

# Your *Country* Neighbor Free!

July 2022

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Dad shows daughter his tournament 'catch.'



Serene Garden at Whiskey Run Creek Winery & Distillery; see more on page 4.

## A Magazine from Small-Town & Rural America

*Sweeten your Coffee Break with Voices and Photos from the Valleys of the Nemaha,*



Abigail Koelzer

Abigail Koelzer is the recipient of a PSC Alumni Scholarship to Peru State College. Abigail is a recent graduate of Nebraska City's "Our Lady of Lourdes High School."

The Norman and Dorothy Stehlik Family Scholarship is awarded annually to a graduate of a Nebraska City high school who plans to attend Peru State College. Norman and Dorothy were strong supporters of PSC. Four of their children are alumni.

**PAINTINGS From Your Photographs**  
Pets and Other Animals, Living or Deceased,  
Houses, Barns, Churches, Country Schools  
**by Devon Adams**



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# Your Country Neighbor

Voices and Views from the Valleys of the Nemaha

Publisher & Photographer, Stephen Hassler

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

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**Online; yourcountryneighbor.com**

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*“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

## This Month's Writers & Contributors

Devon Adams 13  
Angela Allgood, Peru City News, 7,8,9,12  
Stephen Hassler 14  
Merri Johnson 5  
DiAnna Loy 9  
Dorothy Rieke 14  
Sheila Tinkham 16

Thank You!

## Your Country Neighbor

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

## Covid in SE Nebraska

Stephen Hassler, Peru

Newly Reported “Positive” Cases of Covid-19  
in these Southeast Nebraska Counties.

The date overlap is due to irregular reporting.

<u>Date Range</u>	<u>Nemaha</u>	<u>Otoe</u>	<u>Johnson</u>	<u>Richardson</u>
04/19 - 05/03	0	0	0	0
05/12 - 05/25	6	33	3	8
05/25 - 06/07	13	15	4	11
06/06 - 06/19	12	39	5	12
06/15 - 06/29	7	39	1	15



**Covid cases have not gone away, especially in the Northwest and Midwest. Do not become complacent. Use caution when and where appropriate. Wear a mask indoors when among crowds.**

To track Covid-19, google; your **county**, your **state**, covid.  
(example) otoe, nebraska, covid

***Wear an N95 mask per CDC guidelines.***

***Wash hands often when out in public.***

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Falls City's balloon festival at the airport. Alas, it was too windy to fly Hot Air Balloons, but the band, food, and numerous vendors were fun.



# Whiskey Run Creek

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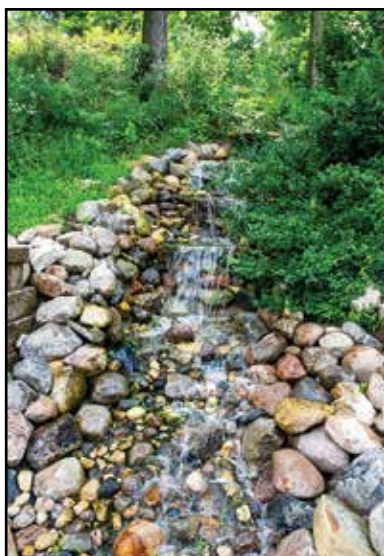
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(website updated monthly)



## Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson, Auburn

Hubby and I recently returned from a week-long RV trip in the Black Hills, where it was cool and a bit rainy two days, but not wet enough to spoil our fun with our nine-year-old grandson and our daughter (our grandson's aunt).

For our grandson, it was the farthest west he had ever been. Five years ago, we spent a week in Tennessee and the Great Smoky Mountains with our kids and grandkids, so he had experienced mountains and forests before. But the Black Hills area is a different kind of "outdoors." I love the hardwood forests of the Smokies, but it is so crowded there, it's hard to feel like you're in the wilderness. In the Black Hills, you can pull over at a trailhead, take a hike and probably not run into another human. If you're lucky like we were in Custer State Park, you can spot a herd of bighorn sheep on a rock outcrop or get to the bison crossing just in time to get stuck in bison traffic, which is a good thing. Of course, living in an RV for a week is a big part of the experience. Our RV had a slide-out that held a small table with benches and a drop-down bunk for extra sleeping space. Since we didn't need the bunk, we used that area for storage, by which I mean "dumping ground" for my four-cubic-foot toiletries bag (I have yet to learn how to pack light), dirty laundry bags, extra bedding, and various things we didn't really need to bring along.

