

Your *Country* Neighbor

Free
July 2018

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A Magazine for Small Towns and Rural America



One of the Disappearing Monuments of the Great Plains



Warm, Wet, Fun!

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Your Country Neighbor

Voices and Views From the Valleys of the Nemaha
Publisher & Photographer, Stephen Hassler



The major construction project on the PSC campus continues to be the *Performing Arts Center*. Interior work has begun on the project and it is slated to be completed in the Fall of 2018.

See page 15 for more PSC News

Tourists! Visitors! Welcome!

You will have a good time exploring communities in the Valleys of the Nemaha River. Take this free publication home with you to use as a reference for your next visit to the area.

Readers!

Returning this month are most of your favorite Nemaha Valley columnists. This 16-page issue can be your 2-cups-of-coffee companion.

Viewers!

In this issue you will find some of my recent photographs of wildlife and rural landscapes of Southeast Nebraska..

Shoppers!

Keep up with local businesses and news of what's special this month. And please thank them for advertising in "Your Country Neighbor".

July Writers

Devon Adams
Steve Adams
Stephen Hassler
Merri Johnson
Janet Sobczyk
Marilyn Woerth
Merlin Wright

Thank You!

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Auburn; *Cafe Metro, Dutch Pantry, Orscheln Farm & Home, Sun Mart, Cody's USave Pharmacy*

Brownville; *Lyceum Cafe, Whiskey Run Creek Winery,*

Falls City; *Art Gallery, Sun Mart, Library, Norma's Antiques*

Hiawatha; *The Daily Perk, The Bread Bowl*

Nebraska City; *Fareway, Walgreens, Johnny's Corner Cafe*

Peru; *Deckers, Mainstreet Bank, PSC*

Rock Port; *Food Country, Do It Best Hardware*

Sabetha; *Hearthside Country Store, Health Mart*

Syracuse; *Do It Best Hardware*

Tecumseh; *Central Market, Harvest Bowl*

Guitar Poems

Steve Adams



She left that day
Never turned around
She couldn't wait
To leave this town
Had to get her feet
On some new ground
Back on that highway
And laying it down

Traveling fast
Not looking back
She knew that was
where it's at
Traveling fast
And laying it down

Back on that highway
And laying it down
Had to get her feet
On some new ground
traveling fast
And laying it down ...

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Window On Fifth Street

Stephen Hassler

On weekends in my college years, I would join with friends to play touch football. Afterward we might go to a bar for drinks and talk about sports and girls. In later years I would meet friends after work for beers and maybe shoot some pool. We would talk about our jobs and girls.

I suppose there are a number of people who meet “over lunch” for camaraderie, keeping in touch, or for ‘community’ purposes. Meeting over beverages offers a pleasant time and place for conversation. These days “coffee” is my beverage of choice when it comes to having conversation with friends. We talk about many things, including, occasionally, wives and/or other women.

I have observed two types of “coffees”. The first is an early morning, small town cafe grouping of farmers or other businessmen before going out into the field, the office or other workplace. The other “coffee” is a bit later in the morning with ‘retired’ guys “catching up” on whatever happened since

Continued on page 8 >>>>>



The White Pelican migrates, as seen here at the Loess Hills Refuge, May 2018. The Brown Pelican remains along the east, west, and southern coasts. These two are the only Pelican species in North America.



Where Life Is Good

Marilyn Woerth

Grandsons, I love mine, I have three, no grand-daughters. My sons had sons. Now, I'm really not complaining too much (I have forgotten how to act around young girls), but I just can't keep up. Grandma has two artificial knees and all the things grandpa does with them are either impossible or done poorly by me. For instance, I can't ski; grandpa taught them how to ski. I can't run well; grandpa plays soccer with them. Grandpa takes them for bike rides; I can't get my knee around and over. I can't throw a Frisbee well for my life; grandpa loves disc golf. Even on the Xbox I can't run and shoot and fly at the same time, and if I'm building, I get lost digging a hole I couldn't get out of. Oh my. But I give good hugs and kisses. Which often get sent back to me.

Yup that's the biggie, the Xbox. Even though the boys live in different cities, and two in a different state, grandpa can be found three nights a week for an hour or so in front of the television with the Xbox on, head phones in place talking strategy or about their day. According to the boys, he is a cool grandfather. Sometimes even their friends play with them.

