

Village of Bertrand

March 2021

Writing these articles has always been tricky for me (Jane Austen, I am not!). But this one is going to be even trickier... As you may have heard, Roxanne Winheim will be retiring as the Village of Bertrand Treasurer in May. So it is time to say good-bye to a trusted colleague, a loyal friend, a sounding board for my silly ideas, a stand-in mom at times, and an extremely underpaid therapist!

Roxanne has been with the Village since November of 2014. The feats that she accomplished during her tenure with the Village are many and she will be greatly missed. Most people spend their whole lives planning their expected retirement and when it comes, they need appreciation from near and dear ones as the fun times start. So I thought I would offer her some advice for the next stage of her journey...

- ⇒ Retirement is waking up in the morning with nothing to do and by bedtime having only done half of it.
- ⇒ Retirement is the beginning of the time when you can sit back and give advice to others, even though you never followed it in your own life.
- \Rightarrow The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off.
- ⇒ Retirement is like a long vacation in Las Vegas. The goal is to enjoy it to the fullest, but not so fully that you run out of money.
- \Rightarrow Retirement is wonderful. It is doing nothing without worrying about getting caught at it.
- ⇒ Retirement is waking up at 6 AM and driving around really slowly, just to make everyone late for work.

So Roxanne, for all of the hard work and dedication that you have given to the Village, we thank you! You deserve the best retirement ever! Enjoy this new journey of your life and cherish every moment of it! And have fun!!

We will be hosting a retirement coffee for Roxanne. Stay tuned for more information!

On a side note, the Village of Bertrand is now looking to hire a part-time position. If you are interested, please see our posting on our website,

www.bertrandne.com. Applications are available at the Village Office at 507 Minor Avenue, or mail your resumes to PO Box 295, Bertrand, NE 68927.



Bertrand Area Community Fund

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."

Our Values:

Strategic—We are intentional and purposeful

- Inclusive—We are inviting to people and ideas that work within our mission to strengthen the entire community. We value teamwork.
- Innovative—We are forward thinking while still respecting the past and being receptive to the current needs and opportunities of the Bertrand area.

Hard Working—We seek to make a difference by empowering others and building ownership.

<u>Holthus Challenge</u>—Have you noticed the Holthus Challenge Water Tower sign just north of the Village of Bertrand office? The tower is filling! Thanks to pledges and gifts received as of February 15th, the tower is at \$260,000 of the \$300,000 needed to be full. Please consider making a pledge and donation. No contribution is too small—every penny puts us closer to the \$300,000. To make a gift or pledge: contact any advisory member for assistance; send an email to bertrandfoundation@gmail.com; or mail a check to BACF, PO Box 153, Bertrand, NE 68927. Advisory members are Joel High, Christopher Davison, Liz Ford, Beverly Hansen, Melissa Vinzant, Alysia Kuck, Aryn Schwarz, Karen Nelson, and Scott Schwarz.



BACF hosted a "Childcare Information Discussion Meeting" on February 21, 2021. A report of this meting will be posted on the Bertrand Area Community Fund page on the Village of Bertrand's website. Go to www.bertrandne.com. Under the 'Community' dropdown menu, the Bertrand Area Community Fund is listed under 'Community Organizations'.

Our spring grant cycle opens March 1 and runs through the 31st. For additional information, check the article in this publication, <u>Spring Grant Application Information</u>.

Other happenings include: participation in Bertrand Days and hosting an event on National Night Out—August 3, 2021.

Bertrand Fire & Rescue

After many years of service, two of our longtime members recently retired from the fire department: Larry Bennett, who served for 48 years, and Tom Wilcox, who served for 31 years. We thank them both for their service to the community as firefighters and EMTs.

At the February meeting, we accepted Amanda Gardine and Colby Gardine as new members of the department. Thank you both for supporting your community!

As we closed the books on 2020, the tally shows we answered 21 fire calls and 67 ambulance calls. Some of the challenges we faced were being short on responders that were quarantined due to COVID-19. Many of our meetings were held via ZOOM and much of the training was done virtually online. The fire index rating was high during the second half of the year due to dry conditions and at one point in November, we answered 8 fire calls in 5 days!

The membership has started a new project. We are raising funds for a compressor so we will be able to fill our SCBA tanks (air packs) and the cascade system we have in place for them. It will be roughly a \$20,000-\$25,000 project. If you would like to support this, please contact Jessica Evans.

Currently, we have 4 openings for membership. If you may be interested in joining, please contact on of the officers below.

