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Here's February!

A Message from your Publisher

Spring is right around the corner! The recent snowfalls will help with Spring sprouting. I know many have mixed feelings about snow; “nice to look at, but don’t want to drive in it.” I remember driving to work in Omaha on cold, snowy and sometimes icy mornings. The last January I lived in Omaha there were 18 days in a row where the temperature never got above ZERO degrees! I didn’t say freezing = 32. I said zero. That broke the previous year’s record of 10 days in a row. So I can understand why some don’t appreciate snow.

I don’t drive to “work” any more, so if I’m driving in the snow, it’s most likely for a photoshoot of landscapes or architecture, and there’s some of that in this issue from last Sunday’s snow (Jan 22nd), including the Lyceum Cafe on the front cover.

By now you shouldn’t need any more hand-holding when it comes to vaccines and other prudent behaviors for virus prevention, but for helpful information, visit the CDC online at [cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov). “Whether you’re planning a special Valentine’s Day dinner or creating a Super Bowl spread, be sure to keep food safety on the menu.” In addition to food safety and Covid 19, they spotlight new respiratory diseases and influenza reports.

Happy Ground Hog Day, Happy Valentine’s Day, and I hope your team wins the Super Bowl. Be careful if you travel.

Don’t forget to **clip the Valentino’s coupon on page 20 (back cover), and carry it with you!**

Stephen

Your Country Neighbor
Your “2-cups-of-coffee” companion
including local photos and articles
with the flavor of rural America.

Your Country Neighbor

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

Plus, peruse the happenings in a small town on pages 7,8,9,12

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Thank You!

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

Ralph Waldo Emerson

“People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

Maya Angelou



A Bald Eagle is perched above the Little Nemaha River
January 22, 2023

Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson, Auburn

Well, here I am again, watching the weather, wondering if I should call off church choir practice tonight. This time it isn't frigid temperatures or major snowfall predictions interfering with activities, it's freezing rain now and possible rain/snow mix later on. I think scheduling is my least favorite part of being the choir director. Our travel plans make it hard enough to figure out Sunday morning singing dates that coincide with my availability for rehearsals. Throwing weather cancellations into the mix really frustrates me.

Oh well, as Robert Burns penned, "The best laid plans of mice and men often go astray."

Meal plans also have a way of going astray sometimes. A couple of weeks ago, Hubby and I spent five days with our grandkids while their parents were enjoying a sunny beach in Florida. Knowing that the kids' activities were going to complicate suppertime, I planned ahead and took along ingredients for a big batch of ham and cheese sliders with poppy seed glaze. Everyone loves them and they reheat easily for a snack or another meal. The pan took up too much space in the refrigerator, so we stored the leftovers in the garage. Easy-peasy.

A day or two later I drove our granddaughter to the farm where her horse is boarded for its weekly grooming and training. I dropped her off and returned to town. Did I mention that I had left the garage door open since I was going to be gone only 15 minutes? As I pulled into the garage my heart sank. The neighbors' Golden Retriever, Gunner, was just licking the last of the poppy seed glaze from the empty sandwich pan. He had eaten all of the remaining sandwiches! It felt like that scene from "A Christmas Story" when the Bumpus's coon hounds got into the kitchen and ate the family's entire turkey. Our grandson informed me that Gunner has also helped himself to food right off the kitchen counter in another neighbor's house! They must leave their garage door and their kitchen entry door open. I didn't really blame Gunner. He was just being a dog. But I wouldn't have had any pity for him, either, if he had developed a nasty belly ache that night.

So much for a week's worth of easy, tasty sandwiches.

Our grandkids are old enough now to get their own breakfast before school. That makes it easy for us, except that I am slightly horrified by what they eat. Our granddaughter ate leftover fast food French fries reheated in the microwave three days in a row. I was proud of her attitude that the fries should not go to waste, but I don't think

Continued on page 4 >>>>>>>>

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<<<<<<<< *Continued from page 3*

there was any nutritional value to those fries. Plus, I had to open a window and light the Scentsy pot to eradicate that awful deep fryer grease odor. Our grandson nibbled stale doughnuts for a couple days and then switched to some sort of pre-packaged “food.”

