

Your *Country* Neighbor **Free!** January 2022

Auburn • Brownville • Cook • Falls City • Johnson • Nebraska City • Nemaha • Peru • Rock Port • Syracuse • Tecumseh • Verdon



The American Bald Eagle. More eagle photos on page 10.

A WINTER GIFT

by Devon Adams

Think of a Winter blanket of snow and ice as a giant sheet of shimmering tissue paper that wraps Spring, Summer and Autumn as a lovely gift that everyone wants to open. Then be patient until the paper melts into the rest of the year.


More of Devon's Poetry on page 13.

Sweeten your Coffee Break with these Views and Voices from the Valleys of the Nemaha. And peruse the happenings in a Nebraska town; pages 6,7,8,9.



Trumpeter Swans and Canada Geese on Muskrat House

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Your Country Neighbor

Voices and Views From the Valleys of the Nemaha

Publisher & Photographer, Stephen Hassler

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Online at yourcountryneighbor.com

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"Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

A MESSAGE OF GRATITUDE

This issue marks 20 years of continuous monthly publishing of *Your Country Neighbor*. I am grateful to and appreciative of my writers, my advertisers, my printer, and you for your part; reading, sharing, caring. The next 20 years will be better than the last, but first, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Stephen

This Month's Writers & Contributors

Devon Adams 13

Angela Allgood - Peru City News, 6,7,8,9

Stephen Hassler 2, 14

Merri Johnson 12

DiAnna Loy 8

Ean Miller 7

Dorothy Rieke 14

Shiela Tinkham 12

Thank You!

Covid Update

Stephen Hassler, Peru

Here is one of Nebraska's excuses for not providing all Covid data to the public. *"State and Federal law restricts the release of COVID-related data depending on the source from which it was collected, and whether or not the identity of the individuals involved can be ascertained. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services is a covered entity subject to federal restrictions under HIPAA."*

But, if the source can be identified and if the identity of the individuals can be ascertained, then the public should be kept informed.

The threat level in Nemaha County, Nebraska has been fluctuating between "Very High Risk" and "Severely High Risk" for the last month, and although dozens of cases have been reported as 'positive' in December, it appears that deaths of County residents at hospitals outside the county are not recorded locally. This lack of information could result in complacency among county residents. Be alert. Be informed. Be inquiring.

Reminders

Choose to protect others, as well as yourself.

Omicron has not replaced Delta, it has joined it!

Do Not Relax Your Handwashing.

Flu season is back to *normal* Same as 2019.

Masks work in the fight to end the pandemic.

Vaccines work better.

New "Positive" Cases of Covid-19 in our
"Country Neighborhood" Counties

<u>Date Range</u>	<u>Nemaha</u>	<u>Otoe</u>	<u>Johnson</u>	<u>Richardson</u>
10/14 - 10/27	27	110	15	15
11/03 - 11/16	49	129	18	55
11/07 - 11/20	61	134	23	72
11/11 - 11/24	47	102	20	75
12/09 - 12/22	54	115	18	103
12/16 - 12/29	39	93	10	86

A photograph of the Larson Motor Group dealership. In the foreground, a tall sign lists the brands: CHEVROLET, BUICK, GMC, Cadillac, and LARSON MOTORS. To the left, a large American flag flies on a tall pole. The dealership building is in the background, with many cars parked in the lot. The sky is blue with some clouds.

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When not frozen over, the Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge is crowded with migratory waterfowl and shore birds.

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View at sunset from H-136 at Nemaha turn.

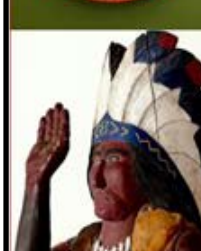
Flatwater Folk Art Museum

Open Most Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays 1:00 to 4:00 P.M.

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- Emergencies
- Referrals

Peru City News
is a monthly news section in
Your Country Neighbor
See pages 6,7,8,9

Peru City News
is a volunteer project promoting
**Communication, Information, and
Pride in the Peru Community**
and is supported by Peru community members.
Thank You Everyone Who Participates!

Want to keep in touch with happenings in Peru?
Visit *Your Country Neighbor* online at;

www.yourcountryneighbor.com

or

Find *Your Country Neighbor* in fine businesses in
the cities listed beneath the banner on page 1.



Starlings pausing during migration.