But a couple of weeks ago, grandpa was in so much trouble with the youngest grandson. They were playing a new game as pirates. The best player of the group had to get off for supper. So grandpa was head pirate and involved with a project, the other two grandsons were concerned with the direction they were going, but grandpa was busy fixing the ship. Since it was a new game to him, grandpa didn't know that you could actually sail off the end of the world. Youngest grandson was devastated; grandpa lost the ship with them on it. Since the only way to communicate is by headphones all he knew was that Z's had gone quiet. Soon there was a phone call from our youngest son. They had a traumatized son on their end. Reality check, he's only six years old. Poor grandpa felt so bad, it took four days to be forgiven. Another lesson learned; even in the internet world, listen to your children and grandchildren. They have important things to say, like we are getting too close to the end of the world. They are back to adoring grandpa, and grandma still plays the game of chase, kiss, and release.

We have a whole family vacation coming up this summer wondering if I will need a vacation from the vacation. Loving my life where the worse thing grandma can do is kissing their whole face. Yes, our life is good so long as grandpa doesn't sail off the end of the world again.

Caffeine Musings

Merlin Wright

Have you ever had unwanted House Guests. One way to encourage them to leave is to arrange their bed with the foot 2 inches higher than the head. That makes for uncomfortable sleeping and after a few nights they will decide to go home to sleep.

A facebook friend posted a question about dogs. He asked people to answer the question about allowing a pet dog to lick the human's dinner plate after the meal. One person replied that it is one way to get an unwanted guest to leave. After the dog finishes licking the plate you just put the plate in the cupboard ready for the next meal.

Of course one should be careful about who is invited to sleep over. This spring I left a shed door open and that was an invite to a bird looking for a nest site. After the bird incubated two eggs for a month I saw the bird leave the shed and I investigated. The bird was a Turkey Vulture and on that day one of the babies had hatched while the other egg needed another day. Several photos were placed on facebook and many friends liked the post.

Our son, his wife and two kids came to visit and they all went into the shed to hold the baby vulture and take more photos. I had warned them that books tell of the method vultures use to deter predators. The babies make loud hissing noises and also will vomit to discourage predators. I suppose that I could have just not told our son about the vomit potential if I had wanted him to go home earlier. My bird book tells me that the baby vultures will live in the shed for over 45 more days.

Another nature lesson for the weekend was about insects called Ant Lions. I have a tractor shed where the dirt floor has many one inch deep funnel shaped holes that are traps. In each trap an Ant Lion lives under the dirt at the bottom. If an ant wanders into the hole it is trapped by the steep sides and when it slides to the bottom the predator grabs the ant and eats it. We found a nearby chunk of wood containing many ants and had quite a show watching the process. Daughter in law says this is better than the zoo.

Another lesson from our coffee group is how to cause certain people to leave early. Just learn which political party is their favorite and proceed to make comments about how great the other party is. I suppose this would also work on house guests.

Until next month, keep the coffee perking.



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Trespassing by Janet Sobczyk, ©2012
Strangely enough, this is one of my favorite memories of riding horses with my best friend, Helen.



Janet (on left) and Helen in the late 1970s.

The summer sun was high
white hot in the pale blue sky
a great day for a ride
two friends, two horses, side by side.

Another dusty road
gave us not a clue to forbode
the new delight in store
a fresh green meadow to explore.

Surrounded by tall trees
with a soft summer breeze
we reined the horses in
admired the view with a grin.

The clover smelled sweet
shade above us a treat
but what was that sound?
A soft humming rose from the ground.

It began very low
then started to grow
a new sight made us freeze
literally hundreds of bees!

They flew from the clover
angry that we had stopped over
not wanting to get stung
from the cool meadow – run, run, run!

We made a mad dash
horses took off in a flash
down the hot dusty road
our steeds didn't need a goad.

Once the danger was gone
we slowed to a walk, laughed long
that was surely the last
time we ever trespassed.



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Poetry

by Devon Adams

THE DAYS OF YOUR DIARY

We all keep
a mental diary
that records
the details of
our living days.
Some of us write
notes on paper.
But you can't take
paper with you
when it's time to
board the train
to eternity. Maybe
on that journey
we will be able to
open our memories
and go back to relive
moments that are
stored in the files
of our souls.

WAGING PEACE

It seems like starting
conflicts is easier than
not starting them. An
instant flare of temper
is not far removed from
shooting off a remark
that starts an argument.
Then neither side wants
to retreat enough to think
it over. How many times
have you wished you'd
taken a few seconds to
step back and evaluate
before your emotions
got ahead of your brain?
Once they jump out of
your mouth, the words
won't go back in again.