When I suggested preparing home-made meatballs to go with spaghetti, he enthusiastically expressed his preference for the frozen meatballs they buy because “they are processed.” I tell you, it breaks a grandmother’s heart to have homemade food rejected!! I take some comfort in knowing that I am not likely to live long enough to witness the ultimate decline of my grandchildren’s health due to poor diet. Hubby thinks I may be overreacting. Did I mention that I have concerns about his diet, too? It may be too late to accomplish much in his case, but I keep trying. Sigh.

Right now, my immediate concern is what to do about choir. I’m leaning toward conceding defeat at the hands of Mother Nature. Some things you just can’t fight.



The Downy Woodpecker is noisy for its size. Hearing it’s rat-a-tat-tat, you might look among the branches for a larger bird.



Peering into the woods on a snowy evening. Connecting-trail from the winery to the Steamboat Trace.



The winery in snowy weather.

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The Village Theatre is one
of the structures in Brown-
ville that is appealing in all
seasons.

It's February!

Stephen Hassler, Peru

Most of my elementary school years were spent in a proverbial one-room schoolhouse. Mine was just a half mile from our farmhouse in northeast Nebraska. Winters were cold.

One very cold Winter many years ago, when I was about 13, my big old gray cat went away. I don't think of him as dying, just finding a barn with more mice, or perhaps a farmhouse with more throw-away food scraps. He was the only cat I ever had that went sparrow hunting with me and my BB gun. That was a cold Winter in northeast Nebraska, where I grew up on my father's farm.

We had some cold in Nebraska last month, but 20 below was not uncommon in Northeast Nebraska. I think it was the geography, but maybe those times were just colder. And when Ground Hog day came around, I was confused to hear that when he saw his shadow we were to expect "Six more weeks of Winter." I always wondered, "Huh, only six? What's with that?" Winter usually lasted until mid April or even later back then. Come February I would take just six more weeks of Winter any year.

Never in those younger years of mine did I experience 70 degrees in March. "Warm" was 40 degrees, or when the snow would 'stick' for making snowmen or snowballs. "Warm" was when the pigs' water-troughs were not frozen in the morning, requiring the kerosene lamps under them to be relit. Try striking a match with two pairs of gloves on. When my glove caught fire one time, I couldn't feel it. I just put it out in the snow. Actually, it was my father's glove pulled over my own.

February was also the month of "calving." I guess nature's plan was for the baby cows to have all Spring and Summer to fatten up before the next Winter came along, assuring they could withstand the harshness of the Winter to come.

Momma cow would prefer privacy during delivery, so she would try to find a spot to hide on our 160 acre farm, or she went to the farthest corner so that a cold Winter's hike was necessary for me to inspect the newborn. Didn't she know the barn was warmer than open cornfield stubble? But within a day or so the little one had the strength to follow momma home to the watering tank and the barn. No further inspection required.

So come February, my heart grows fonder, not just because of Valentine's Day, but for Ground Hog Day, and only six more weeks of Winter. I can handle that.



Windmill west of Peru, Nebraska. Jan 22, 2023



This windmill was donated by Alice Mertes' father to a Brownville Organization.

Are You Ready For Some Football?

Angela Allgood

When I say “football” are you ready to get your favorite jersey out? How about cleaning house so friends and family can come over? And what about snacks (do you go all out)?

Does it change if I say “Super Bowl?” Two teams who have worked hard through the year to make it to this point. Who is your favorite?

Super Bowl LVII is THE championship game for NFL (National Football League) for the ending of the 2022 season. This year’s Super Bowl game will be February 12, 2023 and will be in Glendale, Arizona at the State Farm Stadium. If you are staying home to watch it, it starts at 6:30 ET and 5:30 local time.

Everything is planned out. For snacks, you can serve Nachos, Pizza Rolls, Lil’ Smokies, or you can go all out and have a tailgate party in your backyard. Steak, or anything a serious “griller” wants to grill. What do you think is the most popular Super Bowl snack? If you guessed Chicken wings, you guessed right. Did you know that 36% of Americans must have wings! Wings are such a popular snack that the National Chicken Council reports each year that, “We eat 1.4 billion wings on Super Bowl Sunday.” Now that truly is a lot of wings!

Instead of backyard Bar-B-Q for the Super Bowl, how about actually going. There is nothing like getting friends together to go on a trip of a lifetime. Experiencing the State Farm Stadium vibe with thousands of people cheering right along with you ... what an adrenaline rush. However, I hope you have a fat wallet. Super Bowl tickets are running anywhere between \$3,908 up to \$23,000. Wow! That is just the ticket prices. I hope you booked a motel already. Plus, how are you getting to Arizona? Driving? Airplane?

