

NEWSLETTER

☀️ march
april
may 🌻

Village of Bertrand

March 2020

Should Bertrand Take the Plunge...

The next important chapter for the Bertrand Pool is about to happen! The Village Board of Trustees will be holding a **Town Hall Meeting** on Tuesday, March 3rd at 7:00 PM at the Bertrand Community Building. Please attend so you can make an informative decision and understand the importance of our desire to update our current facility. Local leaders will present ideas and allow for discussion for an expected vote during the election to be held in May, 2020. Engineers will be present to review the current state of our pool and what the life expectancy is, along with what it would take to construct a new pool. A financial bonding agent will be there to provide answers and suggestions on paying for the new facility. A representative will be there to discuss possible grants that the Village can apply for and fundraising that can be done for the initial project as well as continuous options for the life of the pool. Here are a few topics that will be discussed at the meeting:



- ♦ What is wrong with the current pool and can it be fixed.
- ♦ What is a zero-entry area and why is it so important.
- ♦ What is the total cost of the project and how will it be paid for.
- ♦ What have other towns done with their aging pools.

Without the support of the community, this project cannot be done. We ask for your support in this and hope you will take the time to discuss your feelings with us.

Bertrand Area Community Fund

The Bertrand Area Community Fund (BACF) is accepting grant applications starting March 1, 2020 and closes on March 31, 2020. Grants from our affiliated fund must be awarded to other 501(c)(3) charities, governmental entities (including schools), or for direct charitable expenditures in April 2020. These grants must meet the Internal Revenue Service rules and other legal requirements applicable to charitable organizations.

BACF will award meaningful grants to local projects that support improving the quality of life in the Bertrand area.

Examples of grants include:

- ◆ State of the art HoloLens virtual and artificial reality technology that empowers students to take interactive learning to a new level.
- ◆ Renovations and upgrades to the Bertrand Community Building.
- ◆ Specialized playground equipment that allows children of all abilities to play together in the park.
- ◆ Support for the Young At Heart Senior Center through a matching challenge.
- ◆ New bedspreads for the Bertrand Nursing Home.

Since the inception of the Bertrand Area Community Fund in September, 2011, we have awarded a total of \$144,457.74 in grants to our Bertrand community. We are appreciative of your financial support.

For BACF grant application forms, please contact:

BACF Attn: Beverly Hansen

PO Box, 153 Bertrand, NE 68927

Phone: 308-991-7777

Electronic Fillable Form: <https://www.nebcommfound.org/give/bertrand-area-community-fund>

Email: bertrandfoundation@gmail.com

HOLTHUS CHALLENGE

A generous matching gift of \$150,000 from Kelly and Virginia Holthus requires the Bertrand Area Community Fund to raise \$300,000. Adding \$450,000 to the fund's unrestricted endowment will enable Bertrand area's nonprofits and government entities to do amazing things right away and for years to come, using the investment earnings to benefit the area and allowing the endowment to continue growing! Please consider making a pledge and donation to the Holthus Challenge. Every gift matters, regardless of size, as we get closer to the \$300,000 goal.

To make a gift:

- ◆ Contact any Fund Advisory Committee Member
- ◆ Send an email to bertrandfoundation@gmail.com
- ◆ Mail a check to BACF, PO Box 153, Bertrand, NE 68927

Advisory Members are: Joel High, Christopher Davison, Beverly Hansen, Melissa Vinzant, Alysia Kuck, Paul Peterson, Liz Ford, Karen Nelson, Aryn Schwarz.



Bertrand Fire & Rescue

The Bertrand Fire Department & Rescue Unit wrapped up 2019 with 11 fire calls and 80 ambulance calls being answered. Department members logged over 632 hours of fire and EMS training. Officers for 2020 are 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 Jerod Weber, Unit Treasurer. Currently, there are 26 members on the department.

On January 23rd, the Phelps County Mutual Aid Association met in Holdrege for their quarterly meeting. Training was held on ice and water rescue. All four Phelps County departments were represented at the meeting. Jared Holen from our department currently serves as vice president. The association met again on February 11th at the CHS fertilizer plant in Loomis for a walk-through and pre-plan drill. Approximately 30 members from the Bertrand, Loomis, Holdrege, and Funk departments attended.

The Central Nebraska Volunteer Firefighter Association held its 28th Annual Mid-Winter Fire School on Sunday, February 16th at the Holdrege High School. Both firefighting and EMS classes were offered. Brian Schroeder attended the thermal imaging camera class and Kevin Stehl attended stroke and cardiac emergencies class. Do you know CPR? We hope the answer to that question is yes! Hands-Only CPR is an easy, effective way for any bystander, especially if they act immediately, to double or triple a cardiac arrest victim's chance of survival. You should call 9-1-1 and start pushing hard and fast in the center of the chest with minimal interruptions. For more information, go to <https://cpr.heart.org/>.