IMPLANTED

I have a spectacular
flower garden that I
planned to plant, but
delayed the digging,
or it was too hot, or
too wet, or too early.
And then, of course,
it was too late. But in
my imagination I have
watched those blooms
grow. In a similar way,
ideas can be planted
deep in the soil of our
unconscious. They lie
there, waiting to rise.
Then one day, they
push up tender green
noses that tickle our
minds, and we can
choose to pick them
or leave them in the
meadow for another
day, when they might
be what we want to
think about.

—AND BLUE

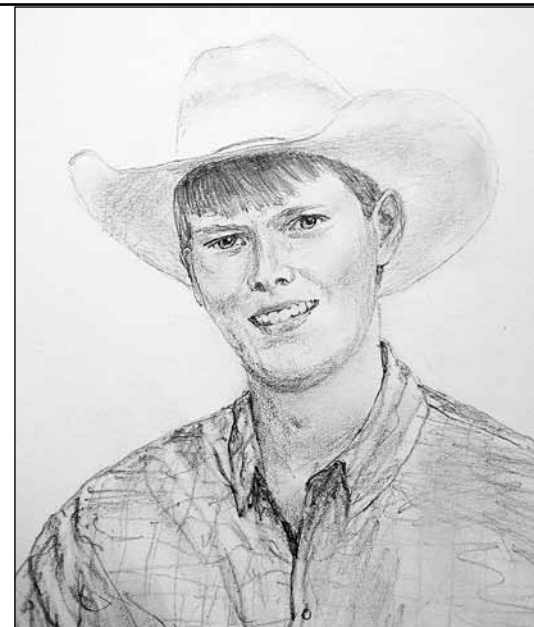
The sky flag
is blue under
the sun, it's
silky fabric a
bright shimmer
with it's sheen
of light. Then
puffs of white
clouds appear,
woven into the
fabric from a
giant loom.
But when the
sun sets red,
it bleeds on the
white and the
blue, like blood
that has been
shed to keep
our country free.

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the end. When we
want to explore the
universe of our own
brains though, the
tools are very limited.
We can make images
with fancy X-rays or
magnetic scans, but
we can't see ourselves
think. Miniature electric
circuits and chemical
reactions and nerve
fibers are all connected
in mystic ways to enable
actual thoughts to form
and change and remain
in our memories. But
how does intuition
work? Where do those
problem solutions come
from that wake us up
at night? What is the
mental machinery that
makes each of our brains
unique? We are armed
with computer codes that
are impossible to break.

SEA THINGS

They are scattered
here and there, inside
and outside, those sea
treasures that I found
while strolling on the
beaches with you. I can
hear the hollow roar of
the surf from the trumpet
of a curled shell. There
is a necklace made from
tiny oval shapes, and
sand dollars sit on shelves
next to smooth stones. In
my garden is a twisted,
silvered driftwood branch
with grains of sand safely
stored in the split of the
grain. I can still see you
wading in the waves, as
you did so long ago.
Can you still see me?

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<<<<<<<<<< "Window" Continued from page 3

their last "coffee". Maybe they wanted to get out of the house to go somewhere or talk to someone. (I'm guessing there are women who get together for coffee or tea as well, but they must meet at times or places I don't frequent.) Men's topics might include crops, weather, politics, neighbors or local characters, trips, past experiences, and other such stuff.

I used to know of a coffee shop where several locals would stop each morning; friends talking about many things. This group was a mixed bag of men and women, husbands and wives. They were bound by a common bond, education. They were retired teachers. Coffee was a 'jumping off' place for their day, and something to look forward to. After a year or two the coffee shop closed, one of their group died, and I don't see that group any more.

There are those who get together for beers after a ball game, or maybe at a ball game (the younger set). And then there are those who frequent bars just for each other's company after work. That was my experience in the big city when I was working there. I'm not so sure about the small town drinking experience, it's not my scene any longer.

I wonder how we'd feel if we had to sit across from each other without a coffee cup or a wine glass. Would we just fold our hands and stare, or would the conversation still convene? I don't want to imagine. Just pour me a hot one and keep 'em comin'.

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Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson



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It's summertime – the season of the great American family road trip.

I mentioned in last month's column that we were preparing to take our granddaughter (our son's child) to the Black Hills. We also took our daughter along. We rented a 25-foot RV and had a fantastic eight days, staying in three different campgrounds and making the most of the experience. Nary a snag interfered with our enjoyment.