Which team are you cheering for? As of this publication date, the teams in the final playoffs are (on the NFC League) San Francisco 49ers who are 13-4 vs. the Philadelphia Eagles who are 14-3. This game is January 29, 2023 at 2 pm. The AFC League teams are the Cincinnati Bengals who are 12-4 and the Kansas City Chiefs 14-3. Each team that wins from the two Leagues will then play in the Super Bowl. I asked a friend what he thought the outcome would be and he said that he thinks it will be between the 49ers and the Bengals with the Bengals taking the Super Bowl win! Cannot wait to see if he is right.

Library Lovers Month

Angela Allgood

I think I was born in a library. For as long as I can remember, I have had a book in my hand. When I was younger and had “teenage” problems, I would read books. I would be the popular cheerleader, the famous lawyer solving all the cases, I would travel abroad... I would escape in a book. Now that I am older, I still love to read. I am always looking for good books to read and my bucket list... is full of books I need to read yet!

Since February is Library Lovers Month, I thought this would be a great time to brag about my favorite library. The Auburn Public Library. I have watched that library grow into what it is today! Today, it is a wonderful library with a lot of resources and fun entertainment for the children. It has DVD’s and books galore! The children’s area is really cool and there are places to hide there and read a good book as well. I am also a member of the “Friends of the Library.” I take reading seriously. Books are magical, they are entertaining, they can be a life saver for kids who think they are “different” or going through things alone. If you are a reader, you know what I am talking about!

Did you know that using your local library could save you a lot of money? Director/Children’s Librarian, Heather Koeneke states that over 10,000 adult books were checked out. If you would go to buy that many books, it would cost you \$185,470.00. They also have youth books, children’s books, interlibrary loans, movies, magazines, puzzles, books on CD, and audio books. Heck, you can even get cake pans there. I mean why buy it when you can “rent and return.” If you take full advantage of all that the library has to offer, you could save \$555,272.50 and your home is not cluttered with old magazines!

The Auburn Public Library also offers activities for children. They have craft hours, story time for DOGS Academy, Summer Reading programs, and Youth and Adult summer reading programs.

I vote you share in my love for the library and go check them out! The staff is so nice and helpful and if they do not have a book you want, that’s okay, they can do an Inter-library Loan and see if another library has it. You do not have to go buy it and then donate it. Although the library would love your donation if you did!

Movie Theater in Peru

Angela Allgood

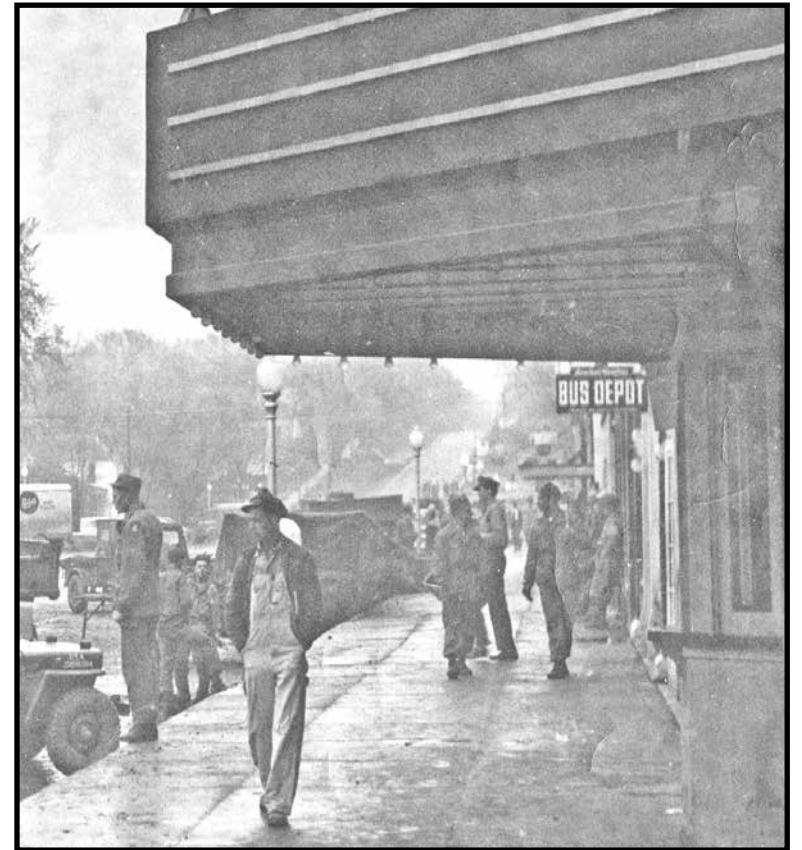
We all love going to the movies. Can you imagine living in Peru and being able to go to the movies in town? Well, believe it. Peru used to have a movie Theater. It was owed by Corrinne (Ellis) Adams' family.