PERU CITY NEWS

Communication • Information • Pride In Community

Town Hall Meeting

by Angela Allgood

The Town Hall meeting on December 16th was very informative. Several topics were talked about and I will go through each segment and give you a run-down of information.

The levee / Lagoons – Three years after the flood, the levee is becoming a project that is beginning to move forward. The Mayor thanked several people for seeing this project through. He said, he didn't know what it would be like doing it on our own. If it is not fixed, the City will need to add a berm, which has a \$5 million dollar price tag. Talks of fixing the levee are ongoing. We should know the outcome in January or February. The lagoons should be fixed and back to pre-flood conditions around February or March 2022. If Peru does not fix the levee or add a berm that is approved, the State could fine us if there is another flood. The people of Peru need to reach out to our Federal Delegates and tell them how important the levee is / and why to Peru. Delegates are Deb Fischer and Ben Sasse.

Market Place - The new store – Lindy and DJ Schmidt were at the Town Meeting and stated that they are working with their marketing group. They said the group had a drawing of what the store would look like, but it was not in the owner's hands before the Town Hall Meeting. Lindy stated that demolition has started on the building. At different times; we will see crew members coming and going. The Schmidts stated that they will have a butcher at the store and they will have fresh produce twice a week. Lindy stated the dream open date would be March but the reality opening date would be May of 2022.

Town Hall Continued on page 8 >>>>>



Visiting Santa on 5th Street, Downtown Peru, 12/12/2021

The Peru Community Improvement Group Had A Successful Community Christmas Event!

by Angela Allgood

The home decorating contest found seven families wanting the prize and glory of "Best Decorated." Kelly Adams won and was awarded a \$25 gift certificate from "Zachs."

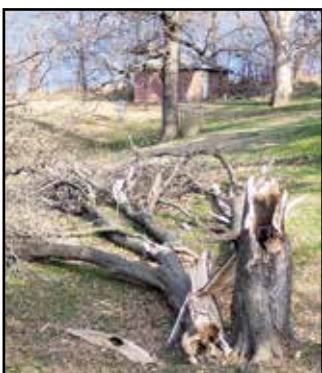


The winning residence was 1005 5th Street.

As you walked downtown, you saw the fire truck which meant only one thing... Santa was here! You could sit on Santa's lap and get a bag of goodies. Then you went into the City Hall, not to warm up, because it was a beautiful afternoon, but to decorate cookies and ornaments!

They went through three dozen cookies by 4 pm and the Gingerbread man cookie was the most popular to decorate! Cookies were donated by Charlotte Carpenter and Julia Perry. Kids were having a great time decorating with Nerds candy, mini-marshmallows, and so much more sugary fun! Each child decorated one cookie.

Christmas Event Continued on page 7 >>>>>



A view from 5th Street;
Wind Damage in Neal Park.

<<< *Christmas, Continued from page 6*



Food Drive Photo by Theresa Westfall

There were a couple of “first year” events as well. The food drive hosted by the Peru Cemetery Auxiliary went very well! Great job to the community of Peru for pulling together to help those in need!

Seven children entered the coloring contest. However two children could not be identified for a trophy because their papers were without a name. The remaining five received a trophy. The children were: Noah and Henry Montenelli, and Edison, Vada, and Harleigh Foster! Congratulations!

The Memorial Tree was also a “first year” event. The tree was inside the City Hall and looked lovely. It was a beautiful tribute to family, friends, and neighbors we have lost through the years, those lost but never forgotten, especially during the Holiday Season.

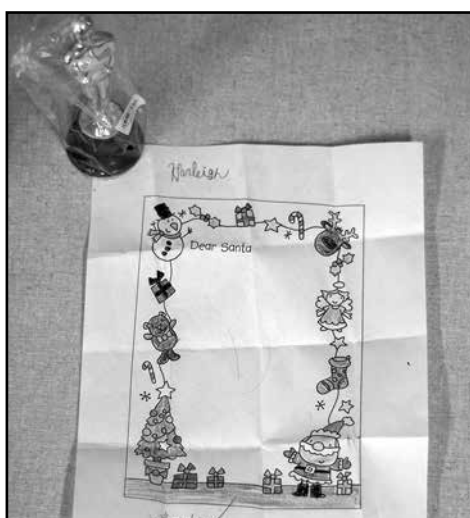
Winds and Limbs, Oh my!

by Angela Allgood

WOW! Who was in their basement December 15??? I would have been if I wasn't more scared of my crawl space.

