

Date: Thursday, March 15, 2018  
Frequency: DAILY  
Circulation: 4349  
Clip Size: 4.70 sq. inches  
Ad Rate: \$12.50  
Page/Section: A 0003



c Copyright 2018 \ All Rights Reserved

## UPCOMING YOUTH ACTIVITIES

**Sunday, March 18**

### • Dolly and Me Tea Party fundraiser

A "Dolly and Me Tea Party," a fundraiser for the Geneva Rotary Club, will be held Sunday, March 18 from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the Geneva Public Library. Registration forms can be picked up, and the \$10 registration fee paid, at the library, Sargent Drilling, Jill's Sweet Shop, Cumberlands, or Farm Bureau Insurance in Geneva.



© Copyright 2018 \ All Rights Reserved

# Clarinda Kiwanis learns about Grandma's House, meets new community member

Clarinda Kiwanians learned about Grandma's House Daycare Center from Director Michala Pedersen during their Feb. 28 meeting at J's Pizza and Steakhouse. Pedersen, who has been there since August, reported the center has 102 children enrolled and 19 staff. Budgeting has been an emphasis the last few months as the director and board work to provide quality child care while staying current with bills.

She thanked supporters and told of monthly fund-raisers and grant-writing. At the same time she and the staff are taking training and putting into practice Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) as well as implementing Creative Curriculum in the classrooms. Most of the rooms have waiting lists, although there are some openings for Pre-K and Kindergarten Readiness (a new offering) next fall. The group asked many questions.

Following up on last week's roll call about first jobs, Ruth Bowen brought a picture of herself with Colonel Sanders. For roll call members shared kindnesses they had received or done this week.

Pedersen mentioned Grandma's House children made cards for nursing home residents during Kindness Week. Division 17 Lieutenant Governor Elaine Armstrong and Bob Nassen went to Glenwood Feb. 23 to join in congratulating the Glenwood Kiwanis Club for being hon-

ored as Club of the Year at the Chamber Betterment and Beautification Banquet. Joe Lucas won the attendance incentive drawing.

Karen Beaver thanked Janet Olenius, Elaine Armstrong and Adam Haselhuhn for helping type the Child ID sheets. Garfield second graders were fingerprinted by the Clarinda Police March 6. An Easter Egg Hunt meeting was held Feb. 27 at the Chamber office and initial assignments were made to be ready for the annual event co-sponsored by Kiwanis and the Chamber on Saturday, March 31, at 10:30 a.m. on the courthouse lawn. In case of rain it will be at the Lied Center.

Dr. Priscilla Partridge de Garcia was the Kiwanis Club speaker March 7, introducing herself as a new community member. She and her husband, Dr. Pedro Garcia, moved to a home just east of Clarinda from California in October and came to join his step-mother, Wanda Garcia, who lives at Westridge Quality Care. Having done much volunteer work, she has been active in Rotary. As a clinical psychologist licensed in two states, she is considering becoming licensed in Iowa. She has been in practice 50 years, serving many returning veterans and sexually abused, as well as the "worried well". Much of the program was devoted to her husband Pedro, who graduated from Clarinda High School. They have been visiting in Clarinda since

they were married 35 years ago. She related briefly the Garcia family's fleeing from Cuba and coming to Clarinda when his mother, Maria, was hired as the Spanish teacher. Priscilla's husband has had an outstanding career as teacher, coach, principal and superintendent (Nashville, Tennessee), retiring from USC after 10 years of working with doctoral students. Since becoming ill 3-½ years ago he has stepped up his writing and his last two books are "American by Choice" including Clarinda references and "My Lord, My God: He Always Has a Plan for Me." Both are authors and have much experience they can share with Clarinda.

The Kiwanis Child ID program served 51 Garfield second graders, who were fingerprinted by

Keith Brothers and Jesse Hitt from the Clarinda Police Department March 6. Karen Beaver coordinated the project.

Clarinda High School seniors who are planning to attend Iowa Western at Clarinda are eligible to apply for the \$400 Kiwanis Scholarship. Applications are available through the school website and are due March 15.

The Easter egg hunt is Saturday, March 31, at 10:30. Kiwanians are to meet at 9:15 a.m. to mark off age category sections of the courtyard and spread candy. They will be sorting it March 28 at 1 p.m. in the Chamber office.

