

NEWSLETTER



Village of Bertrand

March 2019

It's somewhat tragic that we seldom get to see our parents at their finest moments in the prime of their lives. Or, maybe we do, but we are just too young to fully realize what we are witnessing. It isn't until we become parents ourselves and can look back through the lens of experience and perspective to see how amazing our parents were. So...

Dear Mother,

I want to start by telling you that I love you. I could say this a million times and it would never be enough. You are the most important woman in my life, and you always will be. Ever since I was little, you were my hero and someone I've always admired. I know I didn't always make your life easy (I'm sure you wanted to pull your hair out more often than not). You always put our happiness before your own. I never thought that unconditional love exists but truly a mother's love is living proof that love has no boundaries. You are the strongest person I know, full of love and motivation, and I am incredibly blessed to have had the opportunity to have that all of my life. I love you so much, to the ends of the Earth and until the day I'm no longer walking on it.

So THANK YOU. Two words that mean so little when comparing them to every little thing that you did for me. Thank you for the countless hugs. Thank you for all of the times you let me cry on your shoulder. Thank you for loving me when I was not so lovable. Thank you for lifting me up when I was at my lowest. Thank you for raising me with such kindness and teaching me not to settle for anything else. Thank you for believing in me when I didn't always believe in myself. Thank you for the laughter, the smiles, the tears, the lessons, and reminding me that I'll always have somebody who loves me for who I am, flaws and all. Thank you for showing me what it means to be a mom and the unconditional love you show everyday.

From Your Daughter

I would like to wish a Happy Mother's Day to all of the wonderful mothers—and the fathers, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends who stand in her place. May your day be filled with everything you could imagine.

- Lori Vinzant



Community Clean Up

May 1st—June 1st

In an effort to assist residents and property owners prior to SCEDD's windshield assessments, the Village of Bertrand is providing free cleanup opportunities to citizens of Bertrand. A windshield assessment is an inspection of each property from the nearest public right of way for violations of the nuisance ordinance. Examples of nuisance violations include: unlicensed and inoperable vehicles; appliances and indoor furniture left outside; dead trees; trash that has accumulated; unsafe, abandoned, or partially destroyed buildings; and any partially destroyed pieces of personal property .

- ◆ There will be additional roll off dumpsters throughout the town. Items that don't fit in the alley dumpsters can be loaded in the roll off dumpsters.
- ◆ The Yard Waste Site is open 7 days a week. Metal, appliances, and white goods can be taken to the site. Tires, paint and batteries and NOT allowed at the site or the dumpsters. Anyone violating site policies will be fined \$250.
- ◆ If you are unable to haul your own items to the dumpsters or Yard Waste Site, please contact the Village Office at 308-472-3455.

The Blue Moose Bar & Grill will be celebrating their **10th Anniversary** on Friday, April 5th.

Please join them for a special buffet from 5:30 to 8:30 PM, giveaways, and a band to play at 8:30 PM.



Bertrand Area Community Fund

The Bertrand Area Community Fund 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 of tomorrow."

The BACF is please to announce that our grant cycle begins on March 1 and closes on March 31, 2019. 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:

BCAF

Attn: Beverly Hansen

PO Box 153

Bertrand, NE 68927

or phone: 308-472-5350

The Bertrand Area Community Fund has awarded 22 grants totaling \$127,736.36 in the past 7 years. Agencies receiving funds include: Village of Bertrand to benefit the Fire Department, Hi-Line Golf Course, City Park, Veterans Park, Baseball Field; Bertrand Community School—various projects; Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.; Bertrand Lions Foundation; Young At Heart Senior Center; and the Bertrand Christmas Project Food Baskets.

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

A Note From the Street Department

Rumor has it that Spring is around the corner. I know that it might not feel like it with all of the snow and freezing temps, but Spring is coming. With that being said, we would just like to remind you of the Village of Bertrand's Tree Ordinance (No. 8-508 and 8-509).