Wind gusts up to 80 miles per hour were reported in the area, and it took a few material victims with it. Casey's General Store lost the glass in their door. The wind caught it and shattered the glass. One resident lost their metal shed and near the same area another resident was nervous about how well their tin building would hold up!

Peru State College seemed to receive the brunt of it. The big, hollow tree at Neal Park (see photo page 6), came down and there were several trees down across campus. Don't worry however. I think the college can still be known as the “Campus of a Thousand Oaks!”



One of the Winners of the Coloring Contest

Student Life

by Ean Miller, Sophomore at PSC

With the burden of first semester's finals and academics lifted, students at Peru State College can breathe for the remainder of winter and the start of the new semester.

With the previous finals season being the first to occur without the online testing conditions and excuse of covid to explain many students' academic woes, many first-and second-year students found themselves in a tough position.

The new-found stress of these students was apparent in the atmosphere around campus, particularly in the library where many students congregate to study and enjoy a coffee with their classmates -- but with finals, the mood turned stressful rather than social.

This compounded with the new variant seemingly suddenly appearing produced a dazed and confused feeling among students-particularly those who live far from campus and had plans to visit family out of state or internationally.

But the holidays continue despite the possibility of the pandemic personally visiting the campus after the immense travels and gatherings of the bobcats. Especially with the cold conditions where covid thrives.

After a successful semester for Peru's fall athletes, the outlook for the spring sports and their athletes is a good one. With basketball underway and other sports like baseball and softball starting up, there won't be any shortage of excitement for the athletes on campus.

And with the first semester finally over, students' burdens are lifted, and a fresh start has been bestowed upon the bobcats this January. How the semester unfolds as it heads towards summer- only time can tell.

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January 2022

Your Country Neighbor

7

Procrastinator Vendor Fair

by Angela Allgood

The 1st Annual Procrastinator Vendor Fair in Peru on December 18th went well! There were ten vendors and it was a steady flow of people all day. There were a lot of great last minute deals and products available for those last minute Christmas shoppers! What was great ... they were all local vendors! It was awesome to see how many people came out to support the local, small business owners!

If you missed it, that's okay! Keep an eye on your PCN pages, (Peru City News), for next year's event! It will be bigger and better!

<<<<<<< *Town Hall Continued from page 6*

Steamboat Trace – Peggy Groff gave a little background of the Steamboat Trace. She stated that Steve Woerth of Brownville wanted to re-organize a group to move forward with caring for the Trail. The group consists of two people from Brownville, John Locke and Steve Woerth; two from Peru, Peggy Groff and Jeremiah Villeneuve; two from Nebraska City, Kelly Bequette and Dan Giittinger, Bob Hilske of Auburn. Peggy stated that 11 miles from Nebraska City to Peru is open and now the group needs to work on opening the trail from Peru to Brownville. She suggested Peru Organizations adopt a part of the trail and when you use it, help pick up around the area you adopted. Peggy also talked about the old camp ground. It used to have shelters, a bench, and of course the brick shelter by the trail. She stated that Steve Bartles with the NRD thinks the group can return it to good shape. Peggy stated that they can always use volunteers and fundraisers. They are excited to promote more activities on the trail.

Nebraska Forest Service Partnership – Deborah Solie stated that the NFS is assisting with mapping infrastructure for Peru's green spaces. NFS has already helped with tree inventory, tree planting and a visionary meeting to see what townspeople want to do with the area north of Peru. The inventory also marked trees that need to be removed and trees that need to be watched by the city. A better plan should be presented in 2022.

Town Hall Continued on page 9 >>>>>

Tuesday Literary Club Reads

by DiAnna Loy

The theme for the Tuesday Literary Club this year, as we enter into our 100th year, is journeys. The book Christmas Bells by Jennifer Chiaverini was recommended to me and it hits a wide variety of journey boxes; physical, emotional, caring.

As the book opens, we meet a cast of characters in present-day Boston, each of whom has many irons in the fire and is about to embark on journeys of their own and collectively. Sophie is an elementary music teacher who has just been told her position will cease to exist at the end of the school year. She has also recently broken off her engagement and has no idea how to tell everyone and start over again. Lucas is a civil engineer who volunteers as the accompanist for the children's church choir that Sophie directs. He too is just ending a relationship. We also meet Laurie, mother of Charlotte and Alex who sing in the children's choir. Charlotte is serving as mother and father as her husband is stationed in Afghanistan. We will throw in Father Ryan the priest at St. Margaret's and Sister Winifred who serves as the church's all-around helpmate. So many journeys starting to unfold.