The twenty-four hours preceding the trip, now, that's another story.

For starters, our daughter's flight from Savannah, Georgia, was delayed, causing her to miss her connecting flight in Chicago. She eventually got off the ground in Savannah, but on a different route than the original flight plan. She ended up flying over Kansas City on her way to Chicago, and then getting a connecting flight to Kansas City. Go figure. But she arrived in plenty of time. No harm, no foul.

We drove to Kansas City on the morning of June 1 and picked up the RV; then picked up our daughter and granddaughter from our son's home in St. Joseph on our way back to Auburn to load the RV for departure the next morning. I had done some grocery shopping the day before so we were ready to load up.

We had made an extensive list of items to pack, including food, to be sure we didn't forget anything. The evening of June 1, hubby was packing things into the cooler that wouldn't fit in the RV's smallish refrigerator/freezer. "Where's the bottled orange juice?" he asked. I looked in the frig. Not there. Yet I was 99.9% certain I had put it into the grocery cart. I looked for the store receipt (which I always keep) to make sure I had, in fact, purchased it. Couldn't find the receipt, either. I checked my purse and all the shopping bags. Strange.

The other items I had purchased were accounted for....except for a package of deli ham. Now, where was that hiding? Probably in the same place as the OJ. The only logical explanation was that they were in the same bag, which I must have inadvertently left in the backseat of the car after taking the other bags into the house. Well, I'll just have to look in the car, I thought.

One problem: the car was in the RV parking lot in Kansas City – locked – awaiting our return. This realization sent Hubby into a mild panic. How badly would the spoiled ham stink after sitting in the car in full sun, closed up tight, for eight days? Would the OJ bottle explode? Would we have to stuff our nostrils with Febreze-soaked cotton balls to be able to bear the stench?

But I remained calm. I located the RV company's business card and determined that they were still open, so I called and spoke to the young woman who had handled our paperwork. Thank heaven for keypad door entry!! I had only to give the young woman our entry code and request (rather sheepishly) that she check the backseat for a bag of perishable food and get rid of it. This pained me a great deal. I hate to waste food. I never buy bottled OJ because of the cost, but it was more convenient than taking along a pitcher to stir up frozen concentrate. The deli ham had been on sale for a super price, and now that was a waste. OK, so it was less than \$10 worth of food, but still.

That catastrophe averted, we continued with preparations for next-day departure. Hubby had been given instructions on running the refrigerator on propane overnight to get it fully cooled before loading, a process that would take several hours. He made sure that was running properly and the refrigerator was cooling before we went to bed. The next morning, the frig was warm. You can imagine Hubby's distress.

It turned out that a person (who shall remain unnamed) had inadvertently turned off a crucial power switch the night before. Said person had misunderstood Hubby's instructions to turn off all lights, etc., so as not to run down the battery overnight. Lesson learned.

Hubby got on the phone to the RV people again. A re-boot of the power system was all that was needed. We were delayed a couple of hours in leaving home, but no big deal.

Once we were actually on our way, things went smoothly – in the figurative sense, if not the physical. Small RVs tend to rattle quite a bit, and the engine is noisy. But you learn to block that out after awhile and just enjoy the experience. Of course, it was not as pleasant for Hubby as for the rest of us. He did all the driving, which meant bucking a strong head-wind all the way out and most of the way back. That was physically tiring for him, but he would have been a total bundle of nerves if I had been in the driver's seat. After the food and refrigerator near-fascos, his nerves were frayed enough.

When you think about it, our modern road trip trials would be thoroughly scoffed at by our pioneer ancestors. What? You almost didn't have refrigeration for your food? Try NO refrigeration, ever!! We all need a little reminder now and then about how easy our lives are today. If we're paying attention, the occasional minor irritations can make us more grateful for all our modern blessings. And working through those little glitches in a three-generation team effort is pretty cool.

I hope you all get a chance to spend some quality multi-generational time this summer. And if it's on an RV road trip, so much the better.



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Weekends in a Small Town

Stephen Hassler

Memorial Day weekend was also Flea Market weekend in Brownville, Nebraska. I seldom buy anything at flea markets, but I like people-watching, and mainly, friends I like to visit with are easy to find; selling pottery, running a retail shop, or as a community volunteer. I watched the potter at his wheel and took his photo. I plan to give the photo to the potter's wife. I met someone who knew someone in the windmill museum in Nebraska City. I talked to her about windmills and wildlife photography. Another friend who I thought had moved away was at her work station in the local bookstore.