Our daughter (bless her!) is a much tidier housekeeper than I am, so I pretty much had the week off except for preparing stew for the crockpot one time. She washed up after meals, kept the floor swept (of course, there was only about ten square feet of actual floor space, but still), AND did all our laundry. She also used the campground bath house, leaving me more time in the RV bathroom (if you can call it a "room") to make use of all those toiletries I brought along. I'm reasonably sure that the time in the laundry room and the bath house kept her sane. She's used to her own space and quiet time. Of course, there was also the problem with her hair spray setting off the smoke alarm twice.....

Hubby is addicted to grilled meat, so he brought along his mini-grill for burgers, hot dogs and even steak. He's pretty handy with his big Webber grill at home, but the mini presented a few challenges. He had left the top propped open once as the coals were heating and a gust of wind blew it over, spilling the coals. Another time, it overheated a tad while sitting on the picnic table and left a minor scorch mark. He learned his lesson after that and set the grill on the ground the next time. When he picked up the grill after supper, there was a 12-inch circular black spot on the ground where there had previously been green grass. Not sure if we will be charged for damage by the campground... the credit card bill hasn't come yet.

We had a campfire five of the seven evenings of our trip. Our grandson discovered the satisfaction of stripping bark off sticks with a knife and then blackening them in the fire. If you aren't into outdoor skills, stripping and blackening is a real thing. You can look it up on YouTube. When we got back home, Hubby applied a clear sealer and attached a Black Hills decal to one of the sticks. Now that is what I call a genuine souvenir. I hope our grandson keeps that forever.

All vacations come to an end, however. We are back home and it's high summer now. Crops are growing like crazy. It's hot and steamy and stormy. Typical Midwest conditions. But despite the drawbacks of this climate, it is, and always will be, home sweet home for me.

May your summer travels be sweet and your homecomings even sweeter.

July 2022

Your Country Neighbor

5



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**Old Man River Days in Peru Nebraska, the City’s Annual Festival in June.**



The second annual *Radler Bike Festival* sponsored by Arbor Farm, trekked from Nebraska City to Peru and back again.

Right photo; Arriving bicyclists approach relief station on 5th Street in Peru.

Middle photo; Leading bicyclists leave Peru after drinks and snacks.

Bottom Photo; Resting bicyclists take a break before heading back to Arbor Farm festivities in Nebraska City.



Fishing and Kayaking at Duck Creek Recreational Area near Peru.  
“Old Man River Days” Weekend



# PERU CITY NEWS

## *Communication • Information • Pride In Community*

President Evans, what is your plan?

By Angela Allgood

I waited until President Evans had a chance to breathe before I interviewed him. He said this year has been a whirl wind. He has met so many people and loved meeting them all. He met alumni who told stories of a deep love for Peru State College and the town. After a year, he knows the direction PSC is headed and is excited to help it continue in that direction.

By now, many of you know that Michael Evans is the 34th president of Peru State College. He is married to Joanna Evans (whom I interviewed in February). President Evans comes to PSC after six years at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) and he holds a Ph.D. in Folklore from Indiana University.

President and First Lady celebrated 40 years of marriage at the end of May. Evans told me they were leaving for Africa the week of our interview. He stated he had never been there so it should be fun. He said when he comes back from Africa he would have to start working on fundraising for PSC's newest project.

That "project" is five new buildings on campus! The baseball and softball fields are getting most of the buildings. There will be restrooms, a concession stand, and a new building with a training room and coaches' offices. Plus, there will be an open air dome for use year round.

How much fun can one town have?

Obviously a lot!

By Angela Allgood

I am so glad that Old Man River Days (OMRD) offered the community members of Peru a fun weekend. Rain was threatening the weekend and actually came through with the threat. We had a few rain showers and it did hinder a few of the vendors from coming and it stopped a few of the classic car owners from coming, but for those who weathered the storm, it was a fun weekend.

We had a Scavenger Hunt this year that was new. Kirsten Reeves won 1st place and in 2nd place was Julie Cotton with Zy Cotton. There were 15 vendors, including the favorite Loretta's Donut Wagon, lining the streets to sell their products. Miranda Decker, who was both a vendor and in charge of bringing other vendors to town stated, "The vendors struggled a bit with the rain, but being on the street is a good change this year and hopefully we can expand our vendors next year."