-Kevin Stehl, Fire Chief

Bertrand Blood Drives

Tuesday, April 14, 2020

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Held at the Bertrand Community Building.
Visit redcrossblood.org to schedule an appointment.

**Give the gift of life
Donate blood**



Young At Heart Senior Center

Some days it feels as though winter will never end, then the very next day it is a beautiful, sunny, warm day! Living in Nebraska most of my life has taught me one very important thing... always be flexible when it comes to plans that are dependent on the weather! As a reminder, if Bertrand Public Schools close due to inclement weather, the Senior Center will be closed as well. In addition, any closings will be publicized on NTV, KRVN, and our Young At Heart Senior Center Facebook page.

If you happen to be looking forward to Spring as much as I am, then you just might want to come in and take advantage of some of the fund things we have coming up at the Senior Center. On Tuesday, March 17th, we will be serving Corned Beef and Cabbage to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. On Sunday, March 22nd from 11 AM to 1 PM, we will be serving Pancakes, Scrambled Eggs & Sausage for our monthly fundraiser. And on Thursday, April 16th, we will be having a BINGO night. It will be a night of fun and prizes that is open to everyone!! Big & small, young & old... we will pop some popcorn and have soft serve ice cream available as well as prizes for each game of BINGO!

-Coni Park, Manager



“Celebrating 25 Years”

Open House

Sunday, April 19, 2020

At the Courtyard Villa

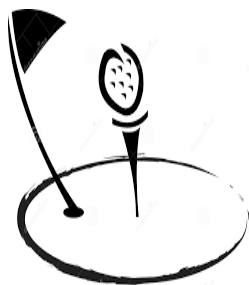
12:30 to 2:00 PM

In 1991, the Bertrand Village Board saw a need for affordable housing for the elderly in Bertrand. A survey was sent out to the residents, requesting opinions about affordable housing for the elderly, which came back positive. The Bertrand Housing Authority Board was re-established at this time to move forward with the project. Appointed to that Board were Mary Dahlgren, Marian Bennett, Wilma Nutzman, Kay Pedley and Nora Walentine. The project was funded by Farmers Home Administration and grant funds from the HOME Program of the Department of Economic Development. The project was to have two buildings for a total of eight one-bedroom apartments and a laundry room. Each apartment was to contain approximately 630 square feet. The lots purchased were owned by Ruth Dahlgren across the alley west of the Bank of Bertrand. The project was designated for elderly residents. In July of 1993, LaDonna Bennett was appointed Executive Director of the Housing Authority. Bids were sent out for the construction and the bid from Kingsley Lumber was accepted. Bennett Construction was to build the project and Miller and Associates were the Architects. The Courtyard Villa was the name chosen for the complex. Construction was completed in April of 1995 and an Open House was held on April 30, 1995 for the community to view the project. It was a rainy day, but 83 people turned out to attend. The next day, tenants started moving in. It was a very busy and exciting day!

Through the years, the Housing Authority Board has been very active in maintaining the grounds and apartments to make sure it is in great shape for our tenants. It is their home, and the Board wants to make sure it is a nice place to live. Since being built, they have put stackable washer/dryers in each apartment, vanities were added in the bathrooms, and have added landscaping around the exterior of the building which was completed by J & J Faithscapes and a new sign from Those Blasted Signs. Many people cannot believe the Courtyard Villa is twenty-five years old because of how well it has been maintained. USDA Rural Development applauds the Housing Authority on how well the project is cared for.

In November of 2014, the Courtyard Villa designation was changed from an elderly project to family project due to vacancy issues. Since that time, the Courtyard Villa has remained full. Rent is based on income. All utilities are paid for by the Housing Authority. Cable TV and phone are the tenants responsibility. The current Housing Authority Board members are: Linda Schmidt, President; Judy Wissmann, Vice President; Darlene Samuelson, Secretary; Sheila Bieker; and Diann Corbitt. LaDonna Bennett is the Executive Director/Manager and Lyle Stempke is Maintenance. The lawn is maintained by Matt and Penny Gregg. Thank you to all these people who are serving the Courtyard Villa!!

An open house will be held at the Courtyard Villa (in the Community Room by the Alley) on Sunday April 19, 2020 from 12:30 to 2:00 PM to celebrate 25 years of serving the community of Bertrand. Please join us!



NOTICE TO ALL HI-LINE GOLFERS

Dues for 2020 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, 2020

*2 payment plan available by application: 1st payment—March 15th, 2nd payment—June 15th. Late Fee \$50.00 after March 15, 2020.

