

Your *Country* Neighbor

Free!
September 2023

Inside, Sweeten your Coffee Break with Views and Voices from the Nemaha River Valleys.



Monarch Butterflies have begun Migrating.

Visitors! Tourists! Welcome!

You will have a good time exploring communities in the Valleys of the Nemaha River. Take this free publication home with you to use as a reference when planning your next visit to this charming area.

Readers!

Returning this month are most of your favorite Nemaha Valley columnists. This 24-page issue can be your 2-cups-of-coffee companion.

Viewers!

In this issue you will find some of my recent photographs of wildlife and other images from Southeast Nebraska.

Shoppers!

Keep up with local businesses and news of what's special this month. Please thank them for advertising in "Your Country Neighbor!"

PERU BOBCATS

23 VOLLEYBALL

HOME SCHEDULE

16 MICHELLE BEER
SENIOR

AVILA COLLEGE
SEPT. 12 | 6PM

UNIVERSITY OF SAINT MARY
SEPT. 14 | 6PM

GRACELAND UNIVERSITY
SEPT. 16 | 3PM

CULVER-STOCKTON COLLEGE
SEPT. 30 | HOMECOMING | 11AM

CENTRAL METHODIST UNIVERSITY
OCT. 13 | 7PM

MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE
OCT. 14 | 10AM

MOUNT MERCY COLLEGE
OCT. 20 | 7PM

CLARKE UNIVERSITY
OCT. 21 | 2PM

GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY
OCT. 27 | 6PM

WILLIAM PENN UNIVERSITY
OCT. 28 | 1PM

Your Country Neighbor

Voices and Views from the Valleys of the Nemaha

Publisher & Photographer, Stephen Hassler

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Peru, Nebraska 68421

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www.yourcountryneighbor.com

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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

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Sweet September!

Stephen Hassler, Peru

Welcome Southeast Nebraska area readers! Features in this September issue of "Your Country Neighbor" include monthly columns and poetry by southeast Nebraskans (see list at left), plus my most recent photography, and news of upcoming events such as Brownville's "Old Time Autumn" festival in October which includes **Willa Cather's birthday celebration** (details and ticket info on page 4).

Next month, color photos in the October issue will include Autumn wildflowers and other colorful scenes, plus migrating butterflies, and hopefully, one or more PSC football action photos. And of course, your favorite writers.

For now, enjoy September and the 'newness' of "back-to-school." It's still Summertime until the 21st, but Fall is in the air, as well as football and harvesting; corn, soybeans, pumpkins, squash, and apples. This is a rare time when we can enjoy Summer and Fall at the same time.

Don't forget to clip the **Valentino's coupon** on the back page; **carry it with you!**

And enjoy perusing "Your Country Neighbor!"

Stephen

Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson, Auburn

After a slow start, my tomatoes have seemingly conspired to go into over-drive just as I am planning to be gone for five days. I have already blanched and frozen about four dozen for making spaghetti sauce later on. I am making a pot of tomato soup today with the current fresh tomatoes I have on hand. The other day, I took a few to my usual “overflow location,” which shall remain nameless, only to find that the produce receptacle was already full of someone else’s excess crop!

We are still eating fresh lettuce from a second planting. I don’t think we have ever had lettuce this late in the season that wasn’t bitter. Must be all the rain. I am keeping my fingers crossed that the fall green beans I planted a few weeks ago perform as well.

There is one bumper crop I am not thrilled with: black walnuts. The top of one of our walnut trees was ripped off in that windstorm back on July 29, prematurely dumping many dozens of walnuts. I don’t know much about walnuts, except that they are the main food source for the squirrels in our yard. Squirrels are my husband’s nemesis. He takes pot-shots at them periodically with a BB gun, which generally serves only to send them streaking out of the yard temporarily. Reducing their food source is, perhaps, a more humane way to reduce their numbers.

Luckily, our ten-year-old grandson was visiting recently, so I paid him two cents a piece to pick up green walnuts. He gathered 170 in about 10 minutes. Money well-spent. Of course, there will be more walnuts on the ground in another month when they start dropping because they are actually ripe. I may have to do the back-aching job of collecting some of those myself.

We did manage to foil the squirrels’ attempts to steal our peaches this year by tying mesh produce bags over the branches we could easily reach. While that deterred the squirrels, it did not stop the Japanese beetles. So, we harvested the peaches a little early and finished ripening them in a paper bag. Our tree is a dwarf variety, so the peaches are small, but very tasty. Just as we finished eating them, a friend offered me a couple dozen full-sized peaches from her tree. We enjoyed them fresh and baked in a fruit crumble, plus I froze enough to make two more crumbles.

I’m doing just enough growing and preserving to satisfy my former farm-wife instinct. Hubby satisfied his itch to fill the larder, as it were, by freezing two dozen bags of sweet corn. And of course, we ate it fresh every day for about three weeks straight. Hubby reminds me every year that when he was growing up, in-season corn-on-the-cob was the whole meal, not just a side dish.

All this bounty is such a blessing, and not to be taken for granted. So, be grateful and support your local food pantry even if you don’t have fresh produce to share.

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Migrating Monarch on Sunflower.

Willa Cather 150th Birthday Celebration

Saturday, October 14th

3 pm - Brownville Village Theatre production of “A Resurrection,” a story based in Brownville, written by Willa Cather, adapted by Rachel Curtiss.

4:30 - 6:30 PM - Dinner and music at the Brownville Concert Hall. Menu inspired by Willa Cather novels and life – Chef Paul will present an “amuse the mouth” meal of wine, barley soup with mushrooms, chiffonade salad with rosemary vinaigrette, czechoslovak pepper steak with caraway noodles and steamed asparagus, followed by delectable rhubarb dainty.

Live music from the late 1800’s by singers in costume from Opera Omaha, Mary Carrick and CeCe Hastreiter accompanied by pianist, J. Gawf.


7:15 PM - Embark on an evening river cruise on the spirit of Brownville with wine and chocolates.

Sunday, October 15

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM - Light lunch and river cruise on the Spirit of Brownville.

3 PM - Brownville Village Theater production of “A Resurrection,” a story based in Brownville, written by Willa Cather, adapted by Rachel Curtiss.

