



ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION JULY NEWSLETTER

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

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HAMILTON COUNTY FAIR JULY 25-30
MAKING THE BEST IN THE MIDWEST

TUESDAY - JULY 25th
 Parade
 Red Dirt Renegades
 sponsored by Pioneer, Arend's Ag Services, Carden Seed, Evolution Ag, and Swenson Ag/Sicard Seed

WEDNESDAY - JULY 26th
 Queen Coronation
 Royce Johns & Fat Tuesday
 sponsored by Iowa Forklift and Equipment

THURSDAY - JULY 27th
 Thursday Night Thunder Races

FRIDAY - JULY 28th
 Thursday Night Thunder Races

SATURDAY - JULY 29th
 Kids Night at the Races
 The Sons of Gladys Kravitz
 sponsored by Integrity Spray Foam & Construction

SUNDAY - JULY 30th
 Eve of Destruction

Hamilton County FAIR EST. 1917

WWW.HAMCOEXPO.COM

July 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. Subscription by email: send your request to ellsworthca@netins.net.

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

Birthdays This Month

Seth Berg	1st	Janice Hetland	17th
Aidan Hill	1st	Janet Lindseth	19th
Sarah Hemphill	2nd	Mackenzie Henderson	20th
Kristi Busch	3rd	Jeremy Laube	20th
Nick VanLangen	8th	Pat Carter	21st
Marilyn Doyle	10th	Dorothy Tribby	23rd
Reggie Caudle	12th	Mark Hill	25th
Leah Mass	13th	Dugan Swenson	26th
Grant Larson	13th	Jon Rollefson	27th
Tory Hetland	14th	Teresa Olson	28th
William Angove	16th	Nancy Campbell	29th
Tom Ellwood	16th	Marcia Anderson	30th

ANNIVERSARIES



Joan & Mike Kuhfus	2nd
Lindsay & Steve Gelder	9th
Jody & Todd Berg	10th
Brandi & Cory Nelson	22nd

Opinions expressed in the Ellsworth Newsletter are those of the writers and are not necessarily those of the Ellsworth Community Association or the editor.

REMEMBERING THE PAST

May, 1963

**ELLINGSON GROCERY
PURCHASED BY W. H.
THORESON**

The Ellingson Grocery has been purchased by W. H. Thoreson of Ellsworth. The new management takes over May 1, 1963.

Bill is not new to main street. It was roughly 12 years ago that he sold the Thoreson Hardware to W. T. Thoreson. The Community regrets seeing the Ellingson's sell out but are happy to see Bill return to business.

Bill Thoreson sold the grocery business to **Bernard Heinen** in 1971. The building burned down in 1972.

Today the lot is owned by the City of Ellsworth and is a Mini Park.

SUMMER

MENU MAKERS

BUTTER - - lb. **69¢**

KRAFT'S Miracle Whip qt. **49¢**

DEL-MONTE TUNA 2 LGE. CANS **55¢**

DREAM WHIP **21¢**

BLUE BONNET OLEO 2 lb. **49¢**

Hi-C ORANGE OR GRAPE DRINK 46 oz. can **29c**

SUGAR 10 lbs. **\$1.49**

SKIPPY Peanut Butter 12 oz. jar **39c**

NABISCO VANILLA Wafers 12 oz. **29¢**

Thoreson Grocery

Phone 19 Prices good for Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6 **Ellsworth, Ia.**

Thank You

Ellsworth Community Association

Thank you for awarding me the Ellsworth Community Association Scholarship. It is very much appreciated and will be put towards my schooling next year. I plan to attend Kirkwood Community College to major in Agricultural Science. Landon Grove

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT



Jerry and Stacy Alsager recently established their concrete business with building a new shop at 1719 Industrial Park Rd, Ellsworth. JA Concrete was started in 2019. After working in the concrete business for the past 35 years, Jerry decided to leave the corporate office and return to doing what he enjoys most, working in the field. Jerry and crew are well experienced in residential, commercial and agricultural concrete.

After teaching for 16 years, Stacy resigned and is currently doing all of the office work.

Jerry and Stacy reside in Jewell. They have two children; Sidney is a First Lieutenant in the Air Force and is currently stationed in Charleston, SC. She will be PCSing to Roy, UT in July. Mason is currently working for JA Concrete Construction and also does some acting and modeling.

LIBRARY NEWS

JULY 2023 Salena Schmitz, Library Director

THEME WEEKS for kids throughout July! Each week will have a new theme, and you can stop in anytime throughout the week of July to participate! July 3-8: Lego Challenge. July 10-15: Wizardry to Gardening. July 17-22: Space Camp. July 24-29: County Fair Bingo.

Adult Summer Program is here 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!!