2021 Officers

Kevin Stehl—Fire Chief, 308-991-4574 Brian Schroeder—Asst. Fire Chief, 308-325-5229 Jessica Evans—Unit Captain/FD Sec.&Tres., 308-991-4880 Allen Wissmann—Asst. Unit Captain, 308-991-4645 Jerry Johnson—Chairman, 308-991-0496 Cord Kipp—Vice Chairman, 308-999-0081 Jerod Webor—Unit Treasurer, 308-991-7253



Young At Heart Senior Center

The last month has been quite an adventure! Starting in March of last year, we have had to visit the question repeatedly about whether or not it is a good choice to be open for dine-in lunches. In addition, we have had to cancel most of our monthly fundraising events. Some of you know that our fundraisers account for approx. 25% of our monthly income. So not being able to host those has had a toll on our income. In the 4 years that I've worked here at the Senior Center, I have been constantly impressed with the way the community of Bertrand comes together to support one another. The last year has been no different. Even when the traditional community activities cannot take place, people find ways to come together to support each other.

It finally looks like winter around here. On February 2nd, Punxsutawney Phil saw his shadow, so his prediction was 6 more weeks of winter. I thing he and Mother Nature must have had a major miscommunication because we really hadn't had much "winter" before now. So, bundle up and do your best to stay warm.

As a reminder, ANYONE can eat lunch at the Senior Center. We are serving dine-in, curbside pickup, and take-out meals. For those 60 and over, the charge is \$4.00 and for those 60 and younger, the charge is \$5.00. We just ask that you call by 10 AM to let us know that you would like a meal for the day. Takeouts and curbside pickup meals will be ready by 11:45 AM and dine-in serving starts at 12 NOON. Our menu can be found in our monthly newsletter, our Facebook page, on the KRVN daily menu announcements, and posted at the grocery store and post office.

- Coni Parks, Manager

Spring Grant Application Information

Bertrand Area Community Fund (BACF) is accepting grant applications beginning March 1, 2021 and closes on Mach 31, 2021. 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 2021. 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:

- Computer System (replace the server with removable hard disk cartridge) for the Bertrand Nursing Home ٠
- COVID-19 safety items & supplies for the Bertrand Nursing Home and Assisted Living Home
- Bridging the Learning Gap-technology for Bertrand Community Schools ٠
- Group video conference technology to the Village of Bertrand (for ALL community groups) ٠
- Swimming Pool Study for the Village of Bertrand ٠
- Veterans Park gazebo on Minor Avenue ٠
- ٠ Bertrand Holiday Food Box Project
- Renovations and upgrades to the Bertrand Community Building ٠
- Specialized playground equipment that allows children of all abilities to play together in the park ٠
- Support for the Young at Heart Senior Center through a Matching Challenge Grant and new storage unit ٠
- Various grants for equipment to the Bertrand Rural Fire District ۲

Since the inception of the Bertrand Area Community Fund in September of 2011, we have awarded a total of \$160,686.21 in grants to our Bertrand Community. We are appreciative of your financial support.

For BACF grant application information, please contact:

BACF Attn: Beverly Hansen

PO Box 153, Bertrand, NE 68927

Phone: 308-991-7777

Email: bertrandfoundation@gmail.com



The Bertrand Lions Club would like to thank each and everyone of you who made a donation to help get this service dog and it's training for Brooke Peterson during Give2Grow 2020! Please welcome Oakley to the Family!! Thanks for supporting the Bertrand Lions Club! The Ultimate Sacrifice

We set aside Memorial Day Each and every year To honor those who gave their lives Defending what we hold dear. In all the dark and deadly wars, Their graves prove and remind us, Our brace Americans gave their all To put danger far behind us. They made the ultimate sacrifice Fighting for the American way' We admire them and respect them On every Memorial Day.

-Joann Fuchs

NOTICE TO ALL HI-LINE GOLFERS

Dues for 2021 Golf Season

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

DUE MARCH 15, 2021

*2 payment plan available by application: 1st payment—March 15th, 2nd payment—June 15th. Late Fee \$50.00 after March 15, 2021.

+ Ctall Dans

\$150.00 \$165.00

	<u>Cart Stall Rent</u>
Gas Cart	
Electric Cart	

DUE MAY 1, 2021

*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.



Sosh Vinzant will be in charge of league play this season. All league participants must be course Source members. The fee to play is \$75 per person, and all non-member substitutes must pay greens fees. Source Contact Josh @ 308-999-9256 to register or for more information. League is limited to 30 teams.