When talking to Jerry Patterson and Devon Adams, I learned a little about the theater. Devon said, "There was a ticket book under the canopy that reached out over the sidewalk. The canopy had lights all around it, and there were movie posters in display cases on the wall along the sidewalk. The area she is talking about is pictured here as the theater existed in 1952. The second photo is where it would exist as of today. The concrete slab is all that remains.

Devon also stated that there was "a small lobby that had a popcorn machine and various types of candy bars and snacks." She said that was in the 1940's and early 1950's. Not many people had TV's back then so the theater had a crowd. Memories of the theater for Devon are, "Cartoons and movie previews preceded the movie of the evening, or weekend afternoon. It wasn't a huge space, and would be full of the sounds of the crowd and the scents of hot buttered popcorn, chocolate candy bars, and wet wool coats steaming from a snowy evening. It was a way to get away from a small town and be part of exciting adventures on the movie screen!"

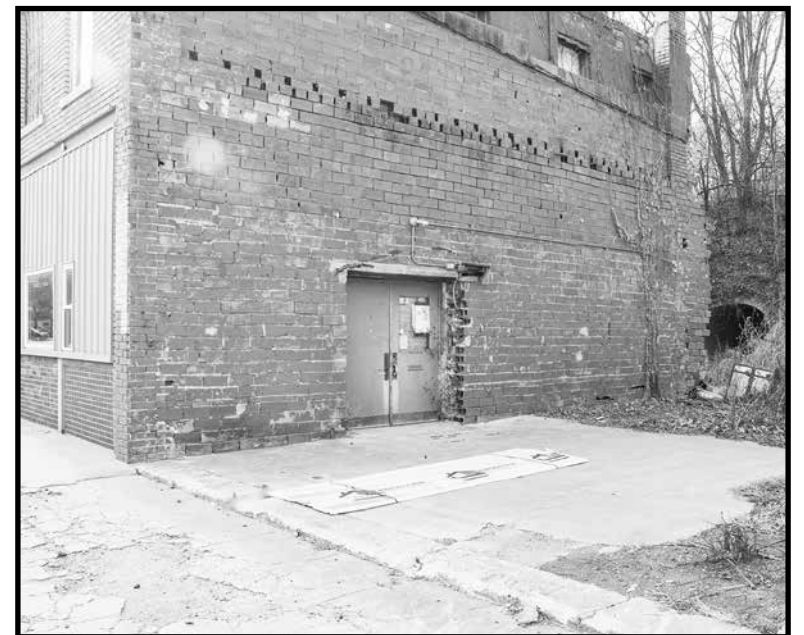
Jerry further stated that he went to the movies many times. He remembers seeing "Gone With The Wind" at the theater. Devon loved to go to the theater with her dad, because he loved westerns and she loved horses. She would ask him which was the bad guy and which was the good guy.

John Patterson reached back into his memory and guessed that the theater seated about 40 people.



Looking south from the old post office in 1952. Shown is John Adams walking beneath the Theater Marquis. Note the ticket booth far right center. In the photo, the town is crowded with National Guardsmen in town due to flooding.

Photo courtesy of Devon Adams



The ticket booth for the Peru Theater was here. The sidewalk was full of the sounds of the crowd and the scent of hot buttered popcorn.

Tuesday Literary Club Reads

DiAnna Loy, Tuesday Literary Club

Sylvie Shires gave the book review at the January meeting of the Tuesday Literary Club. The book she presented was *The Greatest Gift* by Philip Van Doren Stern with an afterword by Marguerite Stern Robinson, Stern's daughter. Little did Stern know when he wrote his book, that it was destined to become a Christmas classic. *The Greatest Gift* is the book that the movie, *It's a Wonderful Life*, starring Jimmy Stewart and directed by Frank Capra was based on.