First Weekend in June

Friday evening; A warm day. A breeze makes the evening pleasant. A Robin on the grass between my porch and the trees on the bank, feeds its little one. I've seen one of the awkward-flying offspring on a nearby branch now and then the last couple of days. It has its wings, but still needs Mama to feed it. My sister emailed me that our uncle passed away early Friday morning. It did not come as a surprise; he had been fighting for awhile and was ready to give up. He was not a lot older than me. I could have been his younger brother. I didn't see him very often because we didn't live close to each other, and we each had a wife, kids, and some of the tragedies and responsibilities that often go with having a family. The funeral is in a few days. Among the arrangements he made was to request that family members wear something green to express their Irish connection. Saturday; A cooler day, a good day to travel to visit my sister. On my way home I visited a store's fabric department and found a piece of green silky cloth for a pocket square. Sunday; A warm, not hot day. Good for jogging, gardening, cooking.

Second Weekend

Saturday afternoon; Mostly sunny and a good time for "Old Man River Days" in Peru, Nebraska. The breeze and the white puffy clouds make this warm day tolerable, and make me desire to go "driving around with the top down", but my old convertible is long gone. The wind from a recent thunderstorm required me to make a minor repair to the roof over my back porch. That reminded me of a time when I was surprised to learn that my elderly father was roofing part of his house at an age that was either remarkable or foolish for the task. But now I'm at that age and I'm learning that growing old is fine, as long as one is healthy. Just do things slower and bend more carefully. Sunday evening; Feels cooler than '91' because of the breeze. Watching youtube videos with iced tea. I'm enjoying this Summertime.

Third Weekend

Saturday evening; Back from a day-trip to Omaha, it's a still, warm, humid evening with fireflies in the yard and iced tea on the porch. Contemplating the coming week and layout plans for a July magazine. Sunday morning; Mostly sunny. A warm morning for jogging, but the breeze and some cloudiness helped. Sunday evening; Some traffic on 5th Street this evening. Don't know why. People's habits are hard to explain.

Fourth Weekend

Cooler, cloudier. Busy preparing ads and articles for July 'Country Neighbor'.

Fifth Weekend

Time to publish!

De-feathering My Nest

By Janet Sobczyk, ©2018

I'm a bird lover, so I like the idiom, "feathering the nest." It's not in common usage anymore but has at least two meanings. The obvious definition refers to making one's home more comfortable or fancy. It's easy to imagine how lining a nest with feathers would make it softer for hatchlings.

The other definition refers to "feathers" as money or possessions obtained in suspicious or unethical ways. It brings to mind blackbirds who collect shiny objects. Don't humans do the same thing? Most of us keep collections of some sort. People with many interests often have multiple collections.

Mine began with my Grandma Rose and my mother. After Grandma's death, there wasn't much to choose from as a remembrance. Back then it wasn't "living simply." It was "just getting by."

I chose her metal pin box and a thimble shaped to her finger from years of use. Now I have dozens of thimbles and a shelf full of small, decorative boxes.

My mother had some trio sets of miniature bone china animals from her youth. She saw my interest in collecting tiny thimbles and boxes, so she gave them to me. Then I started finding trios in antique stores and the set grew.

After Mom died, I chose the fancy brooches from her jewelry box. Some belonged to Grandma originally. I've worn a few of them. They remind me of the days when ladies wore pretty hats, gloves, and brooches to church on Sunday.

Now every time I step into an antique shop I look in the glass cases to spot thimbles, brooches, and animal trios. Only rarely do I purchase them. I could find them easily online, but don't want to become a hoarder.

The modern "simplicity movement" urges us to live simply with fewer things to clean and keep track of. I'm drawn to it but can't seem to achieve it. After all, five people live in this house and we all have stuff.

I've heard people say, almost with pride, "I'm a minimalist." If I'm not a minimalist, does that make me a hoarder? Not at all. I recently read an article by an interior designer who calls herself a "maximalist." The photos of her home draw me in. The rooms are amply decorated with furniture, wall art, and what-nots, but don't appear cluttered.

That's the home I've created (plus a bit of clutter.) I'm a successful maximalist, not a failed minimalist. Such a relief!

At some point there comes a need to de-feather, though. It may be in a fit of organizing and uncluttering, like with paperwork and clothing. Closets, drawers, and file cabinets become prime targets. However, our special collections remain untouched. They're valuable, right? But what will become of them when we're gone?

