



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION JUNE NEWSLETTER

**Community Association
Officers:**
Co Presidents:
 Dan Dean
 Sue Schmitz
 cosmo3mom@gmail.com
Treasurer:
 Linda Clark
Board Member:
 Marv Norem

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Ellsworth's City DUMP YOUR JUNK

Saturday, June 24 - 8:00AM - NOON

Bring your **ACCEPTED** items to the intersection of Hwy 175 & Dewitt St. Volunteers with guide you to the correct rolloff container.

Purchase your ticket at city hall for \$25.

ONE TICKET = 1 TRUCK

WILL NOT ACCEPT GARBAGE, YARD WASTE, OR LIQUIDS

Examples of Accepted Items

- carpets
- furniture items
- mattresses
- misc. household items
- weed eaters
- bicycles
- metal appliances
- computer towers
- bed frames
- grills
- exercise equipment
- metal tools

Items NOT Accepted

- TV's
- computer monitor's
- keyboards
- tires
- liquids
- cans
- antifreeze
- household garbage

Sponsored by Ellsworth Community Association

June 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																																									
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Notices:

NEWSLETTER MATERIAL DUE: by the 25th of the month for the next months newsletter. Send by email to ellsworthca@netins.net or Ellsworth Community Association, PO Box 272, Ellsworth, Ia 50075.

ELLSWORTH MEALS are starting again. Contact Linda Clark 515-297-3012 if you wish to have the noon meal delivered. Delivery Monday thru Friday, no holidays. Each meal \$5.00

Coming in July to Jewell, Ellsworth & Radcliffe: Informational talks on the **American Cream Horses** which originated in Hamilton County.

Birthdays This Month

Peyton Heredia	2nd	Butch Sogard	18th
Cherie Hill	9th	Kevin Tuttle	21st
Randy Olson	10th	Makayla Henderson	21st
Blaine Tuttle	11th	Dave Hill	22nd
Hayden Hill	12th	Wayne Patterson	24th
Steve Hetland	13th	Cassidy Brown	25th
Maurine Hemphill	13th	Betty Swenson	25th
Jennifer Tolle	14th	Burnell Hill	26th
Brittany Brim	16th	Evey Henderson	26th
Linda Barquist	17th	Don Swenson	28th

ANNIVERSARIES



Tia & Thad Brown	1st
Marifern & Don Hill	11th
Faye & Noel Thompson	12th
Gail & Scott George	12th
Dawn & Dave Hegland	22nd
Betsy & Nathan Hill	27th
Charlotte & Jess Romp	30th

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Kenzie King currently resides in Ellsworth with her husband, Kalib, and 2 dogs. She does graphic design and printing services for business or personal needs.

Kenzie attended Grand View University in Des Moines and graduated with a BA in Graphic design and a minor in marketing. Her previous job before starting her business was in a print and design shop in Story City. She excelled in the process from start to finish and various tasks involved. She became known as a “print specialist” and enjoyed designing and running the machines.

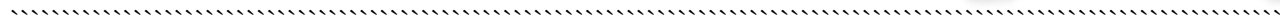
In June 2020, Kenzie decided she wanted to branch out on her own and start her business as King Custom Creatives. She now runs her business in her home and enjoys gaining new clients and meeting with customers to discuss how she can help them and their business. There is no one way to do any project. She is always open to suggestion or to brainstorm what will make a project stand out.

Mailings are a specialty, knowing random information for bulk mailings. She is always eager to share her knowledge to help market your business.

Email is the most effective form of communication:

kenzie@kingcustomcreatives.com

Website: kingcustomcreatives.com



**MOTHERS DAY
FLOWER WINNERS:**

Donna Evans
Marissa Jackson

Questions from last month:
Helped with Memorial Day service: 6
Attended a Memorial Day service: 14

This months questions?
Are you planning a vacation trip this year?
Would you rather travel or stay home for vacation?

MAY CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on May 8th, 2023 with Mayor Yager presiding and the following council present: Sogard, Gelder, Funk, Norem and King.