4:30 - 6:30 PM - *Dinner and music at the Brownville concert hall.
*Menu and entertainment same as Saturday.



Willa Cather
150th Birthday Celebration

October 14th & 15th
Limited tickets available!

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Theatre production • Live music • River cruise
- Cather-inspired meal • Commemorative program
- Hand-printed copy of Cather’s article on Brownville, “An Old River Metropolis”

Order tickets at: brownvilleconcertseries.com/events-series
**Select Saturday or Sunday and also let us know about any dietary restrictions you may have.*

If you enjoy perusing
“Your Country Neighbor,”
Share with friends.

Send them this link;
www.yourcountryneighbor.com

Highway 67, Looking North, August 9, 2023



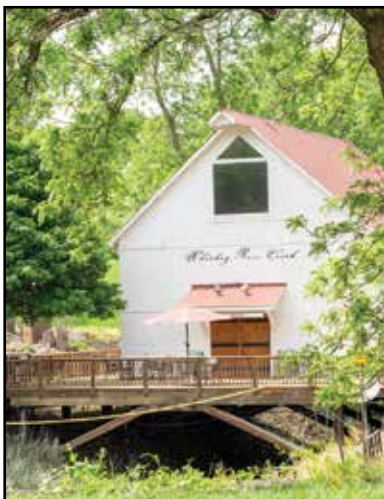
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Pipevine Swallowtail - Brownville



Tiger Swallowtail on Butterfly Bush - Brownville






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Cornerstone Group © 2023

PSC falls
to Hastings
College in
overtime,
31 to 37
08/26/2023.



Wide Receiver Jordan Kempf is a force in the PSC offense.



PSC Quarterback, Colin Shields can run the ball.



First Home Volleyball game; PSC Sweeps Southwestern College, 3 - 0

This September



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PSC falls
to Hastings
College in
overtime,
31 to 37
08/26/2023.



PSC Wide Receiver Gio Contreras walks it in for 6.



Falls City Sacred Heart v Elmwood-Murdock, in the Oak Bowl at PSC
August 25, 2023 Final Score, 30-58



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My Impressions Of City Issues

Stephen Hassler

Council members are frustrated for not getting the info they want from the Clerk's office, but the clerk is busy addressing recent financial issues. The Mayor is likely telling the clerk(s) to focus on the crisis, despite the public interruptions during the day.

Right now there is a financial crisis due to previous clerk(s) leaving a mess of unfinished billings or payments or both. The clerk and accountant are frustrated trying to dig the city out of a hole, because they feel harassed by council members and the public while trying to do their job.

State Statutes (laws), prevent council/mayor/city from acting on projects as fast as the public would desire. One or two city maintenance workers have left, possibly due to harassment by the public. So city maintenance is shorthanded, leaving potholes and long grass. No zoning administrator (aka building inspector), has been hired as of today, August 21st, so there's a backlog of permits requested in order to proceed on construction projects. Street repair has been delayed, in part because of budget issues due to flood damage depleting the city budget.

And now a new budget is due by the end of September, and some council members want to know how much we pay for paper clips etc. The CPA will try to comply with public and Member requests for information. Clerk will provide more information on the City's webpage or Facebook once the office is back to normal.

Some members of the public like to advise the Mayor, Council, and Clerk how to carry on business as if the City should perform just like those others' specific businesses do. I am familiar with zoning, and I could tell no one at the meeting knew what they were talking about when it comes to zoning. And I expect that could extrapolate to other complaints.

A building permit was mentioned for building the dog park fence. This misses the point; rather, a permit is needed for a DOG PARK! Maybe a property owner next door is allergic to dogs or there could be a health issue, so a zoning change could be disputed. People don't understand the basics of zoning. Zoning has to do with the use of the property, not building codes.

Although I sympathize with everyone trying to do their jobs while either stumbling over one another or the public tripping them up, I am disappointed when I ask someone for the zoning manual or zoning map, and don't get a straight answer. I wish they would just say, "We don't know! Now get out of here and let us get back to work!"

I can live with that. Git 'er done!



See article on facing page.



The "Goodbye to Summer" picnic was cool in City Hall.



The Trailhead "Depot" is in good shape again. Volunteers are bringing the Trailhead 'shelter' back to how it was before the flood.

PERU CITY NEWS

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Free Fruits and Vegetables!

Angela Allgood

Do you want one more reason to love your local grocery store? The Market - Peru is helping local people “double up” on their fruits and vegetables. This is something many other stores in our area do NOT do.

You qualify simply by having an EBT Card or SNAP. The process is simple. At The Market, DJ or staff will ask a couple of questions, put you in the system and BAM you are signed up for the Double Up program. All you need to do now is go purchase fruits or vegetables with your EBT card and you will be matched dollar for dollar, up to \$20 a day. That means you and your family get twice the fresh fruits and veggies. And, DJ said that there was no expiration date to use the matching funds, so you can use them today, next week, or even next month.

Double Up Food Bucks Nebraska is coordinated by Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Community Foundation. Over ten Nebraska serving organizations contribute to the success of the program. Too many families struggle to bring home the healthy food they need to thrive. This program works towards a Nebraska where everyone has greater access to fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables.

Since 2017, many Nebraska families have used Double Up Food Bucks to buy more than 165,000 pounds of healthy food and purchased over \$260,000 in fruits, vegetables and herbs. The program works with locally-owned and independent grocery stores and farmers markets. This means more healthy food for families, more business for local farmers, and a boost for local economies. Everyone wins. The program creates new markets for Nebraska farmers, which puts more money in their pockets and strengthens local economies; it increases families’ food dollars and supports better nutrition while building a fairer food system—from farm to fork, and, families who need it most get the support to buy twice as much fruits and vegetables, whether fresh strawberries at farmers markets or Nebraska-grown potatoes at grocery stores. More than 90% of those who used Double Up at farmers markets ate more fruits and vegetables, like apples, melons, cucumbers, and broccoli. Of farmers who participated in Double Up, 90% sold more fruits and vegetables, and 85% made more money. With greater sales, some farmers were able to expand their production and even buy or lease new equipment—giving a particular boost to farmers just starting out. One dollar spent at a farmers market can generate \$2.80 for a community’s economy. If more food purchases in Nebraska were shifted to local sources, it is estimated this shift would create many new jobs.