LIBRARY NEWS continued on page 6

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 board must be turned in by 5:00 PM on July 31, 2023. This is available for patrons 18+

*** The spotlight book of the month *Where Coyotes Howl* by Sandra Dallas. ***

1916. The two-street town of Wallace is not exactly what Ellen Webster had in mind when she accepted a teaching position in Wyoming, but within a year's time she's fallen in love – both with the High Plains and with a handsome cowboy named Charlie Bacon. Life is not easy in the flat, brown corner of the state where winter blizzards are unforgiving and the summer heat relentless. But Ellen and Charlie face it all together, their relationship growing stronger with each shared success, and each deeply felt tragedy. Ellen finds purpose in her work as a rancher's wife in her bonds with other women settled on the prairie. Not all of them are so lucky as to have loving husbands, not all came to Wallace willingly, and not all of them can survive the cruel seasons. But they look out for each other, share their secrets, and help one another in times of need. And the needs are great and constant. The only city to speak of, Cheyenne, is miles away, making it to the Wild West in rural Wallace. In the end, it is not the trials Ellen and Charlie face together that make them remarkable, but their love for one another that endures through it all.

NEW BOOKS

Adult Fiction:

- Summer on Sag Harbor #2 by Sunny Hostin
- The Forbidden Door #4 by Dean Koontz
- Always a Bridesmaid #2 by Cindi Madsen
- The Bride Wore White #7 by Amanda Quick
- Queen Charlotte by Julia Quinn & Shonda Rhimes
- A Change in Altitude by Anita Shreve

Adult Non-Fiction:

- The Diabetic Cookbook for Beginners: 500 Easy and Healthy Diabetic Diet Recipes for the Newly Diagnosed, 21-Day Meal Plan to Manage Type 2 Diabetes and Prediabetes by Tiarra R. Barret

Biography:

- The Wright Brothers by David McCullough

Junior Fiction:

- The Sun and The Star: A Nico Adventure by Rick Riordan

COUNCIL MINUTES/CLAIMS CITY OF ELLSWORTH JUNE 12, 2023

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on June 12th, 2023 with Mayor Pro Tem King presiding and the following council present: Sogard, Funk and Norem. Absent: Mayor Yager and Council Member Gelder.

	May Receipts	May Disbursements
General Fund	9468.72	57964.83
Road Use Fund	6305.39	10598.26
Employee Benefit Fund	163.67	825.12
Emergency Fund	60.05	
Local Option Sales Tax Fund	7562.18	
Tax Increment Finance Area 1		
Tax Increment Finance Area 2		
Tax Increment Finance 1 Amend		
Bingo Fund	4676.13	1105.82
Debt Service Fund	86.04	2415.00
Capital Improv Reserve		
Capital Project-Ind. Park Rd.		
Capital Project-EL Util Impr		
Capital Project-Well Project		
Capital Project-Strm Water	18755.50	
Water Fund	30838.83	28727.19
Water Sinking Fund		
Sewer Fund	9143.91	9791.51
Electric Fund	68572.65	58932.60
Electric Sinking Fund		34931.25
Storm Water Fund	3944.30	55.65
Storm Water Sinking Fund	_____	3058.00
	\$159577.37	\$208405.23

AGENDA APPROVAL: Motion by Norem, seconded by Funk to approve the agenda. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

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

- a. Motion to approve May 8th, and May 23rd, 2023 council minutes.
- b. Motion to approve May payment of claims.
- c. Motion to approve Love’s Travel Stop #684 Tobacco Permit.

Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried and claims hereby made a portion of these minutes.

PUBLIC FORUM: None.

Council minutes continued on page 8

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION REQUEST: The Community Association has been providing concessions for both Bingo and sport activities at the Ellsworth ball diamond. For the last several years, the popcorn machine that they have been using at the ball diamond has been being repaired with pieces from a broken machine stored at the gym. Unfortunately, they are no longer able to keep the current machine going. A request was made to purchase a new popcorn machine for the Bingo concession stand and move that current machine to the ball diamond concession. Motion by Sogard, seconded by Funk to approve a reimbursement to the Community Association for the purchase of a new popcorn machine for Bingo concessions in the amount of \$1,846.00. Roll call votes 3-0, with Norem abstaining. Motion carried.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Evans was present to revisit previous discussion regarding gutter replacement at the fire station, the possibility of a grant writer being hired for future grant help with Fire and EMS, and questions regarding a donation made to the Fire Association and how it relates to donating to the Fire Department and City Buildings. The council requested at least 2 updated quotes be obtained for the gutter repairs. The City Clerk mentioned that she would reach out to the county supervisors on the possibility of a grant writer program they had previously mentioned to her and see if that had come to fruition. After reviewing the different regulations that exist for associations, the Clerk requested to contact the City attorney or Iowa League of Cities for more clarification on the donation inquiry before making any decisions.

COMPLAINT: This listed item was combined with the next agenda item.

GRAVEL IN ALLEYS: Jeremy Laube and Dan Knipple were in attendance to discuss the unfinished alley that runs on the east side of their properties. The City currently does not maintain unfinished alleys in the City. If residents purchase and lay their own gravel, the City will then maintain the alley going forward. In this case, Mr. Laube has already purchased and laid gravel for a large section of the alley, however other sections have not been graveled, so the City does not regularly maintain it. Mr. Knipple wished to confirm that if he did lay a base layer of gravel down to the south, the City would then maintain the alley.