Cart Stall Rent

Gas Cart	\$150.00
Electric Cart	\$165.00

DUE MAY 1, 2020

*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, 2020

*Excludes tournaments, 18 holes only on holidays and weekends

Seasonal Trail Fee

Members own carts	\$50.00
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DUE JUNE 1, 2020

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Hi-Line Golf Association

PO Box 276

Bertrand, NE 68927



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 2, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Clubhouse. We will elect 5 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 finish 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

13th Community Coffee, 10:00 AM

16th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM

**with churches participating*

27th Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM

April

10th Community Coffee, 10:00 AM

19-25th National Volunteer Week

20th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM

**with churches participating*

24th Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM

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

May

11th Spring Tea, 2:00 PM

15th Community Coffee, 10:00 AM

10-16th National Nursing Home Week

***Please join us for fun events throughout the week!**

18th Birthday Bingo, 2:00 PM

**with churches participating*

29th Men's Coffee, 10:00 AM

-Joey Kugler, Office Manager



2020 Valentine Royalty
Jim Harris and Pat Dannehl

It's Spring Cleaning Time

May 1st to June 1st

- ☞ There will be a roll-off dumpster located at the Bertrand Community Building.
- ☞ If you have items that can fit in the dumpsters throughout the alleys, please do so. This will save space for larger items, such as couches, mattresses, etc. in the roll-off dumpsters.
- ☞ The Yard Waste Site is open 7 days a week. Use your key card to gain access.
- ☞ Please haul your own items to those locations if you are able. If you need assistance, please call the Village Office at 308-472-3455 for pick-up (limit to one pick up per household).
- ☞ Metal, appliances, and white goods can be taken to the Yard Waste Site.
- ☞ Tires, Paint and Batteries are NOT allowed in either the Alley Dumpsters or the Yard Waste Site.
- ☞ Please follow all the dumping instructions outlined in the policies and site map. Anyone violating these regulations will be fined up to \$250. Copies of policies and maps are available at the Village Office.



Bertrand Days Fair Serving

2019 BERTRAND DAYS FAIR SERVING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kamie Ackerman, Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.	Joyce Wissmann, First United Methodist Church
Beverly Hansen, BACF & Bertrand Area Chamber	Emma Jean Gennrich, Hope Lutheran Church
Stacie Schwarz, First State Bank	Michele High, Immanuel Lutheran Church
Kathy Weber, Bertrand Lions Club	Suzie Duarte, St. John's Catholic Church
Kristy Hock, Community Member	Juli Wilcox, St. John's Catholic Church
Brenda Johnson, Countryside Market	Celeste Cox, St. Paul Lutheran Church
Lindsey Robison, Community Member	Detta Holscher, St. Paul Lutheran Church
Mandy Sand, Community Member	Renee Davis, Westmark Church
Darlene Foster, Community Member	Mary Wallander, Westmark Church
Liz Ford, Adullam Lutheran Church	

The committee met in July, 2019 to discuss the year's projects. The 2019 income of \$12,446.40 and expenses of \$5,640.40 were reviewed. We are extremely pleased to announce disbursements totaling \$5,950.

Bertrand Community Building	\$3,000
Bertrand Area Chamber (Carnival)	\$300
Bertrand Young At Heart Senior Center	\$300
Bertrand Fire Department	\$500
Bertrand High School Scholarships (x2)	\$500
BERMIS FFA	\$250
Bertrand Nursing Home	\$200
Bertrand Lions Club	\$200
Village of Bertrand (Swimming Pool)	\$200
Bertrand Food Pantry	\$200
Loomis Community Building	\$150
Smithfield Community Club	\$150

The 2020 initial meeting is Sunday, March 8th, 4:00 PM at the Bertrand Community Building. Additional meeting dates will be posted on 'Bertrand Fair & Rodeo' Facebook page; in the 'Bertrand Newsletter'; and at www.bertrandareachamber.com. New committee members are always welcome! Thank you again for your willingness to serve **YOUR** community.



**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR SERVICE!**

Bertrand Area Chamber

The chamber's next sponsored event is the Post Prom Activity on April 4th. Sponsorship letters were mailed in January. Please contact Sandy Dannehl, Chamber Post Prom Liaison if you would like to help in any way.

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

Chamber members and committee chair persons will begin fine tuning events and plans for

Bertrand Days: June 27—June 30, 2020.

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 to Bertrand Days—2020. Additional information will be provided as the date nears.

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

Summer Softball/Baseball Programs (for Kindergarten—8th Grade), *Begins in May*

Annual Chamber Fishing Tournament,

Saturday, June 6th

Annual Chamber Golf Tournament, *August (Date not set)*

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

Bertrand Craft Show

The 2020 Craft Show date is set for October 17, 2020. We already have over 50 vendors for the event. Pam Hansen will be in charge of the registration this year and we are excited for a few changes that will be taking place.