As we go on to Chapter Two, we find we are in 1860 with the Henry Wadsworth Longfellow family. Lincoln has just been elected president but has not been sworn into office. The nation is poised for the start of the war between the states; knowing that it is inevitable but praying for a miracle that the war can be averted. Henry lives in Craig House with his wife, two sons, and three daughters. The oldest of Henry's sons is chomping at the bit to enlist to fight in the coming war and Henry thanks God every day that Charley is too young. Once again, the journeys waiting to unfold are numerous.

Jennifer Chiaverini is an excellent story teller, weaving these two stories of Christmas time together flawlessly. I always look for the merging of the stories when a book is written with two times/settings. The joining of these stories comes when present-day 4th grader Charlotte is assigned to write a story that has the potential of being entered in the Alice Longfellow Writing Contest. Alice is Henry's oldest daughter.

Happy reading!

Peru Bark Park and
Community Gathering Spot

by Angela Allgood

The Nemaha County Leadership Class #7 did a survey with the Peru community and their survey said that Peruvians wanted recreation projects.

The class is looking to re-purpose the derelict ball field into a dog park and community gathering place as well as honor the generations who played ball on the field.

They are in the planning stages and are currently asking for donations for a variety of items. They need to purchase picnic tables, grills, fence gates, panels of fencing and a plaque for home plate!

If you would like to donate and “invest in Peru,” you can donate via Paypal: Nemaha County Leadership or donate by check and make it payable to Auburn Development Council. You are also welcome to donate cash. All proceeds donated will go directly to the project and anything left over will stay in a fund for the Bark Park and Community Gathering Spot only. We were informed that it will not be used for any other projects.

The NCL class had a fundraiser in Auburn. In the spring they will hire someone to help them move forward with the project.

There will be more to this story as NCL #7 progresses in their plans.

<<<<<<< Town Hall Continued from page 8

Sid Brown Park – Peru received a grant to help repair the picnic shelter and Solie is seeking grant money to help purchase equipment. She is working with one company to see if they can offer playground equipment that hits all ages.

Hazard Mitigation on the north side of town – The city of Peru is working with NEMA to contact home / land owners on the north end and are starting to move forward. However, this also takes time. The homes / land will have to be assessed, the city will buy them at fair market value and at that point, the homes will have to be torn down and nothing will be able to be built down there. It will have to be green space. For example, a community garden or an RV spot, but the pads have to be gravel and not concrete, etc. The Steam Boat Trace committee is working with the NRD because the NRD is Federally regulated and not part of the FEMA buy-out. On this land, there could be more permanent RV pads, water, shelters, etc.

Street Projects – Fifth Street is the main project JEO is working on for the town. We all know the lovely potholes going round the curve and down the boys’ dorm hill. Those are due to poor drainage and putting in better drainage is the main goal. The City has \$500,000 in funding and 25% as a local match. Please be patient as work is being done. Expect detours. The pain will be worth it!

Solie mentioned that this is a really positive time for Peru.



St. Clara's Catholic Church
604 6th Street
Pastor Fr. Timothy Danek
Mass - Sunday 8:30 am
Confessions - Sunday 8:00-8:20 am



Peru Community Church
520 Nebraska Street
Pastors Raymond & Rebecca Girard
Services - Sunday 10:45 am



Northridge Church
Pastor Daniel Hutchison
Services at Peru City Hall Sunday 10 am

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Winter

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

“January”

The god Janus faces both backwards and forwards.

The word January is derived from “Janus”

This January look forward, forward towards beauty,
look forward to truth, look forward to what is good,
look forward to a New Year in 2022!

“Snow”

Snow, scintillating, lovely, flowing

Snow softly fluttering on my strong oak.

My oak wearing her mantle of snow,
glistening in the moonlight.

My oak wearing scintillating Snow
soft, lovely and flowing,

Snow, this cold January day...

Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson, Auburn

Today marks the winter solstice, ushered in last evening with an impressive full moon and temperatures that dipped into the teens; a jolting change from the unusual (or maybe soon-to-be-usual) warm, December weather that culminated in a deadly tornado outbreak earlier this month. Our hometown of Aurelia, Iowa, was hit by an F1 twister. Thankfully, there were no injuries to humans, though much tree injury and a collapsed grain elevator and other structure damage was reported.