Stern wrote the first draft of *The Greatest Gift* all in one sitting in 1938 but didn't finish the final draft until 1943. It was really a short story and Stern's agent tried to sell it to multiple magazines with no luck. Stern revised the story one more time, printed out 200 copies in pamphlet form at his own expense, and sent it out as Christmas cards in 1943. In March 1944 Stern received a call from his agent; she had an offer from Hollywood for the movie rights for \$50,000.

If you are wanting a book and a movie that are identical, this is not the one for you; there are massive differences between them. Those familiar with the movie will remember that the movie starts with George Bailey as a young man working at the Bailey Brother's Building & Loan. He is not yet married, his life is just beginning. We see George through stages of his life including several trials, most recently the shortage of funds at the bank and the Bank Examiner due any minute. George is at the lowest point of his life and is standing on the bridge in a snow storm contemplating suicide. His Guardian Angel, Clarence, joins and grants George's wish to see what his life would have been like if he had never been born. George finally comes to his senses and wishes he had his life back; Clarence grants that wish as well. He goes back to his house to find all of his friends there contributing what they can to help him make up the bank shortfall. He realizes that his life has been worthwhile after all. And that's the movie with its happy ending.

Now the book is substantially different. The book starts when George is on the bridge contemplating suicide and loosely follows the movie through when George returns home to his family. No Bank Examiner, no friends, etc. That theme of the movie is not a part of the book. George is just happy to be with his family.

Capra and Stewart both thought they had made something special and had a hit on their hands. The movie did not do as well as expected at the box office. The movie's big chance came when it moved into public domain in 1974 and television got their hands on it. Since then it has been shown every Christmas and has become a much loved classic.

This book was an interesting read for me as I have watched *It's a Wonderful Life* virtually every year since it began being shown on television; my children grew up with the movie. I was unaware that it was a book first. Thank you Sylvie for choosing this book for your review and telling us "the rest of the story."

Happy Reading!

I Remember Peru

Angela Allgood

I was born in 1970 and my family has lived in Peru throughout my life. We moved other places for my father's job, but we always came back to his home town of Peru.

As I grew up, I have my own memories of Peru. I remember having to meet the bus every morning at a few designated bus stops. One of them being the old Post Office. At that time, it was open and my Uncle Albert let us come in from the bad weather. I also remember two buses coming into town. One for the city kids and one for the country kids. Sometimes we "accidentally" missed the first bus and had to ride the country kids' bus. We loved it because the kids were older than us!

I do not remember when the school closed in Peru, but I do remember going there for a short time. I remember some of my teachers and where the classes were, but not much else. My fond memory of school there was Mrs. Whisler. She was our recess monitor (boy, she was not paid enough to watch the rowdy bunch we were). She was very nice. I also remember just hanging around town. My mom worked at Shop Ez, so it was to go up and see her in the evenings. I even talked to a few college guys!

Then, we just walked around town. We would walk up to the college then rest and watch TV in the old ... hmm, I guess I don't remember what the building was called. I remember a TV and a few offices down where the part of the AWAC was demolished to make the current parking lot.

Continued on page 12 >>>>



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<<< I Remember *Continued from page 9*

I think my favorite memory however, was the skating rink. My friends and I would walk up every Friday night and have a great time. College kids skated and so did we. It was so much fun! Then on Saturday, we did it all over again. I loved that skating rink. It was not your normal skating rink. If I remember right, it was the old library and it sat empty. It had rickety old wood floors but man, was it a great time.

Another memory of Peru was that it was “safe”. My friends and I were hanging out at each others houses laughing and not having a care in the world. Or, we would all go out to the river and just talk out there as well. If was good safe fun. I am not good with dates, but I remember when Oregon Terrace was built. My grandmother moved up there and I always walked up there with my dog Hula to visit her. Sunday dinners were the best at her place! Roast beef and mashed potatoes with gravy. Yumm.

St. Clara’s Catholic Church

Soup Suppper February 19th

5:00 - 7:00 P.M. at Peru City Hall
3 Kinds of Soups and Desserts!

Peru State College Optimist Club Presents A Community Charitable Donations Drive

Toiletries & Cleaning Supplies Needed
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Donation boxes are at Western National Bank, The Market, and The Post Office
As well as at verious locations on the college campus.

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Thank you for helping our local community families.

Readers, as I find out more information, I will pass it on to all of you! I cannot wait to get the next article about Peru History to you! If any of you have any memories as you read the articles published, please let me know! I would love talking to you about your “memories of Peru.”