Members sang to Jean Negley for her birthday. Sandy Geer was also a guest. Roll call was what each person is looking forward to this spring.



Dr. Priscilla Partridge de Garcia



Michala Pedersen



## APPOINTMENTS

### Union Bank & Trust

#### Union Bank & Trust Welcomes Fosdick



Mike Fosdick

**Union Bank & Trust** is pleased to announce the addition of **Mike Fosdick** as Vice President of Residential Mortgage.

**Fosdick** comes to **Union Bank** with forty-five years of lending experience in the Lincoln and Omaha markets, most recently as a Senior Vice President – Mortgage Lending Division Head at a large regional bank. In his new role, he serves as a relationship manager, responsible for providing clients with residential mortgage loan options. **Fosdick** will office in

**Union Bank's** location at 177th & West Center in Omaha, but will serve both the Lincoln and Omaha markets.

**Fosdick** graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and went on to complete the Graduate School of Banking from the University of Colorado. He was an Adjunct Instructor for Real Estate Finance and Real Estate Investment classes at Southeast Community College in Lincoln from 1985 – 1995. **Fosdick** is involved in many community projects through

the Suburban Rotary Club in Omaha, and is a member of Saint Patrick's Catholic Church in Elkhorn.

**Union Bank & Trust** is a privately owned, Nebraska bank that offers complete banking, lending, investment and trust services. The bank has thirty-eight full service and loan production offices in Nebraska and Kansas. It is the third-largest privately-owned bank in Nebraska with bank assets of \$3.8 billion and trust assets of \$22.4 billion as of December 31, 2017.



© Copyright 2018 \ All Rights Reserved

# City projects updated at Rotary meeting

**Brittany Szydelko**

bszydelko@ncnewspress.com

Grayson Path, Rotarian and City Administrator for Nebraska City, provided the program for the Nebraska City Rotary meeting over the noon hour on Wednesday, March 7, at the Eagles Club.

Path updated the Rotarians and guests attending about the City of Nebraska City's budgetary projects and gave status reports.

He briefly described the South Interchange project as being nearly done. It is currently open to the public.

"We still has a few more things to be done, so the project is not closed out just yet," he said. "We still have to add rumble strips, stamped concrete in the center islands on the turning lanes, clean up trees, shrubs, and grass which takes warmer weather to do."

The construction will also include the removal of the temporary asphalt along 3rd St and 63rd road.

Drivers currently cannot turn left on those roads or go straight, so project has plans to put it back to ditch like the rest of the road. There will be some temporary lane closures during the time of construction."

Mike Habegger with Department of Transportation (NDOT) estimates the project to be finished around Memorial Day roughly, between the May or June period.

This was a \$27 million dollar project, which, thanks to the hard work of the council, which found state and federal aid, the city's portion will only be about \$3.2 million.

This is an important safety project due to the number of accidents that had been occurring at the south intersection.

## Next project: North 11th Street Bridge

The major part of this project is the replacement of a bridge near the site of the old Norman's, now Douglas Tire.

Path said, "We will be resurfacing the road from 1st Avenue to the bridge, replace bridge, then resurface the road from the bridge to the city limits."

The cost of the project is estimated at \$2.2 million.

Bids recently reopened. The council previously opened bids, but had received none.

The timeline was reexamined and readjusted to give contractors more flexibility.

After these adjustments, seven bids came, six of them being below engineering estimates. The lowest bid was \$2.02 million.

In the proposal that was put out, the council asked that bridge starts after Applejack. The rest of the roadwork will be able to happen any time, however.

JEO consulting group is the engineer for the project and will be going through bids with the council to make sure everything is accurate.

## Next project: 4th Corso Viaduct

Path said he is excited to see all work happening on the 4th Corso Viaduct.

He said, "This has been a long time coming. I had been on the job a month when we had to close the bridge."

"It was not what I wanted to do starting here, but it had to be done for safety," he said.

Construction workers have removed piers on western half, and are now working on eastern half. The train traffic running under the structure is not being effected. Construction work assures this by stopping to let trains go by, which will add time to the project. Workers are exercising caution not to drop things onto the tracks as well.