FISCAL YEAR END TRANSFER RESOLUTION: Motion by Norem, seconded by Funk to adopt Resolution #922 authorizing the City Clerk to make certain transfers for fiscal year end expenses. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

1520 DEWITT STREET: The City Clerk was contacted by the executor of the estate that owns the property located at 1520 Dewitt Street regarding future plans on the building. She had several questions and concerns going forward and the Clerk discussed those with the council. Further discussion will take place between the council, the executor and the city attorney to formulate a plan moving forward.

METER PROJECT INVOICES: The Clerk received several invoices from Van Wert Company for their services on the water and electric meter project that she had questions on. After discussing some of those concerns with the council, it was decided that it was best to request a representative from Van Wert be present at July's council meeting in order to address those questions in person. The Clerk will reach out to Van Wert with the request.

Council minutes continued on page 9

CITY PROJECT FOLLOW UPS: An emergency sewer line repair presented itself on Friday May 26th, 2023 late into the afternoon. After Supervisor Vanlangen informed the City Clerk, a group message was sent to council regarding the collapsed line and the City’s options on repair. Due to the cost of the repair, a council vote was required since it exceeds the current purchasing and authorization policy set by the City. Hall Backhoe and Trenching was already in the area working on a repair and were able to complete the line repair at a reduced price since remobilizing and re-digging wouldn’t be necessary. There was a motion by King, seconded by Gelder on May 26th, 2023 to approve the repair. Roll call votes 5-0. Motion carried at that time. Additional concrete labor and material to pour and finish the sidewalk and street was also required once the sewer line was fixed. The council was given two quotes at tonight’s meeting for the work. Motion by Sogard, seconded by Funk to approved Woodruff Constructions quote of \$2300.00. Roll call votes 3-0, with King abstaining. Motion carried.

TAX CHANGES: During the 2021 and 2022 IPERS review and Annual Financial Examinations, the City Clerk was notified that the City would need to change the status of Volunteer Fire and EMS workers to City employees. The IRS states that tax laws apply to firefighters in the same manners as other types of workers whether they are termed “volunteers’ or not, and that they are considered employees for Federal tax purposes. The Clerk was instructed to immediately begin withholding federal payroll taxes and report wages for each employee on a W-2. In May, the City also received a letter from the Department of the Treasury regarding backup withholding and correcting the employee status. Before checks are issued in December of this year, members of the Fire and EMS department will need to fill out W-2’s and other employment paperwork in order to receive their proper payment.

POLICY REVIEW: Recent issues with the authorization and purchasing policy have sparked a conversation on whether a review of the spending limits need to be revised and also whether an emergency exemption clause needs to be added. The council took into consideration suggestions by both Fire Chief Evans, EMS representative Butler and City attorney Montag before concluding that further discussion needed to take place prior to any changes being voted on.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Pro Tem King adjourned the meeting at 9:18 pm.

/s/ Kalib King, Mayor Pro Tem
/s/ Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk



Questions from last month:
Are you planning a vacation trip this year?
Yes - 3 No - 11
Would you rather travel or stay home for vacation? Travel - 3 Stay at home - 14

This months question:
Have you attended the County Fair?
Have you exhibited at a County Fair?

Vote by email: ellsworthca@netins.net. No names published.



DISCOVER HOW THESE IOWANS IMPACTED
THE 1920s AND 1930s EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE AMERICAN CREAM

Saturday, June 10

JEWELL MUSEUM, 2 PM

Jewell Veteranarian Dr. Erick Christian

by Barbara Knox Homrighaus and Nancy Eich Kayser

Saturday, July 8

ELLSWORTH LIBRARY & MUSEUM, 2 PM

Ellsworth Farmers John and Jessie Lakin Yancy

by Barbara Knox Homrighaus

Saturday, July 15

RADCLIFFE DAYS, in the Park, 2 PM

Lyon Township Farmers Charlie and Hattie Hildal Knox

by Barbara Knox Homrighaus

*Developed in Iowa, the American Cream is
the only draft horse breed native to the United States*

National American Cream Draft Horse Day is declared July 11

American Cream Draft Horse Association

Editor's editorial:

Summer is upon us and activities are in abundance. The Hamilton County Fair is scheduled for this month. The Hamilton County Fair has been declared one of the best in the state. There is something for everyone and a lot of it free. No individual admission price, there is a small parking fee. The 4-H and FFA members keep busy showing their projects. They are so proud of their year's work.

There will be a special presentation at the Library/Museum on Saturday, July 8th about the American Cream Horses and how they were developed in this area. I attended the Jewell Presentation and it was very interesting. They had a very good turn out of interested people.

Can Ellsworth out do Jewell in attendance? Janet