Let me know.
angallgood.pcn@gmail.com
OR
Your Country Neighbor, P.O. Box 126
Peru, Nebraska 68421

Peru City News

is a volunteer project promoting
Communication, Information,
and Pride in the Peru Community.

is supported by the Peru Community.
Thank you to everyone who participates!
Special thanks to reporter, Angela Allgood.



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



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



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

A Love Story From Past Days

Dorothy Rieke, Julian

Love stories interest and intrigue me. One of my favorites is the love story of Elizabeth Barrett and Robert Browning, poets born in England years ago. Elizabeth's father was quite strict and possessive, but he was very proud of his thirteen-year-old daughter who wrote superb poetry. In fact, in 1817, he arranged for the publication of a long poem by his thirteen-year-old daughter. After her brother's death and her spine injury, Elizabeth spent most of her time in her room writing poetry. She also wrote letters.

Robert Browning was a known poet at that time in England. He was interested in Elizabeth's poetry and finally began writing to her. The couple finally met. Elizabeth's father was very much against this friendship.

However, the couple later managed to get married. The father never wanted to see his daughter again, and he did not. The couple moved to Italy where they spent their lives. They were blessed with a son. Elizabeth wrote love poems to her husband often slipping them in his overcoat pocket before he left the house. One of my favorites is the following:

How do I love thee? Let me count the ways.
I love thee to the depth and breadth and height
My soul can reach, when feeling out of sight
For the ends of being and ideal grace.
I love thee to the level of every day's
Most quiet need, by sun and candle-light.
I love thee freely, as men strive for right.
I love thee purely, as they turn from praise.
I love thee with the passion put to use
In my old griefs, and with my childhood's faith
I love thee with a love I seemed to lose
With my lost saints. I love thee with the breath,
Smiles, tears, of all my life; and, if God choose,
I shall but love thee better after death.

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

During the couple's lives, Robert's poetry was more popular; now Elizabeth's poetry is more highly regarded.

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY!

Window From The Past

Stephen Hassler, Peru

As I look out my window on Fifth street, I can't tell an essential worker from anyone else. Obviously, law enforcement and other "first responders" are in that category, and what about college campus maintenance workers and snowplow drivers? It's been said grocery store clerks, postal workers, utility workers, and bus drivers are essential.

The general population needs to eat, pay their bills, and some need to get to work or school. On the other hand, in some stores one can scan an item's bar code with their smart phone and it goes on their credit card. At this time it's a limited thing, but hindsight says this technique should have been developed more quickly. Okay, so we're all learning.

I've never thought of myself as an essential worker, and that's never bothered me, but now it bothers me to think that I might be a non-essential worker. I feel as if I should reflect on what I am doing and what I am providing through my publications and photography. Well, if not essential, at least my work is appreciated by my readers and advertisers. Or so people tell me. So essential or not, I do what I gotta do.

Have you thought about who you are and what you do with respect to what is essential and what is not? Let's distinguish between essential people and essential work. I would like to think we are all essential people, and if there exists any work that is not essential, maybe do something else. As I like to say; if on Sunday evening you are not looking forward to going to work on Monday morning, then it's time to make a change in your life. This is a guide I live by.

But if this publication went away, life would go on, just maybe not mine. There might be an inconvenience to some, as there would be if there were no grocery clerks. But even groceries can be delivered, as some are already. We can use our phone to pay bills, as some do already. So just who is an essential worker anyway? Looking in my mirror, probably not him. Okay, so what? Through my window on fifth street, I can't judge who is an essential worker, but most, maybe even everyone I see, are essential.

I read one time that you might not accomplish anything important in your whole life, but you have to do it anyway, because no one else will.

It's February; love everybody, love life, and have a good month.

P o e t r y

SAVE AS

by Devon Adams, Peru

Think of life
as a computer
screen.
You can freeze
the action
and
save the seconds
that are the
best.
But don't ignore
them now
and save them
to a file.
Grab them as
they happen,
soak them up,
feel the joy,
hold the feeling
in your heart
today.
Because now is
better then viewing
postcards from
the past.

HEARTFELT

What is the point
of loving if you
don't throw all
of your heart
into it?
Stay with the
feeling even
when you're
mad, or sad,
or bad.
There was a
spark that lit
the fire that is
always there.
Even when it
burns and hurts,
the truth is real.