	April Receipts	April Disbursements
General Fund	96350.13	33306.74
Road Use Fund	5690.68	1308.04
Employee Benefit Fund	6385.11	2709.99
Emergency Fund	2342.68	
Local Option Sales Tax Fund	3442.47	
Tax Increment Finance Area 1		
Tax Increment Finance Area 2		
Tax Increment Finance 1 Amend	1235.52	
Bingo Fund	4725.98	3488.34
Debt Service Fund	3372.93	2415.00
Capital Improv Reserve		
Capital Project-Ind. Park Rd.		
Capital Project-EL Util Impr		
Capital Project-Well Project		
Capital Project-Strm Water		
Water Fund	39171.61	20038.11
Water Sinking Fund		
Sewer Fund	11631.14	18067.60
Electric Fund	107848.70	55767.63
Electric Sinking Fund		
Storm Water Fund	5829.38	56.70
Storm Water Sinking Fund		<u>3058.00</u>
	<u>\$288026.33</u>	<u>\$140216.15</u>

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Sogard, seconded by King to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Gelder, seconded by King to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda:

- a. Motion to approve April 10th, 2023 council minutes.
- b. Motion to approve April payment of claims.
- c. Motion to approve debt payments: Panora State Bank for Electric Revenue Bond in the amount of \$34,931.25 and; Iowa Finance Authority for SRF Loan in the amount of \$92,072.50 plus service fee for \$3,735.00 due June 1st, 2023.
- d. Motion to renew Kum and Go #133 Class E Liquor License.
- e. Motion to renew Kum and Go #133 Tobacco Permit.

Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes.

Council Minutes continued:

PUBLIC FORUM: Fire Chief Evans and EMS Director Butler were in attendance to update and keep council informed on the latest news with the Fire and EMS departments. The Fire Department was also requesting an additional \$2,000.00 be added to the already \$10,000.00 budgeted expense for turn out gear and to be payable to the vendor of their choice. The council will consider the request and vote at the special meeting set for May 23rd, 2023.

JR. HAWK BALL/ T-BALL: The Clerk received a request from Ben Hayes for a donation to support the JR. Hawk/T-Ball program for the 2023 season. Motion by Sogard, seconded by King to donate \$500.00 to aid in the expenses for this year's program. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

652 DES MOINES NUISANCE ABATEMENT: At the request of the Council and Mayor, a nuisance abatement letter was sent regarding unauthorized livestock (a goat) and excessive fowl (above the 8 allowed) located at the above address. The property owner requested to be added to the agenda, however, notified the clerk prior to meeting they would like to be taken off. The council took this time to discuss how to further enforce the fowl permits, address unauthorized livestock and whether a municipal infraction would be placed on anyone violating the ordinance. It was determined that any resident not correctly permitted, found not abiding by the 8 fowl limitation or having any livestock without written consent from the council, will receive notification that they have 10 days to comply to the current ordinance or will lose the ability to have any fowl/permitted livestock, for a period of one year. The current ordinance states that no livestock is allowed within city limits without written consent of the Ellsworth City Council. In September of 2022, the council voted to allow fowl only permits for residents wishing to have ducks or chickens within city limits. Permits may be obtained from City Hall and allow up to 8 ducks or chickens or a combination of both for an annual fee of \$20.00, with no male fowl allowed. The permit is required to be renewed by October 1st of every year.

INSURANCE RENEWAL: Melissa Kelley from Shomo Madsen Krause was present to discuss the insurance package for The City of Ellsworth for the 2023/2024 policy year. She reported that the city had received dividends back in the amount of \$1,834.00 for the 2021/2022 year. The premium for the current period is \$79,308.00, which is a 21.15% increase from last year. Upon receiving the invoice the week before, the Clerk had reached out to fellow cities and clerks to inquire with whom they were insured through and what policy increases they were seeing. Unfortunately, the coverage options and rate increases were consistent and comparable to those of Ellsworth's.

CITIZEN COMPLAINT REGARDING METER CHANGEOUT: The Clerk had received a complaint from a property owner regarding concerns over the adverse effects from exposure to the new smart meters being installed by the City for electric and water readings. The Clerk reached out to the company installing the meters for clarification of any risks and any other instances they may have had in regards to residents opting out of the changeout. The Clerk was educated that the amount of radio-frequency waves that the meter emits is actually less than a cell phone, home wi-fi router or cordless phone, and since meters and meter antennas are for the most part located outside the home, the exposure is minimal. The Clerk passed these facts on to the resident, and also offered contact information for the metering company for any further questions they may have, but the resident insisted on an exception being made by council. After taking into consideration the complaint, discussing the factual information given by the meter company, and weighing the complications it would cause to allow residents to opt out of the meter changes, the council decided that an opt out option would not be offered. Residents who have not yet completed meter changes at this time will be billed an additional monthly fee set by the council on their billing statement until their meter change out is completed.