Double Up was piloted in Detroit in 2009, and soon became a national model. Today, Double Up is offered in more 900 locations in dozens of states. In 2017, Nebraska Extension launched Double Up as a pilot program at three farmers markets and one grocery store in Lincoln, Nebraska. Since then, Double Up has grown to 25 locations across eastern Nebraska. Nebraskans can count on Nebraska Extension to connect with their families, businesses, and communities by being collaborative, outcome-focused, inclusive, research-based, responsive, innovative, and focused on local community. Double Up is one of the ambitious ways it is helping communities harness the power of food.

In Nebraska, Double Up is operated by Nebraska Extension and the Nebraska Community Foundation, with major funding from USDA, Children’s Hospital & Medical Center, and CHI Health. In addition to the generous support and hard work of our Double Up sites, this program receives guidance from Fair Food Network.

Go sign up at The Market in Peru and start enjoying those fresh fruits and vegetables today!

<https://doubleupnebraska.org/>

Peru Progress (Peru Pride)

Angela Allgood

PCIG had their first Ice Cream Social and it went well. There were 27 in attendance and the surveys said they all had a great time and would like to see more Ice Cream Socials! On August 20, PCIG hosted a back to school fun and games day in City Hall. There were about 41 in attendance.

The next PCIG community meal will be on September 17th from 4-6 pm and “Tailgating” is the theme for that meal. Join PCIG at Northridge Church on September 17th for food and meeting some faculty, staff and students from Peru State College.

The last PCIG community meal of the year will be on November 12. This is “A Grateful Community” meal. Join PCIG at the City Hall from 4-6 pm as the community gives thanks and enjoys a “thanks”giving meal!

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for the PCIG “Trunk or Treat” festival Sunday, October 29, 2023 starting at 4 pm.

I want to give a shout out to Julie Cotton! She has downtown looking so awesome with flowers.

Dirt work is in process for a new camp ground. Josh and Jackie Whisler plan to have it ready by Spring of 2024. They have not decided on a name yet, but they are wanting to stay with Peru history and thought about Gunny Sacks Flat Camp Ground.

Can you believe that 13 children are new to Peru this summer! How exciting to have young children in Peru again! And, the college has 7 members from the athletic staff who have moved to Peru! That is Peru Progress -- Peru Pride.

Big shout out to Dan and Cheryl Cotton for mowing the ball field and painting the lines so that children in town could play ball! Pictures are already on Facebook showing that kids are using it! There is still some general cleanup and any community help would be much appreciated.

The Steamboat Trace Association has received a grant of \$9,000 to be used as a match to apply for a larger grant. Most trail grants will not cover the entire project. The organization submitting the grant might need to provide a certain monetary percentage of the entire project, payment in kind or some of both. The Steamboat Trace Association, a 501(c)3 organization, is working to write a grant that will help rebuild the Peru camping area, a possible trailhead in Brownville, and some informative signage on the trail. There are no final plans as of now and the planning process will continue throughout the next several months and there will be some meetings when community members, trail users, and other stakeholders will be invited to share their thoughts and ideas. Collaboration between Peru, Brownville, the Nemaha NRD, and others will be vital for success. There is still much gathering of information needed before the grant can be submitted which will be in 2024.

ImPERUving as oNE put up signs around campus telling new students and people new to the town where Western National Bank, Northridge Church, and The Market are located. Signs will be put up several times throughout the year to let guests know what is in town.

Quentin Kieler has purchased 720 California from Zach Reeves. The plan is to tear down the house and use it as a green space for now. The house is in poor enough shape that it is not worth fixing.

The leadership class that was going to do the dog park is still working on it. They are looking at other areas since some of the residents of Peru want the ball park back in use. They are searching for another place and a resident is willing to help get the fence posts (that Peru State College donated) out of the cement to move the fence to the new area.

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Tuesday Literary Club Reads

DiAnna Loy and Marion Henderson, Tuesday Literary Club

At the August meeting of the Tuesday Literary Club, Marion Henderson presented the book, “All the King’s Men” by Robert Penn Warren, published in 1946. Warren won a Pulitzer Prize for this book. Warren is the only person to receive a Pulitzer Prize for both fiction and poetry and is “best known for his treatment of moral dilemmas in a South beset by erosion of its traditional rural values.” (www.Britannia.com)

The book is set in the 1930s in an unnamed southern state in the depths of the Depression. It tells the story of the rise and fall of an idealistic small-town lawyer to a power hungry and corrupt governor—a story much like the story of Louisiana’s Governor Huey Long. The novel is told from the point of view of Jack Burden, Governor Stark’s right-hand man.

The novel begins in the summer of 1936 on a trip to Willie Stark’s home for campaign pictures. Willie is given the message that Judge Irwin has endorsed a Senate candidate running against Stark’s man and Jack is ordered to “dig up dirt.” The story then jumps to 1922 when Jack, a reporter, first meets Willie, the county treasurer from a poor rural part of the state who questioned the awarding of a contract to provide bricks to build a new school. The contract was awarded to the business partner of a relative of a city council member—kickbacks were involved; Stark’s wife, Lucy, who was teaching at the elementary school was fired and Willie lost the next election for county treasurer.

After Willie lost the election, he worked on his father’s farm, as a door-to-door salesman, and studied law at night—eventually passing the state bar exam and setting up his own practice. That would have been the end of the story except that the inferior quality of the bricks caused the fire escape stairs to pull away from the building during a fire drill resulting in many injuries and even the deaths of three children. At the funeral, a father of one of the dead children cried that he was being punished for voting against an honest man. Willie was seen as a local hero; a friend to the common man. This event sets in motion the rest of the novel.

Willie Stark eventually does become governor after several tries and he hires Jack to be at his side. The novel talks about the scandals that Willie, as governor, becomes embroiled in. Stark is eventually shot by a jealous man and dies a few days later.