Nemaha County and environs also experienced wind damage, including to roofs that had just been replaced after last summer’s hailstorm! In addition to twisters, the straight-line winds were classified as derechos. Remember those in central Iowa a couple summers ago?

All that unexpected, stormy, summer-like weather makes a person ready for a taste of climatologically normal winter weather. In fact, the January/February issue of Midwest Living reminds readers of the good side of cold weather with a note to readers on the front cover.

“Dear Winter,

Welcome back. (REALLY!)

We’re ready for your crackling fires and ice castles, cozy soups and sled rides.

You give us time to dream – of road trips, paint colors, and garden plans.

A new year brings possibility. Like a snow day.”

I like that word “possibility.” It’s so much less stress-inducing than “resolution,” don’t you think? Dreaming of things to come in the new year is much more uplifting than contemplating what it will take to work up the gumption to make them happen. I don’t know about you, but those Peloton commercials just don’t do it for me.

Flipping through the magazine, I found a feature about Cathy Drabkin, a home baker from Kansas. The article claims that her “no-knead dough can do it all.” Can it be true? A no-knead bread recipe that even I can master?

The article insists that her four-ingredient dough can yield multiple breads with NO kneading. Just four quick stretches, followed by overnight rest and shaping, and my kitchen could be filled with the weight gain-inducing aroma of French baguettes, focaccia, loaf breads and pita. Sigh.

Alas, I have tried – and failed – repeatedly to make edible yeast bread by hand. Our old bread machine does a passable job, but there’s always that paddle-shaped void in the bottom of the loaf. Forsaking yeast breads years ago, I took up the quest for the ultimate buttermilk biscuit. I adore a good buttermilk biscuit. In fact, I’m listening to a You Tube recording of a Prairie Home Companion right now just so I can hear Garrison Keillor’s Powder Milk Biscuits commercial. If only my biscuits were as “tasty and expeditious.” I confess that the pop-open, refrigerated canister variety are as good as mine. But, it’s the dream, the quest, the attempt, that matters, right?!?

I am definitely tempted to try Drabkin’s no-talent-required bread recipe. The distraction and busyness of the holidays will be past soon enough and perhaps a fortuitous snowstorm will provide the perfect opportunity to sequester myself in the kitchen, elbow-deep in dough. Of course, I don’t have a Rofco stone-hearth oven like Drabkin has....but I’m willing to go out on a limb and try my hand at yeast bread one more time. If it flops, I can always go back to biscuits.

Here’s wishing all your dreams for 2022 come true.



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JANUARY ??

By now it must be January, but we won't know for sure unless the calendar says so. Weather writes it's own history, and in recent memory, days seem to be drawn out of a bin full of wild cards. We can't guess the weather ahead of time, and it would be simply stupid to bet on future conditions. So, I'd say it's wise to say a prayer of thanks just to be alive.

IMPROVISING

You do know how it is with dominoes, don't you? One bad move and your day slides away like a split grocery sack on a slick sidewalk! But, don't fret, yet. Keep in mind that such setbacks are just temporary, until the next one sneaks up behind you. It can even be fun to run with the way the wind is blowing. Don't despair that your plans got twisted. It may be a sign to resign from hating your list.

THEN AND NOW

The sun spins in time to a rhyme by an author who made up our whole universe out of a cloud of gas and a big bang. Our tiny lives are so short that their signature leaves no more than a smudge on the paper in the history book of our pretty blue planet. But numbers matter, and precision is the key that runs the mechanism that is like the inside of a giant clock. Think of the pristine workings of a fine wristwatch or the tick-tocker that sets on the mantel over your fireplace. All those gears and whirly parts divide our days into mini-minutes so exact that they are step for step in line with the movements of our sun. We and all the other rocks in the universe run on a schedule that is so far from random as to be the proof of intentional existence.