Be sure to mark your calendar for the ANNUAL MEETING on Monday, March 1, 2021 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 done one bit, does it? We just celebrated the holiday season and now just finish up the events for Valentine's Day. Its hard to believe that spring is around the corner.

The residents are so grateful for all the cards, letter, phone calls, inside visits, yummy treats, flowers, Facetime, playing in the snow, and much more! We are truly blessed to be a part of a loving community.

With new guidelines for Nursing Home and Assisted Living residents and employees, we are now able to schedule inside visits following these guidelines. Please call and set up a time to visit!!

- Joey Kugler, Office Manager



Its Spring Cleaning Time

 $May 1^t$ to Tune 1^t

- 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.
- She 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 <u>NOT</u> 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 Agricultural Society, Inc.

[×] Many events have had to be canceled due to COVID, so the Bertrand Ag Society found ways to keep on [×] going! We have now successfully held two freezer meal fundraisers and can't wait to host the next. [×] Watch our Facebook group for updates on our next event, or talk to one of the members as we would [×] love to have you join us!

Son February 8, 2021, we held our annual meeting. Here are the election results of that meeting: President—Julie Nelson; Vice President—Jennifer Weber; Secretary—Emma Gennrich; Treasurer—Kamie Ackerman, and Vice Treasurer—Sara Stehl.

A big THANK YOU goes out to Jerod Weber, Pat Berry, Alan Wissmann, and anyone else who helped clear snow at the community building in order for the Hi-Line Golf Course to hos their fundraiser. We appreciate you very much.

We have two members leaving us and, as sad as were are, we wish them nothing but happiness with their next adventures and thank them for all of their hard work and dedication to the Bertrand Ag Society. Bev Hansen has served as a member for 12 years and Christina Davison has served as a member for 5 years. Ladies, we are going to miss you as members! If anyone is wanting to join the Bertrand Ag Society, please get a hold of Julie Nelson at 308-991-5136. We would love to have you join us!

Mark your calendars for the upcoming craft show that will take place October 16, 2021. We have some exciting new things we are working on to add to this day that will make it even more special. Stay tuned for details to come out soon! In the mean time, if you are not a registered vendor and want to be, please email bertrandcraftshow@gmail.com or call Pam Hansen at 308-991-3318.

Yard Waste Rules and Regulations

- Only grass. Leaves, garden waste, branches, trees and white goods will be allowed at the site. *White Goods Include: refrigerators, stoves, washers, dryers, dishwashers, and hot water heaters.
- No more than three (3) vehicles will be allowed in the dumping area at the same time.

- All items must be separated before dumping.
- The pit is for trees, twigs, small branches, and untreated wood ONLY. If you are dumping coals in the pit, make sure they have been soaked and cooled before they enter the pit.
- The grass pile is for grass, leaves, garden and yard waste. If these items are brought out in plastic bags, they will have to be dumped out and the bag or container taken back. Absolutely no cans, plastic, paper, or other trash can be mixed with the grass, leaves, or garden/yard waste.
- Batteries, tires, and chemicals/paints are NOT allowed at the Site.
- Wire, bedsprings, furniture, TVs, and small appliances are allowed in the large dumpster located at the Site.
- Any shingles, siding, or other building materials that might contain asbestos must be bagged and taken to the Holdrege landfill site.
- Card holders are prohibited from lending their card to anyone who is not a member of their immediate household. Business
 owners are prohibited from lending their card to anyone who is not employed by the business.

• All loads from outside of the Village of Bertrand must obtain a permit and pay a deposit and dumping fee at the Village Office. Notice: Any abuse at the site can be tracked. Video cameras are installed at the site, and the Municipal Superintendent can view the violation as it is being committed. The Municipal Superintendent is authorized to asses a fine of up to, but no more than \$250 per violation. A second violation and/or failure to pay a fine on or before it is due shall be subject to an immediate loss of privileges to access and use of the Yard Waste Site.

Bertrand Area Chamber

President Pam Snyder presided over the meeting held on February 22nd. It was great to be meeting and to begin making plans for chamber sponsored activities for 2021!

YES—WE ARE MOVING FORWARD WITH BER-TRAND DAYS—2021! The dates are June 26th—29th. Chamber members are in the process of contacting all event/ activities chairpersons. Rodeo Chair Matt Wilken has signed a contract with Phillips Rodeo Company for June 28th and 29th performances. The them is '<u>HOMETOWN HOMECOMING</u>'. We look forward to seeing many families, BHS graduates, and former residents. The Chamber is working on securing a carnival.

