And so far, he is doing a wonderful job! He loves to run along side the golf cart when Josh takes him golfing (he does actually golf too—he just has so much energy!). And he recently started taking an interest in the kitchen. He was extremely proud of his first peanut butter and jelly sandwich he made all by himself. I just didn't have the heart to tell him that he didn't need to use half of the jar of peanut butter on one sandwich!

Our munchkin #2 is Kennan. He is three and if he tries to tell you he is seven—don't believe him! He can't wait to be as big as his brother... This one pretty much runs the show at our house. He is the type of kid who lets you think you are in control, but still somehow manages to get everything his way (I am sure that there are some parents out there who know what I talking about). He recently discovered that our living room floor is made of lava, so that keeps he pretty busy! When he grows up he wants to be Batman, Hulk Hogan, a pirate and Dark (not Darth) Vader all rolled into one. He still likes to snuggle with his mom, so I'm cool with that!

Throw in two ornery dogs, and that pretty much sums up my world! I realize that I did not say a lot about myself (besides the bad Miss America joke...), but those three fellas are my foundation and make me the person that I am. I will have plenty of opportunities to share my life with you, but I just wanted to give you a little insight on what drives me.

for this post:
Winheim f

ing me
xanne



Phelps County Sheriff's Department

Statistics:

3900 Calls for Service
689 Civil Papers Served
563 Traffic Stops
120 Arrests
166 Citations
43 Accidents
9 Death Investigations
83 Animal Complaints
29 Open Doors
145 Assisted Other Agency
77 Handgun Permits
32 Dogs at Large
247 Traffic Complaints
42 Theft Cases
42 Fraud Cases
90 VIN Checks
138 Transports
64 Weed and Litter Complaints

Calls:

433 Bertrand
204 Loomis
92 Funk

Phelps County Corrections Statistics for 2017:

551 Total Bookings
 409 Males
 118 Females
**Average Daily Population, 39 inmates*
290 Felony Charges
348 Misdemeanor Charges
109 Other Charges
416 Inmates for the State of NE Department of Corrections
**\$731,700 income to Phelps County*
155 Inmates for Immigration and Customs Enforcement
**\$149,655.00 income to Phelps County*

The State of NE began housing inmates in county jails across Nebraska to help with the over crowding in state penitentiaries. A select few (county jails) were chosen to house inmates and Phelps County and the State have worked well together and I hope we can continue, as it helps controlling the budget.

- Gene Samuelson, Sheriff



Bertrand Area Community Foundation Fund

The Bertrand Area Community Foundation is an Affiliated Fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation.

OUR MISSION: "Inspiring the community to invest their time, talent and resources to endow the dreams of all generations now and in the future."

OUR VISION: "Bertrand is your destination to build the "good life" by empowering people of all ages to grow and improve the community and culture today for the community tomorrow."

The BACFF is pleased to announce that our grant cycle begins on March 1 and closes on March 31, 2018. Grants from our affiliated fund must be awarded only to other 501(c)(3) public charities, to governmental entities (including schools), or for direct charitable expenditures. These grants must meet the Internal Revenue Service rules and other legal requirements applicable to charitable organizations.

Broadly speaking, charitable purposes include:

- ◆ Education
- ◆ Public Works
- ◆ Combating Community Deterioration
- ◆ Lessening the Burdens of Government

Applications will be processed and awarded in April.

For 'Grant Application' information and application forms, please contact:

BACFF
Attn: Beverly Hansen
PO Box 153
Bertrand, NE 68927
Or Phone: 308-472-5350

Other news of the Foundation: We will continue our 'Community Visioning Sessions' with community members in March. Plans are being finalized with invitations to follow soon.

Advisory members are: Joel High, Dennis Sand, Beverly Hansen, Melissa Vinzant, Alysia Kuck, Derek Hock, Pat Ebmeier, Trista Newcomb, and Christopher Davison.



A Mother's Love

Helen Steiner Rice

A mother's love is something
that no one can explain,
It is made of deep devotion
and of sacrifice and pain...
It is endless and unselfish
and enduring come what may
For nothing can destroy it
or take that love away...
It is patient and forgiving,
when all others are forsaking,
And it never fails or falters
even though the heart is breaking...
It believes beyond believing
when the world around condemns,
And it glows with all the beauty
of the rarest, brightest gems...
It is far beyond defining,
it defies all explanation,
And it still remains a secret
like the mysteries of creation...
A many splendored miracle
man cannot understand
And another wondrous evidence
of God's tender guiding hand.