REALLY?

Roses are blue
and so are you.
She hurt your
feelings, so you
exploded and now
you want her back.
But she was
right, of course.
You knew that
from the start.
Part of the heart
that breaks has
guilty roots
growing deep in
the dirt of denial.
You need to dig
yourself out of
the hole.

IN SIGHT

Problems are like
puzzles.
Sometimes you
can't find the
solutions
because you're
looking too
hard.
They are there,
waiting to be
found,
by you,
when
you're ready
to
find them.

BLUES IN A JAZZY SKY

Thunder drums are beating
and lights are flashing inside
the dark gray wall of storms
that is brewing to the south.
Overhead is the infinite blue
sky vault, serene in it's pure
innocence. With no power to
resist, it must surrender it's
silky beauty to the darkening
threat. Soon the clouds have
swollen into massive moving
mountains of violence. Winds
rip through trees and the air
is full of dust as the spring
music pounds out it's chords,
and cymbals crash out the
count of the beat of a jazz
riff performed by invisible
musicians composing and
improvising as they play.
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February

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

You are shortchanged,
losing your 29th only to acquire her every four years...
you are flirtatious, sending Valentines from saints long dead,
then resurrected by Chaucer into a love date, Feb 14.
Still, you greet heat and warmth and Spring coming in March.
You are Aquarius and your stone is amethyst,
so I will forgive you as you are royalty...
and I will curtsy to you and kiss your fine days hello... .

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Valentine to America

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

From Delaware to Indiana,
Montana to Iowa,
from Northeast to Southeast, California to Georgia,
Lincoln, Nebraska to Fargo, South Dakota
The vast and endless miles, the pulsating truck stops and gas stations festooned with
Christmas trees and workers wearing ugly Christmas sweaters,
except their smiles were beautiful and warmed your heart,
The granaries, the cathedrals of the plains, the oil pumpjacks of Oklahoma and Texas
and parts of Kansas, pumping the gas that makes America hum -- the mosaic of
America, the truckers, the teachers, the sales people, the farmers, the dentists,
the doctors, the lawyers, the mechanics who keep the world running,
the cooks who keep the world fed.
This land, this people,
this place we call our own...
In the end what really matters is love of country,
love of the United States of America.
My heart beats faster and faster
as we travel across the miles,
the endless vistas that make up this wonderful land.
America, America: the United States. This is my Valentine to you....



Nemaha County Courthouse, January 22, 2023

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Peru State Women's Basketball

William Penn U. W 59-48 Mount Mercy U. W 61-53



Peru State College News

Lori Vrtiska Seibel Joins Foundation Board

Lori (Vrtiska '84) Seibel has joined the Peru State College Foundation Board of Directors to usher in 2023. The Lincoln, Nebraska resident was elected in November and began her three-year term in January.

Jeff Greenwald ('71) and Al Urwin ('82) of LaVista, Neb. were re-elected to the Board.

The Foundation is a private, non-profit corporation whose sole mission is to support Peru State College through receipt and distribution of charitable gifts to support the college. Board members serve on a voluntary basis.

Seibel, a native of Table Rock, has extensive experience in the non-profit sector. She is currently serving as president and chief executive officer of the Community Health Endowment (CHE) of Lincoln – a position she has held since 1999. CHE's mission is to make Lincoln the healthiest community in the nation. To achieve this vision, CHE invests in health-related projects and programs and convenes the community around important health issues.

Prior to joining CHE, Seibel served as an aide for two Lincoln mayors – Dale Young and Mike Johanns. In addition, for four years she was an epidemiologist for the Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department.

Seibel earned a Master of Science in preventive medicine and epidemiology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Medicine and Public Health. Her late parents, former State Sen. Floyd, and Doris Wagner ('47) Vrtiska, were staunch Peru State supporters, and the addition to Hoyt Science Hall was named in their honor.

12 Football Players Named OWH NAIA All-Midlands Team Adams Defensive Captain

Back-to-back winning seasons proved fruitful for the Peru State College football team as they continue to rack up post-season recognition.

On Sunday, six Bobcats were named to the Omaha World-Herald's NAIA All-Midlands First Team. In addition, six other Peru State players received honorable mention recognition.