When parents pass and the children are left with the task of de-feathering, it's painful. Some families argue over who gets what, others develop a fair system of divvying things up.

In my parents' case, we only had a three-day weekend to clean out their home. The time crunch prevented reminiscing. We sorted their possessions quickly and drove boxes to Goodwill. We crammed our vehicles full of practical and cherished items, then traveled to our homes in four different states.

Cleaning out a home that way makes me want to de-feather for my children's sake. We could place an itemized list of who gets what with our wills, but I'd rather leave general guidelines. For example, family members could each pick

a thimble to remember me by, then sell the rest of my extensive collection and split any proceeds evenly. I can't imagine one of my kids would want thimbles taking up an entire wall in their house.

Age changes perspective. Certain items become more cherished, while others are easier to release. I've found a sense of peace in giving away sentimental possessions to loved ones. It's totally different from re-gifting, in which unwanted gifts stay in original packaging to give away next Christmas.

The key to passing along treasures lies in explaining to the recipient why the item is special, and why they were chosen to receive it. For example, I gave a porcelain vase with a delicate pink rose pattern, received when my first daughter was born, to a dear friend when she delivered a baby girl. The note I attached made her cry with gratitude for our friendship.

The flowers I'd placed in the vase for her didn't last long, but the pleasure of giving it to her remains. I like to think of it in her home, ready to hold a fistful of wildflowers plucked by her little daughter.

Perhaps she'll pass the vase to her daughter someday. Perhaps it will be given away. Or broken. It doesn't matter at all to me. What matters is the feeling we shared when I gave it to her.

When my kids were younger, I'd send anything no longer needed to the thrift store. I pictured people buying and enjoying those things. It seemed a happier fate for my stuff than a dumpster.

Now I take the time to decide who might be pleased to receive certain items or which organizations would benefit from them. I'll probably never become a minimalist but giving away with intention and forethought makes my de-feathering a meaningful process.



PSC Volleyball Camp, June 2018

Peru State Volleyball Hosts Six Different Skills Camps

Many aspiring young volleyball players from around the region gained valuable instruction and training during the first week of June. Those future players participated in different clinics at Peru State under the direction of Bobcat head coach Laurie Schroeder. Youth from Rock Port, Mo., Gretna, Auburn, Burchard, Peru, Johnson, Tarkio, Mo., Nebraska City, Shenandoah, Iowa, Falls City, Watson, Mo., College Springs, Iowa, Union, Plattsmouth, and Tecumseh were represented in the clinics during four days the first week of June.

Those participating in grades 1-4 passing skills clinic Monday morning included the following (no communities listed as not all were available): Isabella Kroeger, Sophia Rohrs, Zoie Strayer, Brilynn Strayer, Aubrey Sisco, Adelyn Sisco, Hadley Mazzulla, Brindley Mazzulla, Addison Henry, Hailey Henry, Tess Lunzmann, Madalyn Williams, Delaney Stahl, Payton Doty, Bailey Wennihan, Brynn Casey, Ella Swanson, Bree Wehenkel, Lilyan Shineman, Madlyn Williams, Quinlee Sayer, Pooja Patel, and Emma Teten.

Participating in the grades 5-8 passing clinic Monday afternoon were: Jillian Hannah, Josie Bennett, Kassidy Stephens, Jentry Lechtenburg, Jenna Burdorf, Claire Spiegel, Carlee Curtright, Ashlyn Welcom, Adisen Fischer, Jocelyn Olberding, Ella Matteen, and Olivia Swanson.

Setting and attacking skills were the techniques developed on Tuesday. Participating in the grades 1-4 morning session were: Isabella Kroeger, Sophia Rohrs, Zoie Strayer, Brilynn Strayer, Aubrey Sisco, Adelyn Sisco, Hadley Mazzulla, Brindley Mazzulla, Addison Henry, Hailey Henry, Tess Lunzmann, Delaney Stahl, Payton Doty, Bailey Wennihan, Brynn Casey, Ella Swanson, Bree Wehenkel, Lilyan Shineman, and Madlyn Williams. Tuesday afternoon attendees for the 5-8 setting and attacking skills camp were: Jillian Hannah, Josie Bennett, Kassidy Stephens, Jentry Lechtenburg, Jenna Burdorf, Claire Spiegel, Carlee Curtright, Ashlyn Welcom, Adisen Fischer, Jocelyn Olberding, Pooja Patel, and Emma Teten.