The fire department was ready to serve up their burgers and brats, and they had a great lunch. Miranda Decker who is a fire/rescue squad volunteer stated "The fire department ran out of fish and side dishes. The fish is always a big hit!" Barb Decker, a fire and rescue squad volunteer said it was "better than last year!"

They also had a great silent auction with some really nice items (of which I did not win one). It must have been popular because it was a successful fundraiser for the Peru Community Impact Group (PCIG).

Also, you could have been entertained by a band / street dance, and a pet parade where you could meet the stars of the parade afterwards. There was kayaking at Duck Creek, and the Game Warden did an outdoor education and safety lesson where kids could touch different furs and even snakes. And yes, they enjoyed it! Kids could also get swim lessons from Tyson Wessels with "Float for Life."

A ping pong tournament hosted by 5th Street Post Awarded Ken Hastings as the 1st place winner and Mike Tynon as the 2nd place winner. "5th Street Post" also hosted a horseshoe contest. The winners there were Steve Sherman and Bill Hill with 1st place and Bruce and Scott Sherman in 2nd place.

Musical Bingo is also a big hit in Peru! This was sponsored by "Western National Bank" and had over 75 adults and children attending to hear song clips for a BINGO.

*"Evans" Continued on page 12 >>>>>>*

*OMRD Continued on page 8 >>>>>>*

<<<<<< OMRD Continued from page 7

There were games for kids and many of them walked away with a lot of prizes! We had two favorite events. One was a balloon twister by the name of Rudi Patudi! Kids loved her! She made Baby Yoda’s, spiders, dogs, roses and even the coolest gumball machine. I even wanted her to do one of those for me! Tasa Paul-Armknecht brought her boys over to enjoy OMRD and they said they had fun! They especially loved the balloon lady and the games.

Another “favorite” event was the famous cake walk! Kids of all ages (even adults) love a chance to win a cake!

There was a fishing tournament that started at 6 am (ugh). There were sixteen boats registered and Mike Akers came in 1st place with a 35.11 lb total catch, including the largest catfish weighing 29 pounds. Mike is from Shenandoah. Alex Heng and Matt Beccard won 2nd place at 29.12 lb. Crew and Conner (Tasa’s boys) also went out to the weigh-in for the catfish tournament. “They couldn’t believe the monster catfish that were caught!”

I noticed a lot of Peruvians down there enjoying the festivities as well as a few people from Auburn and surrounding areas.

If you were not one of the people at the 2022 OMRD you now have a whole year to wait to join us again in 2023. That’s okay. We are finding ways to make it bigger and better each time! Don’t miss it next year!

OMRD Continued on page 12 >>>>>>>

Peru City News is made possible by Peru volunteers and the following fine institutions;



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Brent Lottman served lunch on behalf of “Peru Fire and Rescue.”



Michael Akers with his 29 lb, 31” Catfish. Winning catch, 35 lb.



A favorite at the car show.



## Tuesday Literary Club Reads

By DiAnna Loy, Tuesday Literary Club

Our book this month was *The Healing Quilt* by Lauraine Snelling and was presented by Dorothy Chase. Ms. Chase took us to Jefferson City, Washington where we joined the good citizens as they are hearing the term “Cancer Cluster” for the first time when most of them read an article in the local newspaper concerning the number of individuals in their area that have cancer; specifically breast cancer. The article also points out the age of the current mammogram machine at the local hospital and the fact that it may be too old to give accurate feedback.

We meet Kit who is struggling to cope with the death of her daughter from cancer. Her struggle is topped of by the fact that her husband left on a work trip six months ago and hasn’t returned. He calls and emails but can’t cope with their daughter’s death either, so he just keeps moving from one job to another without returning home. Kit has the idea that the women of Jefferson City should band together to do something about the obsolete mammogram machine issue. Kit invites a group of local women to gather and discuss the issue. She has the thought that they could pool their talents and make a quilt to auction to raise awareness and money for a new mammogram machine.

Beth is new to Jefferson City; married to the new pastor. She is suffering from a terrible bout of depression and hasn’t met any of the women of the community yet. She is suffering because she is unable to forgive herself for a past mistake. Beth is invited to this gathering by one of her husband’s parishioners and feels she shouldn’t say no. Beth loves to sew and quilt so her skills will be put to good use.

