

# ELLSWORTH COMMUNITY 

## ASSOCIATION

## SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

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

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## CITY AND SCHOOL ELECTIONS COMING IN NOVEMBER

The year 2023 is a year for city elections. The following offices are open for election/reelection:

Mayor: Dolorus Yager
Council Member: Kalib King
Council Member: Marv Norem
Council Member: William Funk
If any Ellsworth resident would like to have their name put on the ballot November 7, 2023, necessary papers can be obtained at City Hall or the Hamilton County Auditor Office before September 21, 2023.

Also, school elections will be held on November 7, 2023. The cut off date to be put on the ballot is September 21, 2023. Vacancies at South Hamilton are:

Director District 1 - Tony Babcock
Director 2 - Joely Swenson
Director 3 - Leigh Miller
At Large - Joely Swenson

## September 2023



## Notices:

NEWSLETTER MATERIAL DUE: by the 25th of the month for the next months edition. Send by email to ellsworthca@netins.net or Ellsworth Community Association, PO Box 272, Ellsworth, Ia 50075. Subscribe/unsubscribe by email: send your request to ellsworthca@netins.net.

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

| Birthdays This M.math |  |  |  | ZXRELEESEXTES |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Merlyn Evans | Ist |  |  |  |  |
| LaVone Flygstad | 2nd | Linda Bottorff | 15th | Mソ |  |
| Jessica Nelson | 2nd | Brooklyn George | I8th |  |  |
| Todd Hill | 2nd | Matt Laube | 18th | Deb \& Steve Senn | 4th |
| Marty Naber | 5th | Karlie Hill | 2ISt | Linda \& Kevin Bottorff | 5th |
| Molly Henderson | 6th | Brandon Hill | 23 rd | Marcy \& Bob Olson | 14th |
| Stephanie Nicholson | 7th | Preston Hill | 23 rd | Jan \& Bruce Thompson | 17th |
| Wyatt Gelder | Ioth | Carter Nelson | 24th | Linda \& Larry Barquist | 25th |
| Britany Nicholson | 12th | Katalina Solis | 30th | Laura \& Jon Rollefson | 25th |

## END OF AN ERA

If anyone was watching KCCI TV evening news August 22, they learned the Ellsworth United Methodist Church has decided to close the doors. The congregation and attendance has been diminishing over the last years. This church has always been the smaller of the two Ellsworth churches but in its day, it was very active. It was founded in 1903 by the Congregationalists. The church has been called several names over the years. In 1948 it became the Methodist Church and in 1968 the United Methodist Church. In 1957, the congregation was growing so fast, a 50 foot addition was added to the back including classrooms upstairs and new kitchen and restrooms in the basement. Many baptisms, confirmation, weddings and funerals have been held here. Good memories for all who attended and were members. Last Sunday service August 27th, 2023


Last months question Prefer:
Private School:16
Public School: 12

Question for September What do you want in the monthly newsletter? Articles Added? Articles removed?

## REMEMBERING THE PAST <br> 1953



Editor's Note:

It took many to put Turkey Day together. It was a gathering that the whole community worked making it a success. The parade was long and well attended. People lined up around the park to get their free turkey sandwiches both noon and supper. The games included Basketball Throw, Balloon Dart Game, Nail Pounding for Women, Tug of War for Men, Muffin Tin Throw, Shoe Kick, Horse Shoe Pitching, Bean Bag Throw.

My memories - living at the corner of the park, I would go to school the morning before the big day and nothing was happening. By the time school was over, walking home, booths were built and benches in place. The park was ready for the big day. Excitement in the air. No school on Turkey Day.

The morning after, the park was a disaster. Litter all over but, coming home from school the park was back to original fun place to play. Lots of work done by lots of volunteers.

Printed in the September 2, 1953 Ellsworth News:

The people listed below will be roasting turkeys for Turkey Day. The following will bring to the Legion Hall between 8:00 \& 9:30. Mrs's Howard Adix, Valie Ahrens, Inez Ahrens, Scott Abell, Verna Anderson, Helen Appelgate, Jack Brinton, Mabelle Brinton, Ed Brock, Marvin Brown, Leoan Coates, Dorothy Cole Calvin Crawford, Carrie Dahl, Betsi Danielson, Mona Danielson (2), Zada Danielson, Veda Doyle, Reuben Ellwood, Emma Evans, Cora Hale, Orlin Hanson, Maggie Henderson, Mrs. George Hemphill, Hyla Hill, Jerry Hill, Chet Hinderaker, Lester Hinderaker, Richard Hindraker, Sig Holt, Paul Hudgins, Vera Iverson, Bonnie Johnson, Jesse Johnson, Mildred Johnson, Edna Kennedy, Anna LeMaster (2), LeRoy Marcus, Carl Nelson, Fred Nelson, Palma Neuman, Stella Neuenschwander, Joe Obe, Elizabeth Olson, Nellie Olson, Anna Pearson, Jean Pearson, Jerry Peterson, Lavon Peterson, Nellie Peterson, Orv Peterson, Pete Peterson, Dolly Pounds, Ada Rude, Flossie Rude, Murial Sather, Ray Skartvedt, Jenora Soppeland, Betty Tegland, Clarence Thompson, Dale Thompson, Lois Thompson, Myrtle Tjelta Ona Thoreson, Beryle Thoreson, and Ray Wilson.