“All the King’s Men” has been considered to be one of, if not the best, political novel of all time with many parallels to today’s events and it clearly shows the corrupting effect of power and greed for more power. It “...is at once a political tragedy, a study of individual corruption, and a compelling southern drama with a long afterlife.” Robert McCrum, (“The 100 best novels: No 67—All the King’s Men,...” www.theguardian.com/books)

There have been two movie adaptations of this book; 1949 with Broderick Crawford and 2006 with Sean Penn. In 1949, “All the King’s Men” won Academy Awards for Best Picture, Best Written Screenplay, and Mercedes McCambridge won for Best Actress in a Supporting Role.

From the back cover of the book, “It’s a measure of the enduring worth of ‘All the King’s Men’ that Willie Stark has entered our collective literary consciousness, in the company of Captain Ahab, Huck Finn, Jay Gatsby, Holden Caulfield, Rabbit Angstom, and very few others.” “All the King’s Men” is a book worth reading or rereading, and the film adaptations are well worth watching.

Happy Reading!



Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*

Gene Wilder, 1971

Saturday, September 23, 2023

Arrive after 6pm

Movie starting at 6:30pm

Showing in the Park South of Peru City Hall

Bring your own chair or a blanket.

Popcorn, Candy and Soda at set donation pricing

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL!

*Licensing through Swan Motion Pictures, Inc.

Justin Hiykel Memorial Movie Night

Theresa Westfall

A movie night in Peru?!? It has been talked about and dreamed about, but now it is actually happening! How did we get here, you may ask. While many have discussed it, it was my friend Marty Peregoy that I had the longest conversations with. The possibilities for community groups to utilize this function for fundraising; bringing community together; something community members of all ages could enjoy!

In the spring of 2010 I moved to Peru, Nebraska to find a stable community and home away from the big city with my fiancée, Justin Hiykel. Justin and I loved it here in Peru. In 2011 Justin passed unexpectedly on the morning of Old Man River Days. This is a sad tale for sure, but what has come out of his passing has been love, community and friendship. The community was there for me when I needed it the most, but I didn’t know how to thank it. I met Annie Hendrickson shortly after, who embraced me and made sure I was involved; I started going to Senior Bingo on Tuesdays (she gave me no other choice!). As I know all too well, people need people the most in times of loss and Annie swept me up into the Peru Cemetery Auxiliary where I was able to help my community while staying

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Where Can We Stay?

Angela Allgood

Josh and Jackie Whisler purchased the house next to them because it was getting run down. They bought The Parsonage 15 years ago and fixed it up but then had no idea what to do with it. They soon found out there was a need for a place for parents to stay while visiting their children in college. They had their first customer 14 years ago and it soon grew from there. After a couple years, they listed it as a BNB in Peru, NE. There became a need for it during graduation, family reunions, and even seasonal hunters. They even had people stay there when visiting the Brownville Theater and Indian cave and other Southeast Nebraska events and sites.

The place is called "the Parsonage" because it was always the church "parsonage" and they wanted to keep the name so everyone local would know where it was located and to keep a little bit of Peru's history. It is a four bedroom home (three upstairs and one on the main level) with 1 1/2 bath. When you book The Parsonage, it is fully furnished including all bedding, towels, fully equipped kitchen, etc. It has a washer, dryer, patio with grill and a large fenced in backyard. The Whisler's like to say it is, "suitcase ready." The Parsonage is booked up for several dates through the fall and winter. They even have bookings into 2025 for graduation, homecoming, alumni weekend and new student weekend.

The Whisler's do not have any plans to buy more homes and renovate them into Air BNB's at this time, but they do have another rental home that they can use for overflow on occasion.

If you do not want to stay at The Parsonage and have your own travel trailer, the Whisler's also have a campground called Boatdock Road Camp Ground. The camp can have up to five campers of any size. The campsite has full hook-up (water, sewer, and both 30 and 50 amp electrical). They are currently working on another camp site at 5th and Sycamore Street. This will hold nine more campers. Dirt work is in process and they plan to have it ready by Spring of 2024. They have not decided on a name yet, but they are wanting to stay with Peru history and thought about Gunny Sacks Flat Camp Ground.

<<<<< Continued from page 11

anonymous in the background. Combining Justin and my passion for Peru and community, I approached Justin's dad early this year about this grand idea so many wanted to make happen, but couldn't figure out. Justin's dad, Emil Hiykel, generously offered a memorial fund to start the movie night here in Peru in memory of his son.

In April of this year, I went before city council to get permission to move forward and was supported by council unanimously. After lots of research, visits to other communities who hold movie nights and discussions, the projector was purchased, the screen, the sound system AND popcorn machine! The inaugural Justin Hiykel Memorial Movie Night is ready to be announced! The first movie will be shown on the evening of Saturday, September 23, 2023. I am excited to announce that the movie will be Gene Wilder's 1971, Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory! Just in time for everyone to experience the original before the new Wonka movie hits theaters this December.

The movie itself will be free to the community, bring a chair or a blanket for seating (and a jacket!). Popcorn and candy will be available for purchase at set donation pricing by Peru Cemetery Auxiliary to help fund future movie nights. Soda will be available for purchase by KJ Whitehorse. Any person or business that would like to sponsor a future movie night can reach out to me and I am happy to facilitate it. Licensing costs per movie are done through Swank Motion Picture, Inc. More classic movies run around \$300 per showing, but I can get quotes for any available movie. If your community-based group would like to organize fundraising in association with the movie night, reach out to me; selling hot concessions like hotdogs or nachos may be a great starter!

I hope to bring many more Justin Hiykel Memorial Movie Nights to Peru, Nebraska, but it takes a community to make this work!

Wanted: Classroom Grandmas and Grandpas!

Angela Allgood

Do you want to make a difference in a child's life? Are you 55 years old or older? Perfect! There is a program just for you! It is called The Pioneer Foster Grandparent Program.

This program is a mentoring program for children pre-school age to the 2nd grade that allows you to help provide emotional and educational support to children in your community. These children may be at risk of falling behind in school. This means you would be helping children with math, reading, social and emotional skills and more. You may be placed at schools, preschool programs, Head Start Centers, day cares, or youth programs.

Don't worry. You do not need any formal experience in tutoring or mentoring! The best perk of this position ... helping children. However, there are more perks to help you make your decision.