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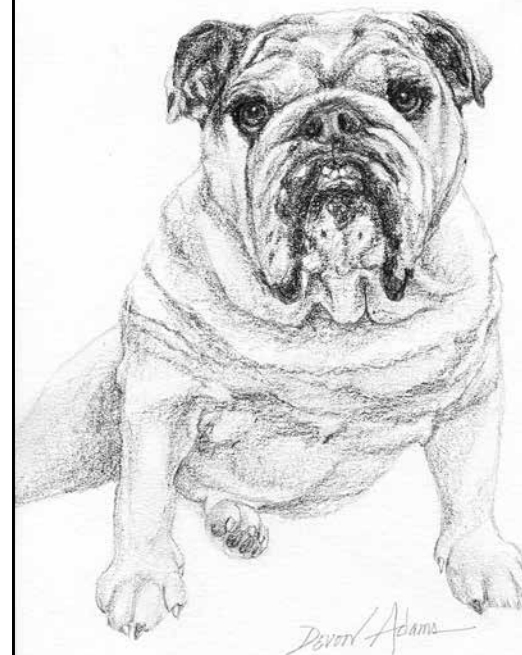
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AN INSIDE ROOM

While adults are intent on seeing what they want to see, the child is crawling on the floor looking at what is really there. He finds an old kind of stool that has a round seat and iron claw feet that hold clear glass balls on the floor. He peers inside the spheres to find an upside down room the same as the room that he is in, with people walking on the ceiling. Now he knows that he can always get away to invisible places all his own.

CIRCLES AND LOOPS

Do you ever doodle on a pad of paper, with lines and curves and random designs made while your mind is not in synch with your pen? Maybe your hand is working on it's own brand of shorthand that only you can read. Later, you look at the scratch pad and can remember exactly what you were thinking as your pen or pencil made it's abstract construction. Certainly it sounds like an unbreakable way to code your thoughts.

What Lies “Within Us” Makes Wishes Come True!

Dorothy Rieke, Julian

Ralph Waldo Emerson once observed, “What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us.” It is true that our objectives, our abilities, and our traits definitely influence who we are and what we do best during the past, present, and future days.

Then, too, three kinds of people exist. There are those who let things happen, those who sit around and question, “What happened?” and those who make things happen. Utilizing what lies within us and making things happen represent the best strategy for our lives today.

Developing good characteristics, determining objectives and goals, and following up with work efforts bring results of the best kind in creating the kind of life we want for ourselves.

This may mean reevaluating our needs, revitalizing dormant skills, and calling on our experience. These all are essential when accepting responsibility for the quality of our lives.

Beginning with a plan is a good way to organize and arrange. Proceed with confidence, utilize appropriate knowledge and skills, and work for perfection.

The following will assist in utilizing your resources and following up on plans and goals:

Live by deliberate intention. Know what you can do and what you want out of life. Aimlessly wandering through life leaves too much to chance.

Be self-sufficient, relying on your talents and your abilities to achieve. Rely on your own inner support qualities and respect them.

Manage your emotions. Control anger, envy, and jealousy. Replace these with kindness, cooperation, and thoughtfulness.

Be a partner with yourself. Work according to what you want out of life. Act as if it’s impossible to fail. Be self-reliant in seeking solutions.

Select the work you like most and are equipped to do. Enjoyment of work is important in the scheme of things.

Think like one of action but act like a person of thought. Be slow to make major decisions.

Select friends and associates with care for their knowledge, skills, and work abilities. Building an effective communication system between you and others is essential.

What lies “within us” counts in every day of our lives. Our inner resources must never be overlooked or ignored. They must be sharpened for use.

Some futures may develop by chance, but we need to “make” our futures to some extent, by accepting responsibility and “doing.” Doing what we can with what we have will assure that we get what we want from life.

Window From The Past

Stephen Hassler, Peru

While gazing out my window on 5th Street one lazy Saturday afternoon, I was reminded of growing up on the farm, and my lazy thoughts went back to when I was only 10 or 11, to my tree house ‘hideout,’ from which I looked out upon my world that was the farmyard below.

There was the house and barn of course, and the corncrib under which my dog had her puppies. The three haystacks along the cattle-yard fence from which I jumped from one stack to another. The upstairs window of my room from which I strung a radio antenna wire over to the barn. The cow paths in the surrounding pasture over which I rode my bicycle.

I remember mulberries in June and purple lips, fireworks in July and gray clouds of smoke against the black night sky, green apples in August and sour faces. There is the evening memory of my father carrying buckets of milk from the barn to the “separator house”, chased by cats and kittens, their necks stretching to catch splashes of milk out of the buckets sloshing to the rhythm of my father’s steps, the air humid and thick with Summer. Toads croaking their evening chorus, happy to be out of the daytime heat, June bugs flying into the porch door screen, moths circling the pole light, my parents sitting on the porch steps in the dark after supper, Dad with his cigarette, Mom with her iced coffee. And the stars!