Look for updates on the following Facebook Pages: Bertrand Craft Show and Bertrand Ag Society
Email: bertrandcraftshow@gmail.com

If you have any questions, please contact: Pam Hansen at 308-991-3318, Jennifer Weber at 308-991-4699, or Kamie Ackerman at 308-991-2447.



Important Dates

March 8	Daylight Savings Time
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 19	First Day of Spring
April 1	April Fools Day
April 10	Good Friday
April 12	Easter
April 22	Earth Day
April 22	Administrative Professional's Day
May 1	May Day
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 10	Mother's Day
May 16	National Armed Forces Day
May 25	Memorial Day

Health Care on Wheels (HOW) Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Town	Location
04/01/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
04/10/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Elwood	Red Barn
04/15/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
04/24/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
04/29/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Elwood	Red Barn
05/01/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
05/06/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
05/15/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Elwood	Red Barn
05/20/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
05/29/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Bertrand	C Plus

Call Ruby at 308-991-0294 or Jackie at 308-991-4410 for more information. Please call to schedule Home Visits. For a complete copy of this schedule, please contact Jackie.

Choice Gas Selection Period

ACE, the Public Alliance for Community Energy, is distributing \$4,088 to the Village of Bertrand as its share of \$400,000 being distributed through ACE's revenue return program to the 75 Nebraska member communities of the not-for-profit, community-owned natural gas supplier. Through the program, ACE has returned nearly \$2.8 million back to its Nebraska member communities, including \$32,088 to Bertrand. The funds are used in various ways to benefit each ACE member community.

The 2020 Choice Gas program selection period will run from April 10-23. The program allows natural gas customers to choose their supplier and pricing option for the upcoming gas year, which begins June 1 and runs through May 31, 2021. ACE is the only community-owned, not-for-profit supplier in the Choice Gas program. Nebraska communities formed ACE to provide competitively priced natural gas while retaining local control and keeping more revenue in Nebraska's ACE member communities.



ACE encourages customers to make an active selection and offers several competitive pricing options. Many customers are choosing to sign up with a pre-enrollment option available now by calling ACE at (800)454-4759. Selections may be made online during the two-week selection period using ACE's website (www.ACEenergy.org). Selection forms will be mailed out to all eligible customers prior to the start of the selection period. Learn more about ACE and its role in the Nebraska Choice Gas program at www.ACEenergy.org.

Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.

The annual meeting of the Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc. was held on February 10, 2020. President, Kami Ackerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Notice of the meeting was posted at the Post Office, Bertrand First State Bank, and the Village Office. Members present were: Kamie Ackerman, Christina Davison, Emma Jean Gennrich, Beverly Hansen, Pam Hansen, Tiffany Langford, Julie Nelson, and Jennifer Weber. Members absent were: Samantha Lavene and Heather Warnken.

The minutes of the 2018 and 2019 annual meetings were read and approved, 8-0. The deposits and disbursements were audited by the audit committee. The committee recommended the financials for approval. Approved, 8-0.

New business: Election of officers for a 2-year term: President—Julie Nelson, Secretary—Emma Jean Gennrich; Assistant Treasurer—Kamie Ackerman. The date of February 8 was set for the 2021 annual meeting to be held at the Bertrand Community Building. The annual meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

President, Julie Nelson, called the February board meeting to order at 7:28 PM. The January 13, 2020 minutes were read. On a motion by Jennifer Weber and a second by Christina Davison, the minutes were approved as read, 8-0. The treasurer's report was distributed and approved on a motion by Jennifer Weber and seconded by Kamie Ackerman, 8-0. Discussion topics included the purchase of a sound system for the community building and ice on the north side of the building. Additional research of both topics will be conducted with a follow-up report to be given at the March board meeting.

October 17, 2020 has been set for the Bertrand Craft Show. Planning is under way for advertising, increased vendors and public attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM. The next meeting will be held on March 9, 2020 at 7:00 PM at the Bertrand Community Building.

FYI: Please contact Kamie Ackerman at 308-991-2447 to rent the Bertrand Community Building.



mom

[mäm] *noun*

**someone who sees the best in
her kids even when they drive
her crazy; unconditional love;
someone who does the work of
twenty, for free**

NOTICES

Village of Bertrand

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

March 10

April 14

May 12

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 1% rate increase for water and sewer services and a 1.5% rate increase for garbage services. These rate increases will take effect March 1, 2020. The increase will appear on the bill you receive in April. 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, 2020

\$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, 2020**

**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 2020.

Applicants must be 15 years of age by May 31, 2020 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 22, 2020 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

Kamie Ackerman

Kevin Stehl

Joey Kugler

Coni Park

Aaron Long

A Note From the Street Department...

Spring is almost here, so we would 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 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 jurisdiction or on private property within the same.

Complete copies of these Ordinances are kept for review at the office of the Village Clerk. If you have any questions regarding the removal of tree limbs or dead trees, please contact the Village Office at 308-472-3455.