Teza is Kit’s aunt and runs a small local farm which sells all manor of fruits and vegetables to members of the community. Teza loves to quilt and is natural for this community. She is a cancer survivor and is diagnosed with cancer again as her cancer has returned just as this committee gets underway. Teza trusts in God to show her the path to follow in this new challenge.

Elaine is the wife of the head surgeon at the local hospital. She sits on many committees and boards and therefore has a bit of influence in the community. Her specialty is making fabulous pillows and will bring her sewing knowledge to the quilt as well. Elaine also has a problem that she doesn’t know how to solve and takes up much of her free thinking time.

All of these women have problems of their own but welcome the opportunity to come together for this project that will bring them outside of themselves and benefit their community. As their project gains recognition, other women’s groups in Jefferson City decide they would like to contribute to the cost of the mammogram machine. Soon a gala is planned with many civic groups participating.

Of course, the gala grows larger than anyone’s expectations and is a huge success. The twists and turns that get it there are what makes this book worth the read.

Happy reading!



The “5th Street Post” kicked off OMRD with a Horse Shoe Contest and Fish Fry.



The game where close counts!



Above; Kids’ balloon animals were a hit!  
Below; Beach at Duck Creek Recreation Area.







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<< *President Evans Continued from page 7*

The other building will be another open air dome north of the football field. This is also for year round use. It will house turf for indoor sports practice including football. The State of Nebraska has already earmarked \$8.2 million for the project and PSC needs \$2.4 million more. This reporter’s comment; “Don’t worry though. Bobcat pockets run as deep as the blue blood can go! Alumni, get ready to support another growth spurt at PSC!”

*Publisher’s Note;  
See page 18 for proposed  
PSC expansion photos.*

President Evans mentioned that in order for Peru and PSC to work together, we need an open line of communication. If anyone has concerns, ideas, or suggestions, he said to please contact his office.

President Evans ended our interview with “I am looking forward to another wonderful year.”

<<<<<< *OMRD Continued from page 8*

As a volunteer with the kids’ games this year, I want to thank every volunteer who worked five minutes or five hours. Peru cannot bring successful events to our community without volunteers like you! The more volunteers we have each year, the more successful and bigger we can make all of our events, especially OMRD! Vanessa Sherman reiterated the same thing by stating that the PCIG Board of Directors needs volunteers to step up and lead community events to make them happen. Special thanks to Katy Wessels as lead organizer. For her to take this on this year is much appreciated.

As a reporter, it was fun to see all the people downtown have fun. Peru has had a few hardships lately, but OMRD always ensures a great time! Community members of Peru and surrounding areas getting together to celebrate without the worry of a flood or the heat ... well, that is worth celebrating!

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is a volunteer project promoting  
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See page two for contact information.



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



# P o e t r y

by Devon Adams, Peru

## ENDANGERED SPECIES THE BABY POOL

Time marches on, but not for everyone. Dinosaurs would agree with that if they weren't all fossils, but that nasty asteroid wiped them, and most living things, out. As in dead forever. Extinctions happen on a smaller scale, when single species disappear, falling into the cracks between living beings. But gone is still gone, and they won't be back, no matter how creative an author may be with his novel idea of using old DNA to populate a Jurassic Park with living dinos. Humans, on the other hand, have been using their large brains to invent new ways to die. They say "progress" to describe discoveries in science, like nuclear fission and fusion. One of those is harder to create than the other, but it isn't dangerous. Scientists used the easier process to make an atom bomb to end a war. Then they used it to generate electric power. But now the monsters among us are threatening to split atoms again so they can "win" new wars. The question is, though, how do you know who wins, if everyone dies?

Parents sit on sidelines, grateful to rest awhile, exhausted from caring for multiple children. Big families are normal in this neighborhood of large shade trees, lawns planted with a lovely mix of flowers, bushes and vegetables. The kids are playing on equipment made for building muscles, coordination, timing and the competition between players. A talented little guy may be an athlete, while another is a bit klutzy, but still is on the path to learning essential routines. That girl at the edge of the pool is timid, but her brother is very bossy, and he just pushed her into the water. She is screaming mad at him, as she thrashes around, even though her feet can reach the bottom. She attracts attention, and soon a crowd gathers. As she splashes water, one by one they all leap into the pool with her as she hops out, still furious. Mom and Dad just watch from the nearby branch where they are perched. After all, this happens every year when all of the neighborhood birds hatch new broods of chicks and teach them how to be big birds.