The long lane up to the rural mailbox, impassable during times of heavy snow or rain. And not far down the gravel road, the one-room schoolhouse and the big Maple tree that was “home” for hide and seek at recess, and later, walking home from school through the pasture, carrying my empty lunch pail along the winding crick with its steep banks.

I wrote down the memories as fast as they flooded my senses, wondering why I valued them so much. My pre-teen years were not that amazing, or were they? A time of innocence, love of life, treasures of the past, foundations for the future. So many of my skills and interests were learned then; changing my bicycle tire and the Ford’s spark plugs, building a go-cart and setting a corner post, building a raft for the crick, catching butterflies with a home-made net, taking black and white photographs with a two-dollar pin-hole camera.

Maybe the best days of our lives are the simple ones, void of complications and anxiety, filled with the adventures of childhood. And maybe that’s why I love my window on 5th Street. A view of my world in the present, and sometimes, through a glass murky with memories, a view of another world with simpler days, and that 10-year-old who I used to be. It doesn’t seem fair that I remember so much about that boy, yet he didn’t know anything about me at all, and was unaware that he was creating these memories I cherish. He was just having fun, not realizing that his experiences would become valued recordings.

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I captured this 'Winter' sunset on my way home
the evening of 12/26/2021.

This scene reminds me of John Denver's lyric;
"I've seen it raining fire in the sky."



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“All good things must come to an end.”
This favorite icon succumbed to the wind.



Men's Basketball At Peru State, Dec. 2021





Women's Basketball At Peru State, Dec. 2021



Peru State College News

Youth Camp to be Hosted by Men's and Women's Bowling

Peru State bowling Coordinator Brenda Lutz announced they will be hosting two youth bowling camps for grades K-12. For grades K-3rd grade the camp will be on Saturday, January 15, at the Bowldog Alley in Auburn, NE. The check-in time will be at 8:30 a.m. and the bowling will be from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m. with lunch to follow. To register for the K-3rd grade bowling camp here is the link: <https://register.ryzer.com/camp.cfm?sport=23&id=204281>

For grades 4-12th grade the camp will be on Saturday, January 22, at the Bowldog Alley in Auburn, NE. For the 4th-12th grade camp, check in time will be at 8:30 a.m. The bowling will start at 9:00 a.m. and run until 11:00 a.m. with a lunch to follow. To register for the 4th-12th grade bowling camp, here is the link: <https://register.ryzer.com/camp.cfm?sport=23&id=204282>

The cost of both camps will be \$30 dollars per camper. The camper will receive a microfiber towel with Peru State Bowling logo on it and a lunch.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Brenda Lutz at blutz@peru.edu or at 402-872-2350.

Competitive Dance 2021-22 Preview

The competitive dance season for the Peru State dance team begins on Dec. 18 as their first competition is at the Dance Team Union (DTU) Regionals in Kansas City, Mo.

At the helm of the competitive dance program is Noah Roddy as he begins his third season as the dance coach.

The roster will consist of ten dancers consisting of juniors: Addison Gyhra (Auburn) and Azlyn Fendrick (Lincoln); sophomores: Haven Appel (Omaha) and Isabella Watkins (Omaha); and freshmen: Grace Greenwood (Chappell), Bernice Hilker (Omaha), Olivia Mattran (Lincoln), Katie Rabstejnek (Wymore), McKinnley Warner (Plattsmouth), and Maddison Wittwer (Columbus).

The competitive dance schedule consists of seven competitions and includes a trip to the Universal Dance Association (UDA) College Dance Team National Championship located in Orlando, Fla. For the complete schedule please go to: pscbobcats.com/sports/dance/schedule

Competitive Cheer 2021-22 Preview

The competitive cheer begins a new era as first-time cheer coaches Cara Cepuran and Carlene Cudney are in their first season as the new Peru State College coaches for the competitive cheer team.

The first competition will be on Jan. 19 in the Concordia Invite in Seward. The competitive cheer team will consist of seniors: Panashe Jacha (Elkhorn), Jillian Karl (Nebraska City), and Cassandra Seckel (Columbus); juniors: Brooke Bruland (Palmer), Luis Rodriguez (Carolina, P.R.), and Benny Tomas (Wesley Chapel, FL); sophomores: Haven Appel (Omaha), Gary Flemming (Saint Petersburg, FL), Laini Fullerton (Lincoln), Erin Howard (Sabetha, KS.), Victoria Jacox (Bellevue), Elizabeth Jenkins (St. Joseph, MO), Curtis Miller (Genoa), McKenzie Ward (Bellevue), and Rebecca Wilson (Ashland); and freshmen: Clay McAdams (Moss Point, MS), Sarah Vodicka (Geneva), and Aspyr Williams (Glenwood, Iowa).