There were three girls who participated in the high school passing and serving clinic on Wednesday and they received lots of repetitions and practice time. Those attending were Cheyenne Sunderman, Asya Andrew, and Dilan Perry.

Sunderman and Andrew were joined on Thursday by Kaitie Serkiz and Danielle Janssen for the high school setting and attacking clinic.

In addition to the instruction by Coach Schroeder and members of her Bobcat volleyball team, all participants received a camp T-shirt. Coach Schroeder was definitely pleased with the turnout by the younger girls. Schroeder knew, too, that there were a number of high school clinics already going on, but will look to increase those numbers in the future.

The Peru State volleyball team will open its 2018 schedule on the road with a trip to Fremont on August 22 to face Midland at 7 p.m. The Bobcats' first home game will be on September 11 when they open the Heart of America Athletic Conference portion of their season with a match against Grand View at 7 p.m.



Grades 1st-4th, Passing Skills



Grades 5th-8th, Passing Skills



Grades 1st-4th, Set & Attack Skills



Grades 5th-8th, Set & Attack Skills



High School
Passing Skills



High School
Set & Attack Skills



PSC Basketball Camp, June 2018

Peru State Women's Basketball Host Girls' Basketball Camp

Area youth basketball players from around the region gained excellent training and instruction during the recent Peru State girls' basketball camp. Bobcat women's basketball head coach Joan Albury, along with former player Maddie McPhillips (Omaha), conducted the camp.

Youth from Rock Port, Mo., Johnson, and College Springs, Iowa, took part in the four and one-half day camp which focused on all development skills important and necessary for success in basketball. Each camper received a T-shirt and a basketball as part of the camp.

Throughout the week, several contests were held and the winners were announced at the end of the camp Friday morning. The winners in the different events were:

Knock-out champions: 3rd-5th – Daley Pelican – Johnson and 6th-9th – Halle Rasmussen – Johnson.

Free throw champions: 3rd-5th – Ella Meyerkorth – Rock Port, Mo., and 6th-9th – Rasmussen.

Three-on-three champions: Chanda Sunderman – College Springs, Iowa; Cheyenne Sunderman – College Springs, Iowa; and Rasmussen.

Two-on-Two champion: Pelican.

Three-point daily competitions champions: 3rd-5th – Pelican and Ella Meyerkorth. 6th-9th – Abby Hodges – Johnson, Chanda Sunderman, and Rasmussen.

Knowing the College did not host a camp last summer, Coach Albury was pleased with the attendance and will look forward to a better attendance in 2019. As part of the camp, Albury did share some information on the NAIA's Champions of Character program and its five core values.

The Peru State women's basketball team will open its 2018-19 schedule on the road in a tough tournament hosted by Concordia University in Seward on Nov. 2. The Bobcats will open against the tourney hosts at 6 p.m. On Nov. 6, the 'Cats will host their first home game against York at 6 p.m.



2018 Camp Participants



Knock-out Champions:
3rd-5th Daley Pelican, Johnson.
6th-9th Halle Rasmussen, Johnson.



Free throw Champions
3rd-5th Ella Meyerkorth, Rock Port, MO
6th-9th Rasmussen, Johnson



Three-on-Three Champions, 3rd-5th
Chanda Sunderman, College Springs, Iowa
Cheyenne Sunderman, College Springs, Iowa
Halle Rasmussen, Johnson



Two-on-Two Champion
Daley Pelican, Johnson



Three-point Daily Champions, 6th-9th
Chanda Sunderman, College Springs, Iowa
Abby Hodges, Johnson
Halle Rasmussen, Johnson



Three-point Daily Champions, 3rd-5th
Ella Meyerkorth, Rock Port, MO
Daley Pelican, Johnson

Nebraska Artist Jay Tschetter sculpts Murals for Peru State College

June saw the completion of the new brick sculpture mural on the western facade of the College Theatre. The College Theatre and event space is being renovated into a performing arts center.

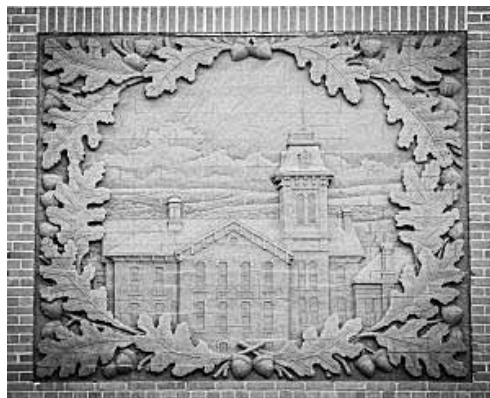
The work was completed by Jay Tschetter of Images in Bricks. Tschetter's work includes the Iron Horse Legacy Mural in the Haymarket District of Lincoln, Nebraska, and the Imagination mural at Shenandoah Public Library in Shenandoah, Iowa.