Turkeys to be delivered to the Turkey Plant between 8:00 \& 9:30. Mrs's Sadie Berg, Walt Bergeson, Beverly Brinton, LaVon Carnell, Charles Caruth, Joe Ellingson, Carol Mae Espeland, Marjorie Evans, Margaret Ewing, Gene Foval, Kathleen Halverson, Marion Hanson, Willard Hanson, Alvera Henderson, Daisy Hill, Homer Hitchcock, Veda Heers, Evelyn Iverson, Eileen Johnson, Evelyn Johnson, Stub Johnson, A L Kingery, Olive Knutson, Ella Lindebak, W A Marshman, Lee Myers, Leon Obe, Avis Olson, Genevieve Olson, Merlin Olson, Thelma Olson, Vernon Peterson, Vi Peterson, Pierre Pounds, Sam Reisetter, Eleanor Rex, G C Rorem, Marie Rundle, Harlan Severson, Merle Shade, Ruth Sheldahl, Marian Skartvedt, Mrs Skartvedt, Ruth Swenson, Beverly Thompson, Deloris Thompson, Arend Tjarks, Mary K Thoreson, Sally Thoreson and Ronald Twedt.
HAULERS - turkey to park

Merle Marcus, Chairman -
AM after Parade. Jack Brinton, Roger Hitchcock, George Abell, Wesley Thoreson, Dudley Cole

PM - Mike Knutson, Frank Doyle, Orlin Hanson, Orval Peterson, Fred Sather.

## ELLSWORTH PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS

## Septennoer 2 ? 3 salena Schmitz, Library Director

NATIONAL GOOD NEIGHBOR DAY SEPTEMBER 28TH! Celebrate National Good
Neighbor Day and help our community be good neighbors-because good neighbors make great neighborhoods. Stop in September 25-30th for the Good Neighbor Display at the library! On September $28^{\text {th }}$, we will have an activity for all ages to participate in from 12:00 PM - 5:00 PM.
*** The spotlight book of the month is When No One is Watching by Alyssa Cole. ***
Sydney Green is Brooklyn born and raised, but her beloved neighborhood seems to change every time she blinks. Condos are sprouting like weeds, FOR SALE signs are popping up overnight, and the neighbors she's known all her life are disappearing. To hold onto her community's past and present, Sydney channels her frustration into a walking tour and finds an unlikely and unwanted assistant in one of the new arrivals to the block - her neighbor Theo. But Sydney and Theo's deep dive into history quickly becomes a dizzying descent into paranoia and fear. Their neighbors may not have moved to the suburbs after all, and the push to revitalize the community may be more deadly than advertised. When does coincidence become conspiracy? Where do people go when gentrification pushes them out? Can Sydney and Theo trust each other - or themselves - long enough to find out before they too disappear?

## Adult Fiction:

- Out of Nowhere by Sandra Brown
- The Girls with No Names by Serena Burdick
- All That Matters by Steff Ann Holm
- The Holiday Home by Daniel Hurst
- Identity by Nora Roberts
- Five Years by Rebecca Serle
- Network Effect by Martha Wells


## Young Adult Fiction:

- Some Girls Do by Jennifer Dugan


## Graphic Novels:

- There Might be a Kazoo Emergency by Heidi Y. Stemple, Illustrated by Selom Sunu
Early Reader Fiction:
- It Feels Good to be Yourself: A Book About Gender Identity by Theresa Thorn, Illustrated by Noah Grigni


## Biography:

- Pops: Learning to be a Son and a Father by Craig Melvin


## AUGUST CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

The Ellsworth City Council met in regular session at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall on August 14th, 2023 with Mayor Yager presiding and the following council present: King, Sogard, Funk and Norem. Absent: Gelder.


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

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Norem, seconded by King to approve the following items listed on the consent agenda:
a. Motion to approve July $10^{\text {th }}, 2023$ council minutes.
b. Motion to approve July payment of claims.