- you earn a tax-free hourly stipend
- you get paid personal leave time
- paid holidays
- mileage reimbursement
- meal provided while volunteering
- ongoing education and training
- meet new friends

Kids love grandmas and grandpas coloring with them, doing puzzles, reading, and more. The program requires at least 5 hours a week of volunteering but no more than 40 hours a week, and that you are in good health. If you are in the school system, volunteer time is between August and May (day cares go year round).

You can call the Beatrice office at 402-223-6036 to learn more about this program funded by AmeriCorps and sponsored by Blue Valley Community Action Partnership.



St. Clara's Catholic Church
604 6th Street

Pastor Fr. Timothy Danek
Mass - Sunday 8:30 am

Confessions - Sunday 8:00-8:20 am



Northridge Church
808 5th Street

Pastor Daniel Hutchison
Services - Sunday 10:00 am



Peru Community Church
520 Nebraska Street

Pastors Raymond & Rebecca Girard
Services - Sunday 10:45 am

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Main floor laundry, garage.



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1100 Central Av, Auburn \$130,000
Commercial property, 2 overhead
doors, office space, corner lot.



910 10th St., Auburn \$20,000
5 Bedroom, 2 bath.



1604 G Street \$259,000
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approx .35 acre
2-car garage



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Auburn, Nebraska 68305



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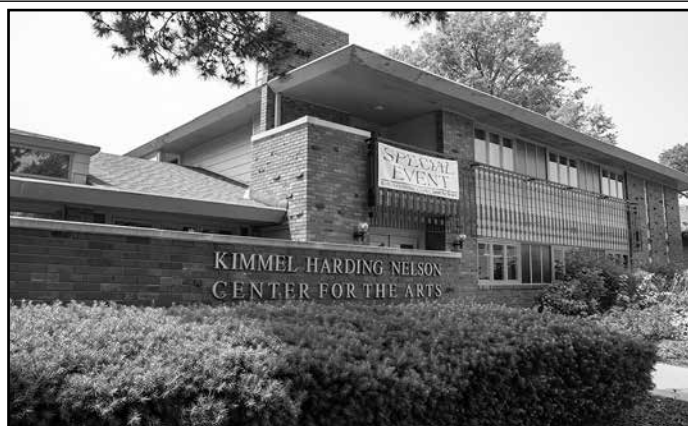
Office Hours: Mon-Fri. 9:00 to 4:00

(402) 274-4525



ARBOR CITY NEWS

News from Nebraska City



KHN Center for the Arts

Established in 2001, the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts is a renowned Artist Residency program that supports established and emerging visual artists, writers, composers, and interdisciplinary artists from around the world.

Uniquely housed in a residential prairie-style complex, KHN also hosts a public gallery that showcases the work of Nebraska and regional artists, and is home to the Kimmel Permanent Collection.



September 21, 5 - 7PM KHN Center for the Arts
801 Third Corso, Nebraska City

14 September 2023 Your Country Neighbor

2023 Heritage Needlework Guild's "Quilt & Needlework Show" is an Applejack Tradition

A Family Connected Through Its Many Quilts will be Showcased.

Come enjoy scores of amazing quilts and other yarn and threadwork items at the 2023 40th Annual Heritage Needlework Guild, "Quilt & Needlework Show," Sept. 15, 16 & 17. This show is a 'must see' event held every year during the Applejack Festival in Nebraska City. The coveted honor of being named Featured Guild Members this year are two sisters who formed a unique lifelong bond with their mother through quilting. This display will focus on a selection of quilts made over the years by Guild members Pat Fiorese and her sister Barb Fife with their recently deceased mother Pearle I. Gerdes. "I know Barb and I both feel very blessed to have shared many, many hours with mom in her sewing room," Pat said. "She was an inspiration to all."

Come be a part of this family quilting celebration, as well as enjoy over one hundred other quilts and needlework projects. Viewed as one of the biggest displays of thread work items in southeast Nebraska, the show is held in the lower level of the Bethel Church at 2400 Central Avenue, Nebraska City. Doors are open Friday 4 - 7 p.m. -- Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. -- Sunday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

On display will be bed quilts, wall quilts, table runners and toppers, needlework, needle art, wearable items and bead work. All attendees will have the chance to vote for their favorite quilts in the many "Viewers' Choice" award categories. Winning quilts will be announced at the end of the show on Sunday.

The show is handicapped accessible with plenty of free parking. Entry is \$5 at the door for the day. There is also an \$8 weekend pass available. The money collected assists the Guild with its many community service projects.

New this year is a booth selling potholders made by Guild members. These potholders are perfect gifts for anyone who cooks or bakes in your household. Be sure to stop by this booth to admire the many uniquely designed potholders. They cover an amazing width of themes and shapes, ranging from sports teams, children-themed, whimsical and seasonal. There will be something there to inspire all the cooks in your life. These potholders make great Christmas, birthday, bridal shower, hostess and Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts. Two big features of this Quilt & Needlework Show are the Raffle Quilt and the Raffle Baskets. This year's Raffle Quilt measures 78" by 78" and is called "Vintage Rouge." The quilt blocks were pieced by Shirley Siefken and it was machine quilted by Dianne Fisher. Raffle Baskets full of fabric, yarn, pattern books and other 'sewing goodies' are assembled by Guild members. They follow varied themes such as Baby, Christmas, Huskers, etc. Tickets for both raffles are \$1 each or 7 tickets for \$5 and may be purchased from Guild members or during show hours. Winning tickets are drawn at the end of the show on Sunday and winners will be notified. Once again, proceeds go towards the Guild's community service projects.

Put a trip to the 2023 Annual Heritage Needlework Guild Quilt & Needlework Show on your Applejack 'must see' list and enjoy the many thread items on display.

The Heritage Needlework Guild is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to contribute to the growth and knowledge of needlework techniques, textiles, patterns and history by providing educational meetings, travel and fellowship. Our mission is to: preserve and promote information about needlework, sponsor and support activities related to needlework, encourage making, collecting, exhibiting and appreciating fine needlework, as well as promoting recreation and friendship for the members.