To top it off, junior defensive lineman Devin Adams (Pembroke Pines, Fla.) was named as the captain of the defensive team. Adams finished the season with 52 tackles, 7.5 sacks and 21 tackles for loss for a total of 82 yards. Previously, he had been named an AP NAIA All-American and Heart of America Athletic Conference Defensive Player of the Year for the second year in a row.

Also earning NAIA All-Midlands First Team defensive recognition were linebacker Clayton Thrasher (Mandeville, La.), defensive back Deiontay Dozier (Mesa, Ariz.), and defensive back Carlos Thomas (Gulf Port, Miss.). Thrasher and Dozier were named to the conference's first team defense while Thomas earned second team honors. Named to the NAIA All-Midlands First Team offense were wide receiver Tyreese Schieffer (Omaha) and offensive lineman Amahd Baker (St. Augustine, Fla.). Schieffer and Baker had both previously been named to the Heart's North Second Team. The six football players earning honorable mention recognition included wide receiver Jarrius Hoyle-Anderson (Cordova, Tenn.), linebacker Kile Bentley (Cairo), kicker Mack Boekhout (Elkhorn), linebacker Cameron Davis (Hoisington, Kan.), defensive lineman Ka'Von Lofton (Apopka, Fla.), and defensive back Abe Metelus (Naples, Fla.).

Peru State finished 2022 with a 6-5 mark which gave the Bobcats their first back-to-back winning seasons since 2007.

Three Peru State MCC Harriers Named Daktronics NAIA Scholar-Athletes

The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) released the 2022 Daktronics NAIA Men's Cross Country Scholar-Athletes last month.

Three Peru State Bobcat cross country runners were named to the list. The 2022 list features 467 student-athletes who achieved at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average (GPA) at their institution. In order to be nominated by an institution's head or sports information director, a student-athlete must maintain a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale, must appear on the eligibility certificate for the sport and have attended one full year at said institution.

Senior Alan Simpson (Powhattan, Kan.) earned his third recognition. Simpson is an elementary education major. Sophomores Gavin Smith (Omaha) and Jeremy Matuszewski (Bellevue) were recognized for the first time. Smith is a fine arts major while Matuszewski is majoring in computer management information systems.

Andrew Rathman Earns CSC 2022 Football Academic All-America® NAIA Honors

The College Sports Communicators (CSC) released Tuesday their 2022 Football Academic All-America® Teams for all levels – NCAA DI, NCAA DII, NCAA DIII, and NAIA.

Peru State senior football player Andrew Rathman (Plattsmouth) was named to the NAIA First Team as the special teams selection. Morningside University running back Ryan Cole was selected as the Academic All-America® Team Member of the Year for the NAIA. Two members of the 26-man NAIA team boasted a perfect 4.0 GPA in their undergraduate or graduate work. The NAIA honorees combined for a 3.87 GPA.

Rathman, a management, criminal justice, and computer management information systems major presently has a 3.89 grade point average. He is the only football player from the Heart of America Athletic Conference to earn the top honors and is just one of three Nebraska NAIA players recognized.

With his honor, Rathman becomes the 11th Bobcat football player to earn the honor since 2012.

BOBCAT BASKETBALL

— WOMEN'S —

— MEN'S —

NOVEMBER

11/7	Haskell Indian Nations Univ.	7:00 p.m.
11/18	Ozark Christian College	5:00 p.m.
11/26	MidAmerica Nazarene Univ.	2:00 p.m.
11/30	Culver-Stockton College	5:30 p.m.

DECEMBER

12/3	Missouri Valley College	2:00 p.m.
12/10	Baker Univ.	12:00 p.m.

JANUARY

1/7	Central Methodist Univ.	2:00 p.m.
1/11	William Penn Univ.	5:30 p.m.
1/19	Mount Mercy Univ.	5:30 p.m.
1/25	Grand View Univ.	5:30 p.m.
1/28	Graceland Univ.	2:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

2/8	Benedictine College	5:30 p.m.
2/15	Clark Univ.	5:30 p.m.



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OCTOBER

10/29	Morningside College	5:00 p.m.
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NOVEMBER

11/5	Avila Univ.	4:00 p.m.
11/11	Bethany College	7:00 p.m.
11/12	Missouri Baptist Univ.	6:00 p.m.
11/18	Ozark Christian College	7:00 p.m.
11/26	MidAmerica Nazarene Univ.	4:00 p.m.
11/30	Culver-Stockton College	7:30 p.m.

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2/15	Clark Univ.	7:30 p.m.



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