The annual membership drive is under way. The support of both personal and financial participation of our community is needed for the success and good times of ALL Bertrandites.

The Chamber's next sponsored event is Post Prom Activity on April 10th. Please contact Sandy Dannehl, Chamber Post Prom Liaison, if you would like to help in any way. If you have a specific passion or interest, contact Pam Snyder.

Bertrand's Summer Youth Baseball/Softball Program is hosting a Burger and Hot Dog Fund Raiser event on April 18th at the Bertrand Community Building from 11 AM to 3 PM. The summer ball program is for Bertrand Area students currently in Kindergarten—8th grade. Go to 'Bertrand Baseball & Softball' on Facebook or the Village of Bertrand's website's Event Calendar for program parent meeting dates and times. Contact Matt Hernandez for more information.

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

- Summer Softball and Baseball Programs (for Kindergarten—8th Grade Children) - Begins in May
- ♦ Annual Chamber Fishing Tournament—June TBA
- ♦ Annual Chamber Golf Tournament—August TBA

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

Chamber Links:

Email: bertrandareachamber@yahoo.com Facebook: Bertrand Area Chamber of Commerce Website: www.bertranchamber.com

Choice Gas Selection Period

The 2021 Nebraska Choice Gas program selection period has been expanded to run from March 18 through April 22, 2021. During this period, natural gas customers can choose their natural gas supplier and pricing option for the upcoming gas year, which begins June 1 and runs through May 31, 2022. Formed by Nebraska communities to ensure competition in the program, ACE is the only community-owned supplier in the program. ACE also 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 \$36,400—including \$4,316 for 2021—to Bertrand for community betterment use. ACE encourages customers to actively make a selection and offers several competitive pricing options. Pricing during the selection period is available on ACE's website: www.ACEenergy.org of by calling (800)-454-4759.

Important Dates

March 14	Daylight Savings Time
March 17	St. Patrick's Day
March 20	First Day of Spring
April 1	April Fools Day
April 2	Good Friday
April 4	Easter
April 21	Administrative Professional's Day
April 22	Earth Day
May 1	May Day
May 5	Cinco de Mayo
May 9	Mother's Day
May 15	National Armed Forces Day
May 31	Memorial Day

A Note from the Utilities Superintendent

Public health officials have always been concerned about cross connections and backflow in plumbing systems and in public drinking water supply distribution systems. People have utmost confidence in the water they drink. Open a faucet and we drink what comes out. If, however, the water is contaminated, sickness and even death can be the result. There are documented cases where cross connections have been responsible for contamination of drinking water. Many cross connections have resulted in the spread of disease; some cases have even resulted in death.

What is a cross connection?

A plumbing cross connection is defined s the actual or potential connection between a public water supply and a source of contamination or pollution.

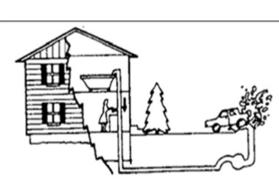
In other words, a cross connection is the link through which it is possible for a contaminating material to enter the drinking water supply system. Such links, or possible links, pose a serious public health hazard. Because of the hazards of cross connections, you and every other customer of the public water supply system have a responsibility to help safeguard your system and the public water supply system (city or rural water district) from cross connections.

How does contamination occur?

When a cross contamination exists, it is possible for a contaminant to enter the drinking water system when the pressure of the polluted source exceeds the pressure of the potable source. This may result in either a backsiphonage or backflow. Basically, either is a reversal in the normal direction of the water flow. Such situations can be produced through a variety of circumstances within plumbing systems, generally a drop in water pressure.

One example of backflow/backsiphonage:

- A. Contact Point: A submerged inlet in the second floor bathtub.
- B. *Cause of Reverse Flow:* An automobile breaks a nearby fire hydrant, causing negative pressure in the service line to the bouse, sucking dirty water out of the bathtub.
- C. *Suggested Correction:* The hot and cold water inlets to the bathtub should be above the rim of the tub.



D. How can you be affected?

"Stomach flu" (gastroenteritis) is perhaps the most common ailment suffered by those drinking contaminated water. The Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Georgia, and the US Environmental Protection Agency have documented many cases directly attributing the following illnesses and others to contaminated drinking water: *Brucellosis, Campylobacter, Chemical Poisoning, Diarrhea Enteritis, Dysentery, Giardiasis, Hepatitis, Hookworm, Paratyphoid Fever, Typhoid, Polio.*

Sources of Contamination Which Require Attention at Home:

Any area with plumbing fixtures...