We invite you to be our guest at the Guild meeting. We meet the 4th Tuesday of each month, except December, at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church at 315 S 16th Street in Nebraska City. Social time begins at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting and presentation begin at 7:00. Stop by and see what we are all about.

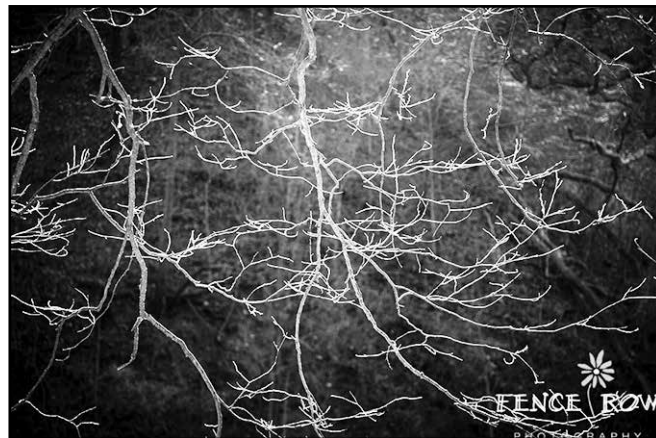
ARBOR CITY NEWS

News from Nebraska City's Morton-James Public Library

923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410



Fringe



Light in the Dark

Tina Campbell - September's Gallery Artist Biography

Born and raised in the Midwest I have always enjoyed backroads and barns, and the natural landscapes that surround our towns and cities, but I did not truly appreciate their value until I happened upon a love for photography.

Self-taught, my photography journey did not begin with barns and landscapes. It was my hobby of scrapbooking that convinced me to buy my first camera, but my children's lack of interest in having their picture taken soon sent me off into the countryside in search of more amiable subjects. I often found myself navigating every backroad within 50 miles (sometimes more) of my home, combining a lifelong love of backroads with a new love, old barns and the landscapes that surrounded them.

These past 15 plus years behind the camera have made me an avid observer of nature with all of its colors, light and textures. I've also developed an intense interest in the benefits I have received from spending time outdoors. Connecting with nature has brought me unanticipated healing and peace, and while barns remain an important subject, my landscapes now encompass parks, state preserves, gardens and anywhere else that allows me to wander amongst the plants and trees.

--Tina Campbell

Donna S. Kruse, Director

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Monday, September 4

Library Story Time

Wednesday, September 6
10:00 AM

Humanities Nebraska Program Getting to Know Weldon Kees

Through His Songs & Lyrics
with Helen Waring Johnson
Thursday, September 7
7:00 PM

Paint Together

Saturday, September 9
10:00 AM

Library Board Meeting

Wednesday, September 13
4:00 PM

Harry Potter Party!

All ages invited
Friday, September 15
6-7:30 PM

Book Club

The Altruists by Andrew Ridker
Tuesday, September 19
2:00 PM

Library Story Time

Wednesday, September 20
10:00 AM

Evening Book Club

**This Time Tomorrow by
Emma Straub**
Wednesday, September 20
5:30 PM

ARBOR CITY NEWS

From Nebraska City Tourism & Commerce

HOW TO HAVE THE BEST APPLEJACK EVER IN NEBRASKA CITY THIS FALL

For some people, thinking of Nebraska City brings to mind trees and the founding of Nebraska's state holiday of Arbor Day. Others remember the years of outlet stores and the mall south of town. Still others just think of the city they pass through or by on their way to Omaha, Lincoln, or across the river to I-29.

But for many, "Nebraska City" brings to mind apples, orchards, and the fall festival that is Applejack. Since the late 1960s, Nebraska City has hosted a weekend-long celebration of all things apple; since the COVID pandemic, that celebration has stretched out to encompass multiple weekends.

With so much happening around town during the festival (the 2023 Traditional Applejack weekend is September 15-17 and the All About Apples weekend is September 22-24), how can visitors ensure they have the best possible time?

"Local businesses and residents work hard to prepare for Applejack," said Nebraska City Tourism & Commerce executive director Amy Allgood. "We try to put our best face forward and welcome visitors with open arms."

Allgood recommends securing overnight accommodations as Step One in your How to Have the Best Applejack Ever plan. "We have award-winning lodging in and around Nebraska

Nebraska City," she said. "Staying a night or two and not having to rush home makes all the difference."

"OUR LOCAL BUSINESSES AND RESIDENTS WORK HARD TO PREPARE FOR APPLEJACK," SAID ALLGOOD. "WE TRY TO PUT OUR BEST FACE FORWARD AND WELCOME VISITORS WITH OPEN ARMS."

Step Two includes a bit of pre-planning. "The Applejack Festival page on NCTC's website is continually updated leading up to Applejack," Allgood said. "If you take a few minutes to look that over and select the things you want to do and the places you want to go - noting dates and times - you'll be able to manage it all."

Allgood said events like the flea market, craft and vendor fairs, and quilt show have longer hours and are more flexible than events like the parade, which is at 1 p.m. on Saturday, September 16. "If you miss the Flea Market Friday, you can swing by on Saturday. But if you miss the parade, you'll have to wait until next year," she said.

Allgood said the final piece of advice she



Above: No matter which orchard is your go-to one to visit, taking home fresh apples is the highlight of the fall season for many Nebraska City visitors.

would give is to look at the bigger picture.

"We have up to 50,000 people in town that first weekend," she said. "Everyone is trying to get somewhere. Just be patient, maybe take advantage of our free bus system, and plan for contingencies."

If all else fails, grab an apple from your U-Pick bag and sit back to watch the crowds walk by.

Details about the 2023 Applejack Festival can be found at NebraskaCity.com/festivals.



The Parade (above) and the Pancake Feed (right) are two popular events held during the Traditional Applejack weekend. This year, they both are scheduled for Saturday, September 16.





APPLEJACK FESTIVAL NEBRASKA CITY



OUR EMERALD YEAR: APPLEJACK TURNS 55!

SEPTEMBER 15-17
TRADITIONAL WEEKEND

5K Fun Run/Walk | **Quilt Show** | Parade | **Orchards**
Extreme Bull Riding Tour | Parade | **Carnival**
Water Barrel Fights | **Vendor Fairs** | Classic Car Show

SEPTEMBER 22-24
ALL ABOUT APPLES

Taste of Apple Recipe Contest
Cider Stroll | Progressive Dinner
Orchards | **Museums** | Shopping

Visit NebraskaCity.com/festivals or scan this QR code!