Wishing a Happy Mother's Day to all...

Fire Department News

Spring is just around the corner and we would like to remind everyone that a statewide open burning ban is in effect in accordance with State Statute 81-520.01 "(1) There shall be a statewide open burning ban on all bonfires, outdoor rubbish fires, and fires for the purpose of clearing land." Before any open burning is done, a permit must be obtained from the local fire chief or his/her designee. Synthetics and petroleum based products such as tires, grain bags, or asphalt shingles may not be burned under this type of permit. To obtain an open burn permit, please contact fire chief Kevin Stehl at 308-991-4574, John Ford at 308-991-1066, or Jim Campbell at 308-991-5011.

Congratulations to Assistant Captain Brian Schroeder and Firefighter Jared Holen for successfully completing Firefighter 1 and Hazmat Operations training. These two individuals dedicated over 100 hours of personal time away from family and work to better serve our community and fire district. Thanks guys!!

An EMT refresher course was held at the Loomis Fire Hall on February 2, 3, and 4. ALS Affiliates, Inc. of Omaha provided the emergency medical training class to members from the Bertrand, Loomis, and Elm Creek fire departments. Pat Gerdes from Piedmont, South Dakota was the instructor for the 20 hour course which included instruction, skills competency, and testing. Rod Renken and Kevin Stehl are Bertrand members who attended the class.

On February 12th, CPR class was held at the Bertrand fire hall. Jill Harvey was the instructor for the American Heart Association course. Shad Vosler, Jim Campbell, Doyle Benson, Allen Wissmann, Alan and Heather Warnken, Kevin Stehl, and Devin Benson are members of the department who attended the class. Currently, there are 16 card holders on the department.

The 26th annual Mid Winter Fire School sponsored by the Central Nebraska Volunteer Firefighters Association and the Central Community College was held in Holdrege on February 18th. A choice of nine different classes were offered to students in both firefighting or EMS programs. Those attending from Bertrand were Jessica Evans, Rodney Renken, Alan and Heather Warnken, Brian Schroeder, Devin Benson and Kevin Stehl.

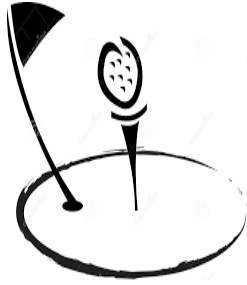
We are happy to report that the self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) fund drive has reached its goal of \$26,234 and 4 new air packs have been ordered. We would like to thank the many individuals who donated during the give2Grow campaigns and those who sent donations directly to the department. We also would like to thank the Phelps Memorial Health Center, Nebraska Forest Service, Southern Power District, and the Bertrand Area Community Foundation Fund for the grants that were awarded to this project. This equipment will help protect our fire department members while they perform their duties.

Heather Warnken joined the fire department at our February meeting and we have added her name to the roster. Heather is married to Alan Warnken who is also a member of the department. Thanks Heather for volunteering. We really appreciated it. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact any member of the department for more information. We currently have 3 openings.

"Putting the Wet Stuff on the Red Staff Since 1888"

- Kevin Stehl, Fire Chief

NOTICE TO ALL HI-LINE GOLFERS



Dues for 2018 Golf Season

Family	\$485.00
<i>(Married with children up to age 25 if in school)</i>	
Couples	\$425.00
<i>(2 persons married, engaged or romantically paired)</i>	
Singles	\$365.00
Student	\$150.00

DUE MARCH 15, 2018

*2 payment plan available by application: 1st payment—March 15th, 2nd payment—June 15th. Late Fee \$50.00 after March 15, 2018.

Cart Stall Rent

Gas Cart	\$150.00
Electric Cart	\$165.00

DUE MAY 1, 2018.

*If not paid by June 1st, the rate will increase to \$175 (gas) or \$190 (electric). Any cart rent not paid by June 15th will require removal of your cart. No notice will be given, so please make payment before deadline.

Annual Cart Rental

Members (upon availability)	\$400.00
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DUE MAY 1, 2018.

*Excludes tournaments, 18 holes only on holidays and weekends

Seasonal Trail Fee

Members own carts	\$50.00
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DUE JUNE 1, 2018.

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Hi-Line Golf Association

PO Box 276

Bertrand, NE 68927



Patrick Berry will be our Superintendent again this year. Dave Pierce will be our part-time Course Marshal on the weekends—he will be patrolling on and off at any given time.