Kitchen: Sink, Dishwasher, Garbage Disposal Bathroom: Toilet, Wash Basin, Bathtub Shower Outdoors: Hose Bib, Faucet to Which a Hose May Be Attached, Buried Yard Hydrants

Sources of Contamination Which Require Attention at Work:

Industrial, commercial, and health facilities are subject to many types of cross connections...

Bottling Plants; Fire Systems; Heating and Cooling Systems; Mixing Tanks; Paint and Ink Mills; Planting Works; Mortuaries; Printing Plants; Vet Clinics; Hydraulically Operated Equipment

Sources of Contamination Which Require Attention at Leisure Areas:

Many recreational facilities have separate water systems and plumbing connections, which also may be improperly installed and maintained...

Campgrounds; County Fairgrounds; Parks and Playgrounds; Golf Courses; Swimming Pools; Fountains; Recreational Waterfront Areas; Travel Trailer Connections

Examples of Residential Contamination

Occasional water pressure disorders can occur in the public water supply distributions system or within your own residence. These disorders can be cause by high uses of water, such as occurs when fire or flush hydrants are opened, or when a line breaks, or when there are equipment failures. Because of reduced pressure, the flow of the water in the system may be reversed. As a result, contaminants may flow backwards or be sucked into your plumbing system through unprotected hoses or other possible cross connections. Approved cross connection control devices are available which will prevent backflow or backsiphonage. Some water customers may also have private wells. If an old well remains in operation, with valves to allow its use in the customer's water supply system, the potential exists for backpressure from that well water into the municipal or rural water distribution system. The private will must be completely and permanently disconnected from the public water supply system.

How to Prevent Entry Contamination

When the hazard of contamination exists, effective stapes should be taken to correct the condition. *If the conditions cannot be corrected, then an appropriate backflow prevention device must be installed on the internal plumbing system.* This is generally the responsibility of the water user. Everyone should want to eliminate possible cross connections. Those who drink water on your premises will likely be the first to be injured if water becomes contaminated in your system.

An awareness of how contamination can enter a system is important. We must work together to keep everyone's water safe.

The people who are in charge of your water supply system are aware of the dangers of cross connections. Your public water supply system has adopted a policy on cross connection control to comply with Nebraska regulations.

One of the most effective and the most inexpensive controls is to always keep an air gap between any potential contaminant and the water system. Don't allow garden hoses or other hoses connected to the water system to drop into sources of contamination. Hydrants drain back even when shut off and contaminants can be siphoned into the hose or hydrant.

If you need further information or need assistance in determining what devices are appropriate, contact your public water system.

Matt Gregg, Utilities Superintendent: (308)991-8045 Village Office: (308)472-3455

NOTICES

Village of Bertrand

Upcoming Board Meetings: *second Tuesday of the month

> March 9 April 13 May 11

7:30 PM at the Village Hall

Board of Trustees: TJ Wilcox, Chairman; Bob Dahlgren, Lucas Evans, Brian Schroeder, Fred Spiegel

Golf Cart License \$15.00 per vehicle

*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)

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

Rate Increases

The Village Board of Trustees approved a 1.5% rate increase for garbage services. These rate increases will take effect March 1, 2021. **The increase will appear on the bill you receive in April.** A letter will be 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.

Cat and Dog License

DUE MAY 1, 2021

\$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 31,2021

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

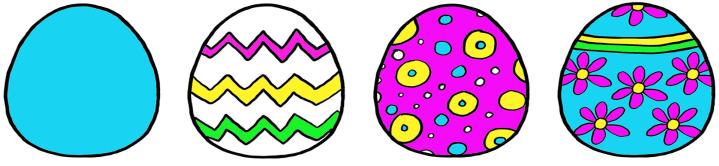
A Special Thank You

I just wanted to say Thank You to everyone that contributed to this newsletter! Matt Gregg Marcus Schwarz Beverly Hansen Pam Hansen Kevin Stehl Joey Kugler Coni Park Aaron Long Heidi High **Bertrand Annual**

EASTER EGG HONT

Saturday, April 3, 2021

10:00 AM



Preschool and Under—Bertrand Nursing Home Kindergarten and Up—Following in the Bertrand Park

MASKS WILL BE REQUIRED

Sponsored by the Reflections Club

Village of Bertrand PO Box 295 Bertrand, NE 68927