NEBRASKA CITY HOSTS DOWNTOWN FARM TO FORK

Seventh Annual Event Brings 160 Diners to Five-Course Meal

Threats of 100-degree heat did not deter attendees to Nebraska City's 7th Annual Farm to Fork on Sunday, August 20, 2023. Participants dined on five courses of regionally sourced food and drink over the three-hour meal, all created by local chefs. The Farm to Fork event is organized by a committee of volunteers.



ARBOR CITY NEWS

News from Nebraska City

Coffee

Bruce Madsen

My morning cup of coffee, a ritual, it's true
It seems I have to have it to get me in the groove
And not just one cup by any means at all
Usually it takes two or three to get me on the ball

There are several different reasons why I've developed this desire
It certainly is a taste that takes some time to acquire
In my case, I think, it's more than just the flavor of the brew
It's an inherited trait that causes me to drink the way I do

My ancestors were of good coffee drinking stock
They always took a break at ten and four, and grabbed the coffee pot
And gathered in the kitchen to sit and just relax
To visit with each other while they stopped to rest their backs

So, it's to them I give credit when I drink the murky brew
I know they're the reason why I drink the way I do
Plus I think, I must confess, that the truth to some degree
Is that I am a hardened drinker and it's not just socially

I know I am addicted to what cannot be seen
It's the drug of the morning jump start, and it's called caffeine
But I don't think this addiction is really a big mistake
Cause I can always stop and collect myself just before I start to shake

And coffee gives reason to the element of inquisitiveness
Cause gossip at the coffee shop is always everybody's business
Whether it be truth or not is not a big concern
It just gives us something to talk about until we decide to adjourn

So for the most part, I think I'll stay pretty much the way I am
Can't see why change now would make me any more a man
So, fill my cup and pass me a cookie from the plate
Cause now that I'm done with this, I'm going on coffee break

Arbor City News

is a monthly news section in

Your Country Neighbor

A Southeast Nebraska

Regional Magazine (w/News)



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ARBOR CITY NEWS

News from Nebraska City



1651 South 11th St. Nebraska City 402-873-6925



Debra Chesterman
Owner

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Richard Landers
Service Manager

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Rich has over 30 years of experience, and many **satisfied** customers.
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Central Avenue Looking East, August 9, 2023



“Your Country Neighbor” is delivered to the following communities in Southeast Nebraska & Missouri.

Auburn • Brownville • Cook • Falls City • Johnson • Nebraska City • Nemaha • Peru • Rock Port • Syracuse • Tecumseh • Verdon



Monarch on Nebraska Variety of Sunflower



Tiger Swallowtail on Butterfly Bush in my sister’s garden.



Adeline’s Bakery

1910 R Road, Burr, NE 68324

Wed & Thu 11 to 6, Fri 8 to 6
Every Other Saturday 8 to 12

402-430-0565

Facebook Page: *Adeline’s Bakery*
adeline’sbakery@outlook.com





Buckeye butterfly
Seldom seen, albeit not rare.





CODY’S

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Introduces:



Kris LaRock

Hi! My name is Kris LaRock, and I am a Licensed Insurance Agent with Expedition Insurance Services located in West Des Moines, IA. I am assisting Cody’s U-Save Pharmacy to make sure your health insurance and prescriptions plans work well with Cody’s. My passion has always been making sure my clients are in the best possible position regarding their insurance needs. Let me help you find the best option at the lowest cost!



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Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 - 6:00, Sat 8:30 - 1:00



The Importance Of Parental Involvement In School

Dorothy Rieke, Julian

Today, education plays a vital role in an individual's future achievements. So it is important that children's educational needs be met through the input of parents, teachers, and others. In fact, in order to meet with success, a combined effort is needed to prepare children for school and supply support throughout their educational journeys.

Perhaps one of the most important factors in a child's school success is preparedness. With no groundwork for school, a child may suffer disillusionment, disappointment, or setbacks because he does not know what to expect when he arrives in the schoolroom. In fact, basic preparation is necessary for each child's adjustment to the school scene.

Parents are mainly responsible for a child's pre-school knowledge. With adequate preparation, children adjust more quickly and do not experience the qualms of failure, a fear of school, and a distrust of teachers.

What, then, can be done to help children develop positive attitudes toward school? The following are suggestions:

- 1 Read to your children. Reading yields information, improves vocabulary, and above all, establishes rapport between parents and children. Reading brings interest and excitement into children's lives.
- 2 Allow children to work with paper, crayons, pencils, scissors and glue. This provides creative experience in drawing, coloring, and cutting.
- 3 Involve your children in activities outside the home, Play sessions, visiting libraries, attending programs, and events enlarge a child's experience. Playing with other children is necessary so children learn how to interact with others.
- 4 Teach your child basic rules of behavior such as courtesy, honesty, and cooperation. Sitting quietly, listening, taking turns, and being responsible for his actions must be in place before school attendance.
- 5 Familiarize your children with school facilities by attending activities.
- 6 Display a positive attitude toward learning, and set an example for pursuing learning.
- 7 Add to the anticipation for school days by buying several new clothing items and the required school supplies.
- 8 Plan nutritious meals and set sleeping hours. Children well-nourished and rested achieve more.
- 9 Always be interested, caring, and supportive. Be a good listener encouraging children in their pursuits.
- 10 Be especially aware of the importance of learning for your children and participate in pre-school orientation.

Parents' interest in their children is always evident to the children themselves. This monitoring, concern, and support build children's self-esteem and desires to accomplish. Parents definitely have an important role to play in their children's school orientation, their achievement, and their success.

Window On Fifth Street

Stephen Hassler, Peru

As I look out my window on Fifth Street, it's September and "back to school!" School buses, football practice, and 'cruising.' The freedom to get in a car and go anywhere I wanted was once just an anxious teenager's dream. Now, whenever I want, I can take my comfortable sedan with AC and stereo sound and tour the rural countryside or visit friends anywhere. This is one freedom I cherish, but I often take for granted. Before I received my driver's license, I didn't have that freedom of movement.