Gene Samuelson will be in charge of league play this season. All league participants must be course members. The fee to play is \$75 per person, and all non-member substitutes must pay greens fees. Contact Gene @ 308-472-5324 to register or for more information. League is limited to 30 teams and is full.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the ANNUAL MEETING on March 5, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Clubhouse. We will elect 3 new board members at this meeting. We need 25% of members voting, so if you are unable to attend, please mail in your proxy.

- Hi-Line Course Board of Directors

Bertrand Nursing Home & Assisted Living

This year does not slow down one bit, does it? We finished up the holiday season and just recently celebrated Valentine's Day. Its hard to believe that spring is around the corner. **WOW!** Though the holidays have passed, there are still plenty of events going on...

Upcoming Events:

March:

- 9th Community Coffee, 9:00 AM
19th Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM
16-26th Easter Coloring Contest
**Please have picture back by the 26th for voting*

**Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Reflections Club — more details to come (Donuts and coffee will be provided by the Nursing Home during the egg hunt.)

April:

- 13th Community Coffee, 9:00 AM
15-21st National Volunteer Week
16th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM
**with churches participating*
20th Volunteer Brunch
23rd Men's Coffee

May:

- 11th Community Coffee, 9:00 AM
13-19th National Nursing Home Week
**Please join us for some fun events throughout the week!*
14th Spring Tea, 2:00 PM
21st Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM
21st Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM
**with churches participating*

- Joey Kugler, Office Manager

happy
St. Patrick's
day!

Bertrand Area Chamber

The last chamber meeting was held Wednesday, February 21st at 7:00 PM. We began planning for **Bertrand Days—June 23-26, 2018**. Community participation is the key to a successful event. If you have a specific passion or interest, contact our president—Pam Snyder.

The chamber is happy to announce the McWhorter Amusements has been contracted to return for Bertrand Days 2018. Additional information will be provided as the date nears.

The Bertrand Area Chamber continues to host/fund these events:

- Summer Softball and Baseball Programs
**for Kindergarten—8th Grade children*
- Annual Chamber Fishing Tournament
**date to be set*
- Annual Chamber Golf Tournament
**date to be set*

In addition to the above events, the Chamber helps support the Post Prom event, Bertrand Christmas Project, the BACFF Block Party and other events held during the year in the Bertrand Area.

The annual membership drive is held in March. Looking forward to everyone's support, both personal participation and financially.



Bertrand Agricultural Society

Current members of the Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc. are reviewing the 'By-Laws' of the organization. The by-laws have not been abridged, amended or added to by a majority vote of the members of this society since they were adopted on December 17, 1980.

What is the Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc?

The purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized is for civic and community betterment and enjoyment, community activities and educational and charitable purposes. **Articles of Incorporation of Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.; Article III; (Sentence 1).**

Who may be members?

Any person over the age of eighteen years shall be eligible for membership in this society by paying annually the sum of \$2.50 into the Treasury of this society, or any such person may become a life member by paying into the Treasury of this society the sum of \$25.00 or more and agreeing to be bound by and conform to the Constitution and By-Laws of this society. **By-Laws, Article II, Members, Section 1. Membership (Sentence 1).**

Who may be Directors?

The Board of Directors shall consist of not less than four (4) or more than ten (10) members. **By-Laws; Article IV; Board of Directors; Section 1. Number and Election. (Sentence 1).**

Nonprofit Corporation Biennial Report 2017-2018 with Nebraska Secretary of State:

Officers, Title:	Kamie L. Ackerman, President Jennifer R. Weber, Secretary Beverly Hansen, Treasurer
Directors:	Kamie L. Ackerman Christina Davison Janice I. Gengenbach Beverly Hansen Janis M. Spiegel Jennifer R. Weber

Additional members of the society members of the society as of January 15, 2018 are: Samantha Jensen, Tammie Richards, Emma Jean Gennrich and Tiffany Coleman. New members are always welcome!

Other News:

The Ag Society is happy to announce the give2Grow 2017 event gifts were \$2,901.25. The match portion received was \$919.12 with a processing fee of (\$58.03): **TOTAL GIFT OF \$3,762.34**. Thank you very much, supporters, for your donations. A portion of these gifts was earmarked for the purchase of new serving trays. The red serving trays have been purchased which replaced the rusty old trays. We voted to use the other gifts for a fresh coat of paint for the entire interior of the building. We will continue to make upgrades as funds become available.