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

PUBLIC FORUM: Property owner Forest Paulson was present to discuss with the council concerns regarding the constant water buildup he has on his property. He currently has 2 different sump pumps that are continually working and is concerned that there may be a larger issue at hand. Supervisor Vanlangen was aware of the concerns and has spoken to the property owner and has been working with him to try and problem solve what may be causing the constant flow. There was mention of how deep the basement was dug and also that the pumps may be pumping water out and due to the grading, the water may be coming right back towards the foundation. The council will receive an update at next month's council meeting.

RALLY SUNDAY: There was a request by the Lutheran Church to be able to temporarily close down Dewitt Street between Des Moines and Dubuque for Rally Sunday on Sunday September 10th, 2023. This is an annual event hosted by the church. Motion by Sogard, seconded by King. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

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FLAG FOOTBALL REQUEST: Chelsea Grundmeier with the South Hamilton Flag Football League was in attendance to request permission for the league to use the Ellsworth ball diamond for practices and football games again this season and to ask for a donation to assist in operating expenses occurred for the year. She stated that the league has approximately 70 kids out this year and that practices were already underway, with the games beginning in September. Motion by Norem, seconded by Sogard to approve use of the field and a donation of $\$ 500.00$ to the league. Roll call votes $4-0$. Motion carried. Chelsea will communicate with the City Clerk on practice and game schedules and be in contact with the ECA regarding concession stands.

AMERICAN SANITATION: Brad Schmidt with American Sanitation was available to answer any questions or concerns the council had from last months meeting regarding the new recycling service their company is now offering. After discussing Pros and Cons of having one service or two services for recycling, it was determined that the City would initiate a bid process to begin in September for any interested parties wishing to submit a bid for services.

VANWERT INC: Steve Brush with VanWert Inc. was present to discuss several questions the council had regarding the water and electric meter changeout project that has been going on since February of this year. He updated the council regarding how many meters were left to change out, what the expected time arrival was on the final equipment needed for the City to completely take over reading the meters and when the training for the software would take place. Several concerns were raised regarding the amount of time City employees had spent figuring out the software and billing issues and installing the meters themselves and questions about sales tax on some of the invoices were also inquired about. The project looks to come in under budget by approximately $\$ 6,000.00$. There was a motion by King, seconded by Sogard to pay invoices totaling $\$ 71,665.67$. Roll call votes $4-0$. Motion carried.

VENDOR PERMITS: Due to the recent popularity of the Wednesday Farmers Market here in Ellsworth, there has been some interest in food trucks being included. Discussion regarding licensing and insurance responsibilities took place and it was agreed that the Clerk would keep records on hand at City Hall.

ELECTRIC BOND DEBT: The City Clerk informed the council that the Electric Bond Revenue Debt for the 2016 Street Light Project was down to a balance of $\$ 70,000.00$ and that the electric sinking fund currently has an excess of $\$ 45,795.31$ in it. She suggested taking the remaining $\$ 24,204.69$ out of the electric fund and paying off the loan to save the next 3 years' worth of interest charges. Motion by King, seconded by Funk to transfer funds to payoff the Electric Revenue Bond debt in full. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

ROAD SIGNS AND ENFORCEMENT FOR VIOLATIONS: Supervisor Vanlangen spoke with the council regarding placing an order for additional truck route signs, no trucks signs and no parking signs. There was also discussion regarding continued parking of semis on Industrial Park Road and the garbage they are throwing out into the street and the ditches and properties there. After speaking with law enforcement, it was agreed that parking infraction fees would be increased to prevent both the littering and congestion caused by the overnight parking in the area. Motion by Funk, seconded by Sogard to impose a $\$ 500$ municipal infraction for any parking violation on Industrial Park Road, except in the case of emergency as determined by the City. Roll call votes 4-0. Motion carried.

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BOARD RESIGNATION: The resignation was rescinded.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT ITEMS: Supervisor Vanlangen spoke with the council regarding the need for a new Spectrophotometer for the water plant. He presented several examples and prices, however after reviewing the information the council has requested more information before voting. Vanlangen will have that information available at the next meeting.

COMMENTS: There was conversation regarding the future of the City's lagoons and of stricter requirement being set by the DNR. Alan Hanson discussed with the council the need for an engineer to be involved in a plan of action and the deadline of that plan.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Yager adjourned the meeting at 8:38 pm.
/s/ Dolorus Yager, Mayor
/s/ Amy L. Zeman, City Clerk

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: THE HAIR STUDIO



Three hair stylists; Heather Risetter, Shannon Miller, and Kelly Feaker operate The Hair Studio at 1525 DeWitt St in Ellsworth. In October 2021, the former salon was expanded and remodeled. The stylist's are available for appointments Monday thru Saturday. Their customers include men, women and children. Heather, Shannon and Kelly also do wedding parties. Their services include washing, permanents, extensions, cuts, color, highlights.