Council Minutes continued:

SETTING FY22/23 BUDGET AMENDMENT PUBLIC HEARING: Motion by King, seconded by Sogard to set Tuesday May 23rd, 2023 at 5:00 pm as the time for the public hearing for the FY22/23 Budget Amendment. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried.

TREES: Previously the City had a two-year agreement with Robb's Tree Service to cut down and grind Emerald Ash borer affected trees and trees impeding electrical lines or posing a threat to electrical lines to be completed by the end of 2022. Due to incompleteness of that said agreement, the council authorized the Clerk to begin the search for additional contractors that would be available to service the City moving forward. Supervisor Vanlangen informed the council that Robb's had been in touch with him and would be in town to address the remaining trees this week. The council has given an extension of one week to allow services to be completed.

CONTRACTOR AGREEMENTS: There was continued discussion on service agreements with local contractors and potential long-term contracts for things like the pump maintenance at the lift station, tree services and electrical contracting. The City has had several instances where residents have had electrical issues due to fallen tree limbs, faulty wiring or bad electrical connections and the City is sent a bill by the resident or electrician, when the responsibility actually lies with the homeowner. Supervisor Vanlangen and the City Clerk will continue to work on the Electric Service Rules amendments and have a draft for the council to consider by the August meeting.

BUILDING PERMIT CHANGES: The Clerk and the council reviewed several topics concerning the City's current building permit regulations. The building permit fee has been set at a flat \$10.00 for many years and the clerk has requested the council consider moving to a tiered rate depending on the size of the project or the zoning in which the project takes place. She stated that most other cities already assess their fees by square foot or by cost of the build. There was also discussion on the length a building permit is valid for. The clerk confirmed that each permit is only good for a one-year period, and if the build is not completed in that time frame or is changed or altered at all during the process, a new building permit is required to be filled out and filed with City Hall. Further discussion will take place at next month's council meeting.

CITY PROJECTS: Supervisor Vanlangen mentioned several projects that he and public works employee Knickerbocker would be addressing over the next few weeks. These included benches at the park, the broken cement on the ramp at City Hall, wasp and light issues at the Gym, non-working street lights and some minor repairs on city-maintained buildings.

COMMENTS: Council inquired about the expired pile of corn at the elevator and what was being done with it, due to several complaints of the smell becoming worse. The City Clerk will speak with the elevator and look into if a solution has been discussed.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Yager adjourned the meeting at 8:56 pm.

/s/ Dolorus Yager, Mayor

/s/ Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk

Ellsworth Public Library News

JUNE 2023

Salena Schmitz, Library Director

FIND YOUR VOICE! This summer the library will have a program EVERY Tuesday in June from 10:30-11:30! June 6: Drones in the Sky at Ellsworth City Park. June 13: Fairy Gardens at Ellsworth Public Library. June 20: Find Your Inner Voice at Ellsworth Public Library. June 27: Sounds in the Wild at Ellsworth City Park.

Adult Summer Program starts June 1, 2023 with BOOKOPOLY! How does it work? Simply work your way around the Bookopoly board and complete the reading tasks on the colored tiles. You can move around the board randomly by selecting the tasks that sound the most appealing to you. or leave it to chance by rolling the dice. Record your reading on your game board (located on the back) by crossing off the properties once they are complete. Once you have collected a monopoly of the same-colored tiles, stop by the library with your game board and receive library bucks. Each checklist item = \$1 in library bucks! Each library buck is a chance to win a Kum & Go gift card!! Are there any special rules? Books can only be counted for one property. No double dipping! This program runs June 1, 2023 – July 31, 2023. All boards must be turned in by 5:00 PM on July 31, 2023. This is available for patrons 18+.