2018 Southern Power District Energy Incentive Programs

RESIDENTIAL INCENTIVES:

High Efficiency Heat Pump

- Direct cash incentive of Low interest loan
- Incentive amount dependent on equipment efficiency.
- Low interest loan through Nebraska Energy Office, 2.5% (new construction not eligible)

Cooling Tune Up

- \$30 Incentive for having cooling system tuned-up, qualify once every 3 years

Attic Insulation

- \$0.15/ SQ FT, Max of \$300, existing dwelling (new construction not eligible)
- Primary heating system must be electric or electric heat pump, existing insulation must be 6" or less

Heat Pump Water Heater:

- Receive \$200 for Air Source Heat Pump water heater
- Receive \$500 for Water Source Heat Pump water heater
- Heat Pump de-super heater does not qualify

Electrical Vehicle Charger

- Receive \$200 for installing a 240 volt, 32w Amp Charge Point charger in your home

COMMERCIAL /INDUSTRIAL INCENTIVES:

HVAC

- AC and Heat Pump up to 20 Ton

Lighting

- Prescriptive and Custom programs, Custom program requires a Pre/ Post inspection

Variable Frequency Drive:

- \$30 per horsepower for qualifying equipment (does not apply to irrigation VFD's)

IRRIGATION:

Pumping Test

- Testing refurbishing/replacing eligible electric powered irrigation pumps to improve efficiency

Corner Pivot VFD

- \$12.00 per rated VFD horsepower

For more details, contact Sam Reinke at Southern Power District, 800-579-3019

2018 Bertrand Blood Drives

Tuesday, April 10, 2018

**School in charge*

Tuesday June 12, 2018

Tuesday, August 14, 2018

Tuesday, October 9, 2018

**School in charge*

Tuesday, December 11, 2018

**Give the gift of life
Donate blood**



Just A Reminder... And Special Thanks

A reminder to the folks of Bertrand, if we are expecting an accumulation of snow, it will be very appreciated if we could get vehicles moved off of the road so we can clear the streets. Remember, it can be beneficial to you also to move your vehicle and not have to worry about being windrowed in. I'm hoping we have seen the last of it for the year and we can start moving our focus to warmer spring days.

Also, a thank you to everyone that helps with the snow removal process and a big thank you to Larry Bennett for clearing the sidewalks along the main street business area, and Jim Bennett for helping us haul snow off our streets.

I have been with the Village for five years now and dealing with the yard waste site at times can be a hassle. For the most part, everyone has been very good about keeping our yard waste site respectfully clean and dumping item in the correct areas. Thank you very much for this.

-Marcus Schwarz

Young at Heart Senior Center

For those of you who have been paying attention, you have probably noticed that our November 1st deadline for the completion of our new building has come and gone but we are still waiting for it to be finished. There have been scheduling issues with sub-contractors, weather delays, and a whole host of other stuff that has put our building behind schedule. Staying positive about how incredible the new building is going to be, once it is complete, is what has kept us going through all of the extra days... actually, months.

Leland Anderson was able to come to lunch the first of February and take a tour of the inside of the building as it was at that point. He explained to the guys who were working that day how he and several others had started this project nearly 15 years ago. I guess if Leland, and those who started the project, could patiently wait for over a decade to see the building start to go up, there is no reason that we can't patiently wait a few extra months for it to be finished.

As you may know, starting January 1st, 2018 the Young at Heart Senior Center is no longer a satellite center under the Holdrege Senior Center. Our board stepped out in faith and decided it was time to begin running independently. In addition, the Senior Center is now open four days a week: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Newsletters come from our Senior Center now; so if you want one, please call and let me know. We are looking forward to spring and the fresh new building!!!

-Coni Park, Manager



2018 Bertrand Craft Show

October 13, 2018 has been set for our show. We are excited to continue this great event in our community. Fifty crafter/vendor spaces were booked during the 'Early Bird Registration' at the 2017 show. Vendor letters and registration will be sent the last part of July.

This event is hosted by the Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.

Show Directors: Janice Gegenbach and Beverly Hansen

Like our page on Facebook: Bertrand Craft Show.
Email: bertrandcraftshow@gmail.com

Important Dates

March 11	Daylight Savings Time
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	First Day of Spring
March 25	Palm Sunday
March 30	Good Friday
April 1	Easter
April 1	April Fool's Day
April 17	Income Taxes Due
April 22	Earth Day
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 13	Mother's Day
May 28	Memorial Day

Veterans Memorial Park

The Village of Bertrand is pleased to announce the passing of Resolution No. 360 during our regularly scheduled January Board meeting. This resolution designates the village property located at 523 Minor Avenue to be named Veterans Memorial Park. The goal of the park is to honor the sacrifices and service of all our local veterans and to say thank you to the men and women who have served our great country by putting their lives and their families' future and welfare in jeopardy to protect and defend our nation.