Every owner of any tree overhanging any street or right-of-way within the Village shall prune the branches so that such branches shall not obstruct the light from any street lamp, or obstruct the view of any street intersection and so that there shall be a clear space of 8 feet above and 2 feet back from the surface of the sidewalk and a height of at least 12 feet above the surface of the street. Said owners shall remove all dead, diseased or dangerous trees. Such owners shall also remove broken or decayed limbs which constitute a menace to the safety of the public. The Village shall have the right to prune any tree or shrub on private property when it interferes with the proper spread of light along the street from a street light, interferes with any utility wire or device, or interferes with visibility of any traffic control device or sign; providing a notice has been given to the property owner.

It is hereby declared a nuisance for a property owner to permit, allow, or maintain any dead or diseased trees within the right-of-way of streets within the corporate limits of the Municipality and its one-mile zoning district or on private property within the municipality and its one-mile zoning district.

Complete copies of these ordinances are kept for review at the Village Office.

If you have any questions regarding removal of tree limbs or dead trees, please contact the Village Office at 308-472-3455.

2018 Bertrand Blood Drives

Tuesday, April 9, 2018

**School in charge*

Tuesday June 11, 2018

Tuesday, August 13, 2018

Tuesday, October 8, 2018

Tuesday, December 10, 2018

**Give the gift of life
Donate blood**



Need a Place to Host a Special Event?

Rent the Bertrand Community Building!

For Reservations

Call Christina at 308-440-5719

**Thank you—Community
Members for Supporting our local
'Special Event Facility'!**

Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc. members are:

Kamie Ackerman, Christina Davison, Janice

Gengenbach, Emma Gennrich, Beverly Hansen,

Tiffany Langford, Samantha Lavene, Roberta Ogg,

Janis Spiegel, Heather Warnken, Jennifer Weber

Bertrand Fire Department News

The Fire Department will be hosting a benefit to help with medical expenses for the Amy Schroeder family on March 10th at the Bertrand Community Building. Amy has been battling an acoustic neuroma brain tumor. Her husband, Brian, is a member of the Bertrand Fire Department. A pancake feed will be held from 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM and there will be a silent and live auction during the event. A drawing will be held for a Henry Golden Boy .22 rifle. If you would like to donate items for the auction or purchase tickets for the raffle, please contact any member of the department. Please join us on March 10th and help support the Schroeder family.

New department officers for 2019 were elected: Kevin Stehl, Fire Chief; Devin Benson, Assistant Fire Chief; Brian Schroeder, Unit Captain; Jessica Evans, Assistant Unit Captain; Jerry Johnson, Chairman; Allen Wissmann; Vice Chairman; Tom Wilcox, Fire Department Secretary/Treasurer; and Jarod Weber, Unit Treasurer.

On January 10th, the Phelps County Mutual Aid Association met in Holdrege. Fire department members from Bertrand, Holdrege, Funk, and Loomis were in attendance. Jerod Holen from our department was elected to serve as vice president of the association.

The 27th annual Mid Winter Fire School, sponsored by the Central Community College and the Holdrege Fire Department, was held in Holdrege on February 17th. Firefighter/EMT Jim Campbell attended the Fire & EMS Roundtable class which focuses on emergency response and how agencies are preparing for the latest challenges facing emergency responders. Fire Chief Kevin Stehl attended the Strategic Fireground Command class. Topics covered were risk assessment and management, decision making, scene size up and initial actions, and implementing the incident command system. Students completing the courses receive 6 hours of continuing education credit. Other classes offered this year were grain bin extrication, sports injuries and concussions, opioid crisis, basic ice rescue, vehicle extrication, cancer awareness, and wildland firefighting.

We are pleased to announce that Katie Benson joined the Department on February 18th. Katie is an RN and is planning to enroll in the EMT bridge class. Thank you Katie for volunteering your time to support your community.

If you would like to volunteer your time and talents fighting fires or providing emergency medical service in our community, please consider joining the fire department. We currently have 4 openings. Contact any member of the department for more information.