*** The spotlight book of the month *I Will Find You* by Harland Coben. ***

Five years ago, an innocent man began a life sentence for murdering his own son. Today he found out his son is still alive. David Burroughs was once a devoted father to his three-year-old son Matthew, living a dream life just a short drive away from the working-class suburb where he and his wife, Cheryl, first fell in love... until one fateful night when David woke suddenly to discover Matthew had been murdered while David was asleep just down the Hall. Half a decade later, David's been wrongly accused and convicted of the murder, left to serve out his time in a maximum-security prison – a fate which, grieving and wracked with guilt, David didn't have the will to fight. The world has moved on without him. Then Cheryl's younger sister, Rachel, makes a surprise appearance during visiting hours bearing a strange photograph. It's a vacation shot of a bustling amusement park and in the background, just barely in frame, is a boy bearing an eerie resemblance to David's son. Even though it can't be, David just knows: Matthew is still alive. David plans a harrowing escape, determined to achieve the impossible – save his son, clear his own name, and discover the real story of what happened. But with his life on the line and the FBI following his every move, can David evade capture long enough to reveal the shocking truth?

Library News continued:

NEW BOOKS

Adult Fiction:

- *The Matchmaker Bride* by Ginny Baird #2
- *Where Coyotes Howl* by Sandra Dallas
- *The Lonely Hearts Book Club* by Lucy Gilmore
- *A Summer Affair* by Elin Hilderbrand
- *The Crooked Staircase* by Dean Koontz #3
- *Dark Angel* by John Sandford #2
- *Caring is Creepy* by David Zimmerman

Adult Non-Fiction:

- *I'm Just Saying: A Guide to Discourse in an Increasingly Divided World* by Milan Kordestani

Biography:

- *The Light We Carry* by Michelle Obama

Graphic Novel:

- *Otis & Peanut* by Naseem Hrab, illustrated by Kelly Collier

Junior Fiction:

- *Simon B. Rhymin': Get's in the Game* by Dwayne Reed

Beginner Reader Fiction:

- *Henry, Like Always* by Jenn Baily, illustrated by Mika Song

Early Reader Fiction:

- *Pete the Cat and the Cool Caterpillar* by James Dean
- *Helen's Birds* by Sara Cassidy, illustrated by Sophie Casson

DVDS:

- Lightyear - rated PG
- Doctor Strange: Multiverse of Madness - rated PG-13
- Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore - rated PG-13
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Opinions expressed in the Ellsworth Newsletter are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the Ellsworth Community Association or the editor.

If you would like to unsubscribe to the newsletter please contact ellsworthca@netins.net

Editor's Editorial:

June brings the thoughts of vacations. Are you planning a vacation this year? With the gas on the higher side, some are making vacations shorter or staying home. What ever you do, make some memories. As you get older and can't go as far or as often, you can mentally bring back those memories.

I am a Facebook follower. (I don't post much.) I like to read other's pages. Lately I have seen so many ask questions as what there is to do near Iowa towns they will be visiting. I am surprised at the comments that are given. Each corner of Iowa seems to have lots of attractions. And there are lots of recommended eateries. Being in central Iowa, a lot of the attractions are not far.

The Library has had available the updated book "Travel Iowa". It is a free handout. There are many places recommended to see and do. So if you can't go on a long vacation, make memories by seeing Iowa.

My husband, daughter and I started years ago, going to see the Veterans Memorial Rocks in each county. Buba Sorenson has now finished all 99 counties plus the first rock he ever did. He announced this week he has finished painting the original for the 25th year. He repaints it each year with a new theme. It is near Greenfield Iowa. They are all worth seeing, each one tells a story of that county. What talent!

Safe travels for the summer. Janet

REMEMBERING THE PAST:

1953 -Ellsworth Farm Community, Hardest Hit by Heavy Windstorm

Farm Communities around Ellsworth were the hardest hit of all Hamilton County areas by the weekend windstorms.

One Ellsworth farm hit was a large barn flattened on the **William Brinton** farm one mile and a quarter south of Ellsworth.

A barn granary, garage and windmill on the **Ralph Olsen** farm, six miles east and four miles north of Ellsworth were destroyed. The farm is operated by **Grant Vold**. Three cows were killed, two others so badly injured, they had to be butchered and three more injured.

Turkey shelters were damaged at the **George Hemphill, Roy Thompson, Manley Knutson, Scott Brinton** and **Russel Voga** farms.

Several large trees were blown down at the **Sidney Neuenschwander** and **Clifford Dalbey** homes in Ellsworth and also at the Cemetery.

All over the county reports came in of television antennas, storm windows and doors being damaged by the wind.