## EXPLODING FLOWERS

The sky is dark, with sunset ribbons lying on the horizon. But, it isn't quiet here, on this evening that celebrates freedom. Giant booms echo off the hills and rumble through the valleys as fireworks blast open with glittering flower petals that shimmer into smoke and come back to earth as ashes. The parade and picnic in the afternoon were traditions kept through generations of loyal Americans who love their country and their flag. They want to keep the future free and safe for children who depend on them for the protection and peace of mind that comes with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

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## SUMMER SUNDAES

The images float there in your mind, as you're in the last inning. Sweaty, sun-burned, thirsty and exhausted, soon you'll all pile in the Yukon and travel to the Dairy Queen oasis. It appears as a wavy illusion by the heat lake that is shimmering over the baked highway. It is an ice cream dream, waiting for you. The team files into the frigid refrigerated air and their eyes target the menu. Swiftly, kids and coaches sit down with super scoops topped with nuts and cherries set atop rivers of syrups drizzling over their frozen delights. It is a sweet memory that will flash forever.

## TIES THAT BIND

Temporary ties, like shoestrings coming loose, or knots for fast release, or pretty bows for birthdays are part of life for all of us. But there are ties from heart to heart that will never slip. Made of love that lingers, they're stronger than steel or space age glue. It's all about the things we know that can't be seen. Truth is always there, wanting to be found.



# The Building Blocks Of Writing

Dorothy Rieke, Julian

A recent article, profiling top achievers, mentions emotional and mental traits common to these individuals. Their traits are competitiveness, confidence, composure, and focus.

Similar traits apply to the “selling freelance writer.” First, most of us realize how rampant competition is in the writing field. Even though, competition is not welcomed by some; it has some positive factors such as promoting the willingness to try, the ambition to achieve, and the challenge of completion. Often, it is a necessary factor in reaching success.

Confidence, another trait, is belief in one’s ability to begin and continue in the writing game. Confidence inspires and brings assurance.

Composure is responsible for the calmness and presence of mind to establish coherence in writing and complete the work.

With focus, writers zero in on what is important for production. They direct their thoughts and research the subject at hand. They remain focused throughout the writing experience.

Writing is, indeed, a contrast of hard work and accomplishment. It demands time, effort, and thought with a basic knowledge of writing skills and mechanics. At times, it can discourage and disappoint. Yet, the possibility of acceptance generally overcomes the stress of creation and often results in the happiness of success and the joy of acceptance.

Certain creative strategies help writers focus and produce. The following are ideas to enhance a writing career;

Always select a private place to work. This can be a desk in an unused bedroom or a corner of another area. This space should be away from distractions. Plan regular times to write without interruption. Early morning or late evening hours usually are free before others get up or after they go to bed and when the phone or the doorbell doesn’t ring.

- Have necessary materials at hand. Time is saved if a dictionary, thesaurus, paper, pens, computer, or typewriter and other necessities are at your fingertips.
- Begin the writing session with a few minutes of contemplation reviewing goals and what you expect to accomplish.
- Set a general deadline for your project. How many pages or words do you expect to complete in the time you have?
- Meet with other writers on a regular basis. Association with other writers means support, advice, suggestions, encouragement, and, above all, the sharing of ideas.
- Improve your skills and add to your knowledge by taking courses, reading how-to books, and talking to others who are knowledgeable.
- Every day, spend time writing; skipping days means loss of thought and production.
- Discuss your project with others and listen to their suggestions and opinions. Be “zoned in” for success. Appreciate each success and work for more.

Writing is a profession that demands skill, determination, development of a style, knowledge, and the courage to reach demanding goals. At times, quite frankly, it’s a challenge, but it is a profession worth pursuing because it informs and influences others and results in wonderful feelings of achievement for the writer. It is well worth the time and effort.

*Publisher’s note;*

*Dorothy is a professional writer with articles in several publications.*

# Window On Fifth Street

Stephen Hassler, Peru

I had some thoughts about gifts recently. I remember how special gifts were when I was a boy. The only times we got gifts were on Christmas, and to a minor extent, birthdays. That was true for each of us in the family. From one Christmas to the next, I took care of my gifts, which at that age, were toys. My brother and sister were years younger than me. Their toys did not last until the next Christmas; they got broken.