Before I had a driver's license, travel was viewed from the back-seat of a '57 Ford Fairlane. Often, a parent's head would obstruct my view, so I just looked out the side window and watched the world go by about 45 miles an hour. There were the ever-changing fields of grain and grasses; the lavender of blooming alfalfa or the gold of ripening oats. Now and then there would be a train passing by on the tracks that ran parallel to the graveled country road.

As my father steered into town, we connected with the highway and coasted down the hill to the traffic light and the drive-in on the corner. High School kids stood around in small groups with their red and black letter-jackets sipping cokes and Dr. Peppers and munching on hamburgers. Some sat in cars and leaned out of windows in conversation, listening to the latest Bobby Vinton song or the Beach Boys on the radio. I wanted one of those red and black letter-jackets. This was a new town, a bigger school, and new friends. I was fifteen and dreamed of going to college, of breaking out of my rural world, and into the real world of hot cars, the nuclear age, and NASA missions.

It was 1962. The 60s! But my 60s were not the images I saw on the new color TV in the old Iowa farmhouse, where I was painfully trying to grow up. My world was the school bus before dawn ten miles from my home-room. My world was trying to learn chemistry and geometry, while having to learn English Composition. My world was one of solitude and three wishes; I wished that I were a star on the basketball team, that I were popular enough to go out on Saturday nights with the prettiest girl in school, and that I would get my name in the paper as one of those on the semester honor roll.

Those three wishes were never heard by any Genie in my world. And so for me, growing up in the early 60s amounted to getting my homework done and trying not to get beat up. It helped a lot that I got a car my Senior year. That old 53 Chevy was freedom from school buses, and freedom to go see friends if the urge came up. It was independence and image; it added a new dimension to my life. Occasionally, during a school lunch break, I would drive a few friends around town; me, showing off my 'wheels', and they, going for a 'joy ride.' And if we saw another group doing the same, an exchange of horn honks was not only a greeting, it was like saying, "How about this? This is living!"

So when you look out your window on your street, try not to shake your head in disgust at those teenagers who might seem a bit noisy. Not all of them are popular or athletic, and very few are geniuses. But they are all struggling to fit into a world so much bigger than they are. They are trying their wings. They are exploring freedoms withheld from them while they were children. They are beginning to experience what you and I take for granted; freedom is fun!



Fall

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

Fall into September
The 9th month of the year
School days beckon
Days pass quicker and quicker
The sun setting earlier and earlier

The pulse of life itself winds down
The corn reaching to the heavens
Ready to touch the stars
Be plucked and tossed into the gullet
of a beast or human
Or converted into ethanol

Still I remember 9-11 and honor
all those who died: 2001
young, old, healthy, sick
I will never forget the day after
The American flags flying defiantly in the air
Decorating houses and apartments alike
Not black, white, Polish, German
Not Nigerian or Irish
American
Proud to be there for All our fellow citizens
September
A month of beginnings
Of school and football
But never forget
One of the saddest hours 9-11
Brought us together as a country
God bless the USA!

22 September 2023 Your Country Neighbor



September

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

Pour me a cider
Warm and spicy quaffed as in medieval times
The bonfires burn in my mind
As the lads of Peru take the football field
Ready to vie for glory
The football sails through the air
The BIG RED Husker fans hold their breath
And Peru finds its victory
Go Bob the Bobcat
Go Huskers!
As we sprint to October as well
Summer heat dissipating as the days fly by.

You can order Sheila's latest book of poetry;
**"Through my lens:
Poetry and Photos, January through December,
a year full of wonder and beauty."**

by Sheila Tinkham
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by Devon Adams, Peru

ALL THE DAYS

How long is a day
when you are in a
September field of
waving prairie grass,
with clouds sailing
so low over your
head that you can
almost touch them?
A breeze kisses your
cheeks with an edge
of frost near evening,
as your nose sniffs
the crunch of drying
leaves and grass.
Shadow fingers are
creeping closer as
the equinox waits to
draw the curtain on
Summer's chapter in
the book of seasons.
You can't measure
the pure pleasure of
time spent loving life
and the daily delights
that last for fragments
of seconds. Time is an
infinite eternity dropped
on us in tiny bits of
existence, as we read
the pages of our lives.

A SLICE OF AUTUMN

In the dark of a clear
night, the owl howls
into a chilly wind and
fog wraps wispy curls
around the river trees.
Rows of corn wait in
ordered rows, listening
to their drying leaves
rattle on the breeze.
An eight point buck
rubs his antlers on a
sapling, shredding
the bark into hanging
strips, as visions of
does spark his energy.
As ancient galaxies
and stars float above
in the inky sky, a thin
rim of moon observes
the cycle of seasons
revolve on the pretty
blue and white sphere
that is his constant
companion. Oh, the
secrets he keeps; his
silence is a forever
and always promise.

CLOUDY AFTERNOONS

Light is a precious
jewel taken for
granted in the lush
summer sunsets in
the country. Evening
is long and lovely
until it shrinks just
enough to cut short
your journey into
night. Suddenly it's
too dark to cut the
grass, or to fix the
loose board on the
fence. You were
sure you had time,
but time didn't wait
for you, and went on
down the road.

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WALK IN THE WOODS

Let's walk down
the trail of today,
with it's fancy trees
all in display, and
the air so crisp it
comes with static
sparks. Depths of
blue infinity are a
dome over quilted
fields, sewn with
love and hope by
farmers forever
bound to the land
and its mysteries.
Tomorrow the old
trail may be tired
and gray, with all
the color leached
away by cold rains
and chilly fog. But
we'll be warmed by
memories as we
shiver in the snows
that know no limits.

RIVER SAND

A river beach is
here where water
went wild, leaving
it's channel and
running over it's
banks until land
was water and
nothing was the
same. Now there
are silvered trees,
smooth and free
of bark, standing
starkly next to the
dead friends that
drowned when
they did. Soon
they'll collapse
into pieces and
wait in the sand
for another flood
to come and carry
them away. They
are memorials to
yesterday, fragile
statues marking
the limits of life.



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