The idea is for construction of a sidewalk leading to the center of the park with a gazebo. On each side of this sidewalk, benches would be placed commemorating all the wars. Six total benches will have the Gulf War, Vietnam War, Korean War, World War I, World War II and the American Civil War cut into the backs of the benches. Also, we will have a new sign at the front of the park and install underground sprinklers to protect all structures while watering the grass.

We are hoping things can move along quickly, raising all dollars through donations and grants to have this project completed by fall. Upon completion, the VFW will have an official dedication of the Park at a date to be determined. This Memorial Park is just a token of our appreciation for their service and sacrifice and, because of its location, will be a show of our community pride and love of our country.

-Matt Gregg, Utilities Superintendent



The South Central Economic Development District (SCEDD) is a consortium of thirteen rural Nebraska counties who see improving rural economies as a regional rather than purely local issue. For these counties, SCEDD is the resource communities rely on for advice and connections to programs designed to help businesses grow and insure community sustainability. Starting in the Spring of 2018, SCEDD will be focusing on the highlighted section of Bertrand in the map below. Please contact the Village Office if you have any questions. 308-472-3455



NOTICES

Village of Bertrand

Upcoming Board Meetings:
**second Tuesday of the month*

March 13

April 10

May 8

7:30 PM at the Village Hall

Board of Trustees:

TJ Wilcox, Chairman; Bob Dahlgren,
Lucas Evans, Brian Schroeder, Jerold Weber

Licenses

Cat and Dog:

DUE MAY 1, 2018

Fees: \$5.00 per animal

*\$10.00 if unsexed

**\$100.00 Delinquent fee if paid after May 30th*

***Proof of Rabies required*

Golf Cart/ATV:

Fees: \$15.00

**Proof of insurance required*

Mark Your Calendars

Bertrand Days

June 23—26, 2018

Community Garage Sale

July 28, 2018

Bertrand Craft Show

October 13, 2018

**More information regarding these events will be available at a later date.*

Lifeguards Wanted

The Village of Bertrand is accepting applications for part-time lifeguards for the Summer of 2018.

Applicants must be 15 years of age by May 31, 2018 and must be able to obtain Lifeguard and CPR First Aid Certification. Applications and job description are available at the Village Office, 507 Minor Avenue, Bertrand, NE.

Applications must be returned to the Village Office by March 23, 2018 before 4:30 PM.

Rate Increases

The Village Board of Trustees recently approved a rate increase of 1.5% for Garbage rates and an increase of 1.0% for Water and Sewer rates.

These rate increases will take effect March 1, 2018 with the first billing on April 1, 2018. A letter was mailed defining specific rates.

A copy of the Ordinance will be published in the Bertrand Herald or a copy is available at the Village Office. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Office at 308-472-3455. Thank you.

A Special Thank You

I just wanted to say Thank You to everyone that contributed to this newsletter!

Matt Gregg

Marcus Schwarz

Beverly Hansen

Gene Samuelson

Kevin Stehl

Joey Kugler

Aaron Long

Coni Park

Kevin Wickham

Darlene Samuelson

ACE marks 20th year in Choice Gas program

Selection period set April 13-26, 2018

The 2018 Choice Gas program selection period is set to run from April 13-26. The program allows natural gas customers to choose their supplier and pricing for the upcoming gas year (June 1, 2018—May 31, 2019).

ACE, the only community-owned, not-for-profit supplier in the Choice Gas program, is marking its 20th year in providing competition in the program. Formed and owned by 72 Nebraska communities, including Bertrand, ACE participates in the program to ensure competition to lower rates and serves as an advocate for all natural gas customers.

At the direction of the ACE Board, ACE returns money to its member communities. ACE has returned more than \$25,100 to Bertrand for community betterment use.

ACE encourages customers to make an active selection and offers several competitive pricing options. Pricing for early signup is available by calling ACE at (800)454-4759 or customers wait until the selection period (April 13-26) to sign up by calling or through ACE's website: www.ACEenergy.org.

*Smile,
The spring
is coming soon
:)*