The competitive cheer team will have six competitions in 2022. For the complete competitive cheer schedule, please go to: pscbobcats.com/sports/cheerleading/schedule

Peru State Football 2021 Season Wrap-Up

Second-year head football coach Casey Creehan had a successful year at the helm of the Peru State football program.

The 'Cats won the most games since the 2017 season when they also went 7-4. The Bobcats finished 7-4 overall and 3-2 in the Heart of America Athletic Conference North Division. Peru State's biggest win of the season came at home on September 11 when they beat the then-#17-ranked Benedictine College Ravens 45-21 in the Oak Bowl.

Peru State would have two losses to the eventual division champions. From the south it would be Central Methodist taking the title and from the north it would be Grand View. Both made the NAIA National Football Championships.

Peru State had one of the best defenses in the country during the regular season. The 'Cats gave up 211.3 total yards per game which was second in the NAIA at the end of the regular season. Teams only were able to gnarl 154.3 passing yards per game which would be good for fourth best in the NAIA.

BOBCAT BASKETBALL

— WOMEN'S —

DECEMBER

12/1	Mount Mercy Univ.	Cedar Rapids, IA	5:30 p.m.
12/4	Graceland Univ.	Peru, NE	2:00 p.m.
12/11	Grand View Univ.	Peru, NE	2:00 p.m.

JANUARY

1/5	Benedictine College	Atchison, KS	5:30 p.m.
1/8	Evangel Univ.	Peru, NE	12:00 p.m.
1/12	Culver-Stockton College	Canton, MO	5:30 p.m.
1/15	Park Univ.	Peru, NE	2:00 p.m.
1/19	Mount Mercy Univ.	Peru, NE	5:30 p.m.
1/22	MidAmerica Nazarene Univ.	Olathe, KS	2:00 p.m.
1/26	William Penn Univ.	Peru, NE	5:30 p.m.
1/29	Central Methodist Univ.	Fayette, MO	2:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

2/2	Missouri Valley College	Marshall, MO	5:30 p.m.
2/5	Baker Univ.	Peru, NE	2:00 p.m.
2/9	Clarke Univ.	Dubuque, IA	5:30 p.m.
2/12	Grand View Univ.	Des Moines, IA	2:00 p.m.
2/16	Culver-Stockton College	Peru, NE	5:30 p.m.
2/19	Graceland Univ.	Lamoni, IA	2:00 p.m.



2021 - 2022
SEASON

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— MEN'S —

DECEMBER

12/1	Mount Mercy Univ.	Cedar Rapids, IA	7:30 p.m.
12/4	Graceland Univ.	Peru, NE	4:00 p.m.
12/11	Grand View Univ.	Peru, NE	4:00 p.m.
12/17	Morningside College	Fort Lauderdale, FL	8:00 p.m.
12/18	Dakota Wesleyan Univ.	Fort Lauderdale, FL	6:00 p.m.

JANUARY

1/5	Benedictine College.	Atchison, KS	7:30 p.m.
1/8	Evangel Univ.	Springfield, MO	2:00 p.m.
1/12	Culver-Stockton College	Canton, MO	7:30 p.m.
1/15	Park Univ.	Peru, NE	4:00 p.m.
1/19	Mount Mercy Univ.	Peru, NE	7:30 p.m.
1/22	MidAmerica Nazarene Univ.	Olathe, KS	4:00 p.m.
1/26	William Penn Univ.	Peru, NE	7:30 p.m.
1/29	Central Methodist Univ.	Fayette, MO	4:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

2/2	Missouri Valley College	Marshall, MO	7:30 p.m.
2/5	Baker Univ.	Peru, NE	TBA
2/9	Clarke Univ.	Dubuque, IA	7:30 p.m.
2/12	Grand View Univ.	Des Moines, IA	4:00 p.m.
2/16	Culver-Stockton College	Peru, NE	7:30 p.m.
2/19	Graceland Univ.	Lamoni, IA	4:00 p.m.



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