Both the Bertrand city and rural fire boards recently approved the bid for a new ambulance. A 2019 Ford F550 chassis has been ordered and the unit will be built by Fire Fox in York, Nebraska. The new unit should be in service around June 1, 2019.

Fire prevention tip: "Close Before You Doze"

Always close your bedroom door when retiring for the day. This will provide a heat and smoke barrier in the event of a fire.

- Kevin Stehl, Fire Chief

"Putting the Wet Stuff on the Red Stuff since 1888"

NOTICE TO ALL HI-LINE GOLFERS



Dues for 2019 Golf Season

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

DUE MARCH 15, 2019

*2 payment plan available by application: 1st payment—March 15th, 2nd payment—June 15th. Late Fee \$50.00 after March 15, 2019.

Cart Stall Rent

Gas Cart	\$150.00
Electric Cart	\$165.00

DUE MAY 1, 2019.

*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, 2019.

*Excludes tournaments, 18 holes only on holidays and weekends

Seasonal Trail Fee

Members own carts	\$50.00
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DUE JUNE 1, 2019.

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Hi-Line Golf Association

PO Box 276

Bertrand, NE 68927



The Hi-Line Golf Association would like to welcome Jacob Fuehrer. He will be our new superintendent this year.

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.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the ANNUAL MEETING on March 4, 2019 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

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

Upcoming Events

March:

- 8th Community Coffee, 9:00 AM
- 18th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM
**with churches participating*
- 22nd Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM

April:

- 5th Community Coffee, 9:00 AM
- 7th-13th National Volunteer Week
- 12th Volunteer Brunch, 10:00 AM
- 15th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM
**with churches participating*
- 19th Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM
- 12th-19th Easter Coloring Contest
**Please have picture back by the 19th for voting*

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

May:

- 10th Community Coffee, 9:00 AM
- 13th Spring Tea, 2:00 PM
- 12th-18th National Nursing Home Week
**Please join us for some fun events throughout week!*
- 20th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM
**with churches participating*
- 24th Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM

- Joey Kugler, Office Manager



2019 Valentine Royalty
Larry and Alma Barker



Bertrand Days Fair Serving

The committee met following the 2018 Bertrand Days. The income and expenses were reviewed. We increased the 2018 disbursements an additional \$250 for a total of \$5,750.

Bertrand Community Building	\$3000.00	Bertrand Nursing Home	\$200.00
Bertrand Area Chamber (Carnival)	\$300.00	Bertrand Lions Club	\$200.00
Bertrand Young At Heart Senior Center	\$300.00	Village of Bertrand (Pool)	\$200.00
Bertrand Fire Department	\$300.00	Bertrand Food Pantry	\$200.00
Bertrand High School Scholarships (\$250 ea.)	\$500.00	Loomis Community Building	\$150.00
BERMIS FFA	\$250.00	Smithfield Community Club	\$150.00

Watch this newsletter and the 'Bertrand Fair & Rodeo' Facebook page for the announcement of our 2019 meeting dates. New committee members are always welcome!

Thank you again for your willingness to serve our community!



2018 Bertrand Days Fair Serving Committee Members

Shirley Lavene, First United Methodist Church	Bev Hansen, Bertrand Ag Society, Inc.
Joyce Wissmann, First United Methodist Church	Kamie Ackerman, Bertrand Ag Society, Inc.
Kathy Weber, Hope Lutheran Church	Janice Gengenbach, Bertrand Ag Society, Inc.
Liz Ford, Adullam Lutheran Church	Kathy Weber, Bertrand Lions Club
Michele High, Immanuel Lutheran Church	Kristy Hock, Community
Celeste Cox, St. Paul's Lutheran Church	Lindsey Robison, Community
Darlene Forster, St. Paul's Lutheran Church	Mandy Sand, Community
Detta Holscher, St. Paul's Lutheran Church	Brenda Johnson, Community
Juli Wilcox, St. John's Catholic Church	Stacie Schwarz, Community
Mary Wallander, Westmark Church	Carolyn Dodson, Community
Renee Davis, Westmark Church	Geri Vinzant, Community

Bertrand Area Chamber

The next chamber meeting is Monday, March 4, 2019 at 6:30 PM at the Blue Moose. The final plans and committee assignments for the March 22nd fund raiser event will be discussed.