Tschetter writes, "I am honored that we were chosen to do the artwork for the theatre building, am pleased with the results and how it fits into the building and that the themes represent the history. I am excited to come back down there to see the murals once the scaffolding is removed and the sun is shining on it."

Images in Brick's foundation was laid in 1987 when Tschetter first saw a photo of a brick sculpture in an Endicott Brick brochure, and started imagining

the wide world of possibilities inherent in the medium of brick. As a journeyman mason with many years experience in the field, and also being an accomplished part time artist in Nebraska, he realized this was the perfect marriage of the two separate disciplines.

Endicott Clay Products began in 1920 in Jefferson County Nebraska. The area is rich in clay that yields a variety of authentic iron spot colors (dark spots caused by the presence of iron salts) and is of excellent quality for bricks and sculpting.



Peru State to provide Scholarships to Ariens' Employees and their Families

Following the announcement that Ariens Company would be closing its Auburn, Nebraska location, Peru State College will offer a one-year scholarship to Ariens employees, their spouses, children and dependents. The one-year scholarship is for 67% of the cost of tuition and is the equivalent of the tuition waiver offered to the families of College employees.

Dr. Dan Hanson, president of Peru State, said, "Our partnership with southeast Nebraska is an important aspect of the College's mission. Working with Ariens employees and their families is one more way to engage with the communities that have supported Peru State College." Hanson continues, "For 150 years, the College has been helping students find their way forward. The College has academic programs and professional staff dedicated to working with students."

Dr. Jesse Dorman, vice president of enrollment management and student affairs, adds, "We are happy to support Ariens employees and their families. This scholarship will be available to both returning and new college students alike."

Peru State College enjoys national recognition for its affordability. 13 majors with more than 40 options available.

The College also offers a seamless transfer for students returning to school and a special degree, the Bachelors of Applied Science, for students with vocational degrees.

Peru State and World-Herald History Book wins National Award

WASHINGTON, DC —The Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) announced the winners of its 2018 Circle of Excellence awards. *Nebraska's First College: Shaping the Future since 1867*, a history of Peru State College's 150 years, won the gold award in its category. More than 3,700 institutions of higher education are members of CASE.

Nebraska's First College was created in collaboration with the Omaha World-Herald and Dan Sullivan. Sullivan was the author of the book and Christine Zueck-Watkins served as the designer.

Sullivan writes, "I am thrilled that the Council for Advancement and Support of Education chose to honor *Nebraska's First College: Shaping the Future Since 1867*."

"The award is a tribute to the rich history of Peru State College. It was an easy story to tell: from the vision and determination of the school's founders in 1867, all the way to Peru State College today, as it shapes the leaders of tomorrow."

The book blurb reads, "Peru State College celebrates its 150th year in 2017. The Nebraska school's history is a rich tapestry of innovation, endurance, community service and pursuit of educational excellence. Celebrate the sesquicentennial with a look back through the remarkable story that began with a vision on a hilltop in Peru."

Purchase book at www.peru.edu/150



Netzer to Publish on how Nanotechnology can detect Water Contaminant

Dr. Nathan Netzer has co-authored a scientific paper, "Multiplexed Analysis of Molecular and Elemental Ions Using Nanowire Transistor Sensors," published in the Elsevier Journal of Sensors and Actuators B: Chemical. The paper is about the testing of a unique sensor that uses nanotechnology to sense chemicals.

Netzer is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Peru State College. His research focuses on nanotechnology. The prefix nano- indicates extreme smallness and a nanometer lives up to this definition, being equal to .000000001 meters. "Chop a meter stick into a billion pieces and each piece is a nanometer," Netzer explained, "A nano is a small and specific size, so nanotechnology is using materials at the nano scale."

The article focuses on proving the reliability of the sensor. Control experiments resulted in a stable and reproducible results. Subsequent tests in river water further showed the efficacy of the sensor.

The other collaborators on the project include Zhenquiang Wang of the University of South Dakota, Xi Chen, Qitao Hu, Si Chen, Shi-Li Zhang, and Zhen Zhang all of Uppsala University in Sweden.

Dr. Netzer's paper will be released in October of 2018.

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