When Christmas shopping was limited, my mother would ask me for some of my toys that I didn’t play with that much, so that she could wrap them as gifts for my younger siblings. And as far as I could tell, they were happy to have them because the toys were like new. Feelings of gift-giving and receiving can be a relative thing as far as “the thought that counts” goes and what a person values as having been received.

Some of the best gifts I ever received were gifts I bought myself. When I was 16, I saved for a long time to buy a telescope. I was amazed at the brilliance of Saturn’s rings and clarity of the four largest of Jupiter’s moons. More recently I bought a watch after making an ad sale. Not as a reward, but because I had some extra money, and I always wanted a chronograph. Another time, I saw a food mixer that mixed batter for cookies. I’m not a baker except for pumpkin pie at Thanksgiving and oatmeal raisin cookies a few times a year. It’s hard to stir my oatmeal cookie batter because I make it thick with extra oatmeal. The machine does it better than I can, and I don’t have to do anything hard, just pour the ingredients into the mixing bowl, turn on the mixer for awhile, and then spoon the batter onto a cookie sheet. So I bake oatmeal cookies more often now.

Items I buy for my business sometimes feel like gifts, like a special camera lens or a newer computer, because I would like playing with those toys even if I didn’t have a business.

I like giving gifts. I expect you know the feeling. For those who don’t, I couldn’t explain it to them, but these days I can give a gift without receiving anything in return and feel good. I believe most people would, and not just parents.

I still take care of my “toys,” but these days they sometimes break anyway. Modern stuff needs regular repair. Automobiles, cameras, watches. But my telescope still works. It’s my window to the stars, from right here on Fifth Street.





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# Peru State Alumni Banquet Topics



PSC Alumni Banquet in Omaha, June 2022



PSC President Dr. Evans, is welcomed by  
PSC Foundation Interim CEO Ted Harshbarger.



During the fundraising part of the evening,  
Dan Cotton was an auctioneer extraordinaire.



The Norman and Dorothy Stehlik Family Scholarship was awarded to Abigail Koelzer. She is a 2022 graduate of Nebraska City *Lourdes Central High School* and the daughter of Scott and Donette Koelzer of Murray, Nebraska. She has also received an R-HOP scholarship and plans to be a registered nurse.

The Norman and Dorothy Stehlik Family Scholarship is awarded annually to a graduate of a Nebraska City high school who plans to attend Peru State College. Norman and Dorothy were strong supporters of PSC. Four of their children are alumni.





# Peru State Alumni Banquet Topics



Baseball and Softball Practice Dome

003-10262-003 04/20/22

## Peru State College Indoor Recreation Facilities



With some inspiration from a recent trip to Africa, PSC president Dr. Michael Evans presented “Project Roar,” consisting of five new buildings, including two “domes” with room for indoor sports practice; baseball, softball, even football! Pictured above is the baseball and softball practice dome. The interior of the multi-sport complex will include space and turf for football practice.

If fundraising goals are met, ground-breaking is planned for Spring, 2023.

**Below Left; Multi-sport Recreation Complex.**

**Below Right; Baseball & Softball Complex.**



Multi-Sport Recreation Complex

Peru State College Indoor Recreation Facilities



Baseball and Softball Complex

Peru State College Indoor Recreation Facilities



# Peru State College News

## PSC Men's Basketball Hires Roman Gentry as Assistant Coach

Basketball Coach Bob Ludwig has recently announced the hiring of Roman Gentry as the assistant men's basketball coach. Gentry is from Sioux City, Iowa and graduated from the University of South Dakota. Gentry has eight years of coaching experience at the NCAA level between DI and DII.

Gentry was a former player for USD where he averaged 17.6 ppg and was First Team All-Great West.

Coach Ludwig said, "I am absolutely thrilled about adding Roman Gentry to our staff as our new assistant. This hire elevates our program immediately," said Ludwig. "Roman has great experience as both a player and coach in the greater Midwest, is a proven recruiter both locally and nationally, and will be instrumental in the development of our guards. He will help in every facet of our program."

Peru State's 2022-23 men's basketball season will begin in late October.

## Annual Golf Tournament July 15 Football Booster Club

The Peru State football booster club is holding their annual golf tournament in Auburn on Friday, July 15, at the Auburn Country Club.

The event is a four-team scramble with the cost being \$300 per team of four with a \$20 rental fee if you choose to use a cart. You will also be able to purchase mulligans for \$20. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. There will be a light lunch offered and dinner following the round. There will be raffle tickets available for live and silent auction items.