Chamber members and committee chair persons will begin fine tuning events and plans for the **Bertrand Days — June 22-25, 2019**. 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 that McWhorter Amusements has been contracted to return for Bertrand Days 2019. 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— Sunday, June 8th
- ◆ Annual Chamber Golf Tournament— Date to be Set

In additions to the above events, the Chamber helps support the Post Prom event, Bertrand Area Christmas Project; BERMIS FFA Fall Breakfast, Rockin' Brews BBQ and other events held during the year in the Bertrand area.

The annual membership drive is the month of April. Looking forward to everyone's support, both personal and financially.

Happy Easter!



FUN PIANOS

TRAVELING DUELING PIANO SHOW

by 176 KEYS

A Fundraiser for the Bertrand Area Chamber

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Friday, March 22

Social Hour 5:30—6:30 pm

Dinner 6:30 pm



BERTRAND COMMUNITY BUILDING

405 Nelson Street, Bertrand, NE

.....

Tickets \$40 Per Person

Italian Dinner with Cash Bar

.....

Adult Only Fundraiser Event

.....

Tickets Available from Chamber Members

Courtney Johnson ~ Kristy Hock ~ Bev Hansen

Lindsey Robison ~ Pam Snyder

Chamber Businesses

Countryside Market ~ First State Bank-Bertrand

First State Agency-Bertrand ~ Village of Bertrand

Young at Heart Senior Center

Spring? I think we have all been starting to wonder if we will ever see nice weather again. Every time Mother Nature teases us a little with a day or two of beautiful weather, we end up with another snow storm or a sheet of ice covering everything. However, on Saturday, February 2, 2019, Punxsutawney Phil predicted an early spring. So, I'm trying to put my faith in that little groundhog's premonition skills!

April will mark the first anniversary of our tenancy in our new building. It has been a year full of adjustments and developing great memories. One of the things that we have had to adjust to is not having a local newspaper that prints our menu each week. If you do not currently receive our newsletter and would like to get one in the mail, please contact me and I will add you to our mailing list. Otherwise, a copy of the monthly newsletter can be picked up at the Senior Center. The calendar is also posted at the Post Offices in Bertrand and Loomis, Bertrand First State Bank, Countryside Market, and on the Young At Heart Senior Center Facebook page. This calendar includes our daily menu as well as our activities.

-Coni Park, Manager



2019 Bertrand Craft Show

October 19, 2019 has been set for our show! We are excited to continue this great event in our community. Nearly 50 crafter/vendor spaces were booked during the 'Early Bird Registration' at the 2018 show. Vendor letters and registration will be sent the last part of July.

Hosted by the Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.

Show Directors: Janice Gengenbach and Beverly Hansen

You can find us on Facebook: Bertrand Craft Show

Email: bertrandcraftshow@gmail.com



Important Dates

March 10	Daylight Savings Time
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	First Day of Spring
April 1	April Fools Day
April 19	Good Friday
April 21	Easter
April 22	Earth Day
April 24	Administrative Professional Day
May 1	May Day
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 12	Mother's Day
May 18	National Armed Forces Day
May 27	Memorial Day

What else are you paying for when you pay your water bill...

When you pay your water bill, you are probably thinking this is for safe drinking water and water for your lawn and garden. This is true. But if you look closer, you will see that you are also paying for fire protection! Back in the late 1800's, several fires nearly destroyed the town, making the need for a public water system crucial. If a house catches on fire, everyone expects the fire hydrant to work—hopefully avoiding disaster. What most people don't realize is all of those fire hydrants cost money. If it weren't for fire protection, our water system could have been constructed for far less money. Wells need to pump enough, water storage needs to have enough capacity, water mains need to be the proper size, and hydrants need to be properly placed throughout town. Maintenance needs to be conducted on fire hydrants and flushing is extremely important to ensure all hydrants are in working order. Flow rates need to be conducted and in Bertrand we color code the top bonnet which helps firemen decide which hydrant is best suited for a structure fire.

So how much does it cost to have fire protection from the water system? According to the Nebraska Rural Water Association, a good figure is about \$200 per year per hydrant. Bertrand has 48 fire hydrants, so if you take 48 hydrants, multiply by \$200 per year, divide by 395 households/business in the village, and divide by 12 months of the year, you get \$2.03 per customer per month for fire protection.

Just something to consider the next time your water bill is due...

-Matt Gregg, Utilities Superintendent



Ask us...we can help.

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 2019, SCEDD will be focusing on the highlighted section of the map below. Please contact the Village Office at 308-472-3455 if you have any questions.



NOTICES

Village of Bertrand

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

March 12

April 9

May 14

7:30 PM at the Village Hall

Board of Trustees:

TJ Wilcox, Chairman; Bob Dahlgren,
Lucas Evans, Brian Schroeder, Fred Spiegel

Rate Increases

The Village Board of Trustees approved a yearly rate increase of 1.5% for Garbage Rates, with the last increase occurring in 2021.

These rate increases will take effect March 1, 2019 with the first billing on April 1, 2019. A letter was mailed defining specific rates.

A copy of the Ordinance is available at the Village Office. If you have any questions, please contact the Village Office at 308-472-3455. Thank you.

Golf Cart License

\$15.00

**proof of insurance required*

An all-terrain vehicle, scooter, UTV or golf cart may be operated on the streets and highways, within the corporate limits of the Village of Bertrand only if the operator complies with the rules of the road set by the State of Nebraska. Operator must be at least 16 years old and have a valid driver's license. Operators and passengers must be restrained in the vehicle or seated at all time. Parking on the sidewalks of the Village is NOT allowed. (Ordinance No. 674)

Cat and Dog License

DUE MAY 1, 2019

\$5.00 per animal if spayed/neutered

\$10.00 per animal if NOT spayed/neutered

Proof of Rabies Shot Required

**A fee of \$100.00 will be assessed if not paid by
May 31, 2019**

**Reminder letters will be sent out at a later date for
all animals registered at the Village Office.*

Lifeguards/Pool Manager Wanted

The Village of Bertrand is accepting applications for part-time lifeguards and pool manager for the Summer of 2019.

Applicants must be 15 years of age by May 31, 2019 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 15, 2019 before 4:30 PM.*

A Special Thank You

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

Matt Gregg

Marcus Schwarz

Beverly Hansen

Kevin Stehl

Joey Kugler

Coni Park

Pam Snyder

Aaron Long

ACE Board approves \$300,000 distribution to Nebraska member communities

Selection period set April 12-25, 2019

ACE, the Public Alliance for Community Energy, is distributing \$2,879 to the Village of Bertrand as its share of \$300,000 being distributed through ACE's revenue return program to the 72 Nebraska member communities of the not-for-profit, community-owned natural gas supplier.

Through the program, the ACE board of directors may vote to return revenue beyond the cost of operating the organization to its member communities. The board approved the distribution at its board meeting earlier this year. Since forming in 1998, ACE has returned more than \$2.3 million back to its Nebraska member communities, including \$28,000 to Bertrand. The funds are used in various ways to benefit each ACE member community.

Nebraska communities formed ACE for the primary purpose of providing competitively priced natural gas while retaining local control and keeping more revenue in Nebraska's ACE member communities.

The Nebraska Choice Gas Program 2019 selection period is set for April 12-25. Selections may be made online using ACE's website (www.ACEenergy.org) or by phone at (800)454-4759. Selection forms will be mailed out to all eligible customers prior to the start of the selection period. Early signup pricing is also available by calling ACE at (800)454-4759. Learn more about ACE and its role in the Nebraska Choice Gas Program at www.ACEenergy.org.

Smile,
The spring
is coming soon
:)