All the proceeds of this year's tournament will go to the Bobcat football program to supplement purchases of equipment, additional scholarships, incremental recruiting expenses, etc. You will be able to meet Coach Ockinga and his staff.

For registration, or hole sponsorship please email Mike Gerdes at [mgerdes@auburn-statebank.com](mailto:mgerdes@auburn-statebank.com).

If you have yet to join for 2022 membership to be a part of the Peru State Football Booster Club you can sign up here:

<https://pscgiving.org/booster/>

July Volleyball Camp  
Check the PSC Athletic Camp site at;  
<https://www.perustatevolleyballcamps.com/peru-state-college-volleyball-clinics.cfm> for information on the upcoming volleyball camp. Still time to register.

Women's & Men's Basketball Camps  
July 27 - 29 & August 1 - 3

Details at;  
[perustatecamps.com](https://perustatecamps.com)

## Peru State Announces its 2022 Athletic Hall of Fame Class

The Peru State College Athletic Hall of Fame selection committee has announced its 2022 Hall of Fame class which includes five individuals and several men's basketball teams from the years of 1938 to 1966. This will be the 30th class to be inducted into the College's select group since its inception in 1986.

On behalf of the committee, Peru State President Dr. Michael Evans, and Foundation Interim Executive Director Ted L. Harshbarger have announced that Jeff George, Doug Goltz, Maxine Mehus, Fredd Ward, and Mark Yori are the individuals being inducted. The teams and coaches from 1938, 1940, 1942, 1945, 1946, 1949, 1950, 1961, 1962, 1963, and 1966 will be inducted this fall as well.

When the Al Wheeler Activity Center was dedicated in 1986, the Peru State College Athletic Hall of Fame was established. The purpose of the Hall of fame is to recognize, honor, and preserve the memory of those individuals and teams whose contributions have greatly enhanced Nebraska's first college. The Hall of Fame gallery resides in the lobby of the Wheeler Center, named after the first inductee into the Hall of Fame, Alfred G. Wheeler.

The Hall of Fame events will be held Oct. 21 and 22, 2022. A banquet will be held on Friday, Oct. 21. Reservations for the event must be made in advance. The Foundation will provide more information later and in the upcoming issue of The Peru Stater alumni newsletter. In addition, there is a planned recognition of the honorees at halftime of the football game against William Penn University on Saturday, Oct. 22, in the historic Oak Bowl.

## Rodriguez, Solis and Tavarez Earn 2022 All-Midlands Honorable Mention Honors

On June 10, Sportswriter Gene Schinzel of the Omaha World-Herald made the selections for the All-Midlands teams for NCAA DII, DIII, NAIA and JUCO in the state.

Rodriguez appeared in 13 games, making 12 starts with a 5-4 record pitching in 66 innings with an ERA of 5.73 and 89 Ks.

Solis played in 50 games this season and had a batting average of .339, an on base percentage of .386 and a slugging percentage of .482. He had 25 runs, 57 hits, 15 doubles, three home runs and 29 RBIs. Solis also had a fielding percentage of .978.

Tavarez played in 52 games this season and had a batting average of .369, an on base percentage of .445 and a slugging percentage of .669. He had 39 runs, 58 hits, 12 doubles, one triple, 11 home runs, 41 RBIs and two stolen bases.

All three players had earned Heart of America Athletic Conference Honors earlier this spring.

## Ohlde and Wilke Earn 2022 All-Midlands Honorable Mention Honors

On June 10, Sportswriter Gene Schinzel of the Omaha World-Herald made the selections for the All-Midlands teams for NCAA DII, DIII, NAIA and JUCO in the state.

Ohlde this season played in 47 games, had a batting average of .292, an on-base percentage of .363, and a slugging percentage of .396. She had 30 runs, 45 hits, seven doubles, three triples, one home run, nine RBIs and two stolen bases. Ohlde also had a fielding percentage of .880 this season.

Wilke this season played in 47 games, had a batting average of .350, an on-base percentage of .415, and a slugging percentage of .493. She had 23 runs, 49 hits, 11 doubles, three home runs, 23 RBIs and two stolen bases. Wilke also had a fielding percentage of .944 this season.

Both Ohlde and Wilke recently were named to the Heart of America Athletic Conference Honorable Mention List.



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