This project plans to shorten the deck to have a shorter bridge, which will save money. z

The next big thing with this project is the dirt work. There will be about a couple hundred feet of dirt added to the western side. Dirt work generally has to settle for about three months before concrete can be added. It is an estimated 510 calendar day project, with plans to finish around July or August of 2019.

The contractor hopes for a February 2019 completion date.

Having another winter between now and then creates some unpredictability with the timeline.

"Winter has a tendency of stopping

projects in its tracks," said Path.

The city received a 5.8 million dollar bid, with the City's portion being only about a million. The city has filed for and received state aid and federal funds to cover about 80 percent of construction for this project. Path said thanks go to director of NDOT Kyle Schneweis who agreed to give Nebraska City those funds. "It's a good blessing for our community," said Path.

## Next project: City Ordinances

The city's ordinances are about 15 years old. Staff members have been working with JEO to make sure the city's zoning and ordinances are up to date.

There will be an open house for the public on March 27 at 5:30 p.m. at the Rowe Complex to check out these new ordinances and zones.

The council does not have plans for a full rewrite or drastic changes; just more common sense updates to be more business and builder friendly.

There will be public hearings for the planning commission and council on these details during City Council in April as well.

## Next project: CDBG Projects

Budgeted projects this year from the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) that the city pursued thus far are the 7th st project, the Memorial Building roof replacement, and the Nuckolls Square Park restroom updates.

The council has project ideas for next year's \$350 thousand dollar grant which include improving streets and sidewalks, addressing the lack of childcare centers, and aiding with historic preservation of the downtown area. These grants are very specific, so the city is working with the CDBG to ensure which new projects qualify.

See ROTARY, page 6

# ROTARY

From page 5

## Next project: Timber Bridge

The Steinhart road Timber Bridge is in need of re-

pair. The bridge, which, for unknown reasons was listed as a county asset, was claimed officially as a city asset.

An asphalt overlay and other improvements are planned. These improvements should extend the life of bridge. The bridge was previously prepared for an overlay, however, 20 years ago, the city decided not to proceed on that project.

This was done for aesthetic reasons of having an all wood deck.

Fixes on the bridge are estimated at \$130 thousand dollars. The council is currently working with JEO to plan out the details.

#### **Next project: Bidding Policies**

Path has been working with Commissioners Wehling and Glover to design a new bidding policy for the city. The City currently obtains quotes, but there is nothing official in writing details and rules.

"It is one thing we are working on to make sure the city has transparency to make sure things are being done right."

#### **Next project: City Hall Roof**

The city has it in the budget to replace the City Hall roof, with hopes to begin construction this sum-

mer. There are currently leaks in the roof all over city hall, and even into the fire station.

#### **Next project: HVAC for Library**

The Morton James Public Library's HVAC project has been moved to 2019 due to the need to seek extra funds for the project that was underbudgeted due to unforeseen issues with the old pipework. The City is currently working with KPE, an engineering firm out of Omaha, to plan out the details.

#### **Next project: New Lights for Softball Complex**

Commissioner Wehling pursued a project for the softball complex. Field One previously did not have lights. The council worked with a company to install new lights on Fields One and Two, opening up three fields to use day and night.

#### **New Idea:**

City Council has future plans to move the council chambers to the police station into the Rowe room for technology updates and to allow for a bigger space for everyone attending to have a seat.

#### **Concerns from the public**

Rev. Dr. Charles Kathurima-Murithi from First United Methodist Church said, "Sometimes at the swimming pool,

baseballs get in there. Are you putting in a net to make sure people are not getting hurt while swimming?"

Commissioner Wehling said, "We recently put up a 30 foot fence staring at the third base dugout extending north 30 feet high and 45 feet long to help alleviate that fear."

Unfortunately, Wehling said, there is nothing that can be done to totally stop baseballs from going into the pool area without installing a net over the entire swimming pool, which he said isn't feasible.

Tyler Wellman of Waddell and Reed Financial asked Path, "How are you guys doing so well with the budget? It seems like a lot of places are struggling right now and you have a lot of projects going on."

Path replied, "After the misbudgeting of our HVAC project, I did a review of our budget lines, and we are tracking below budget. Revenues are coming in well and expenditures are remaining tight. We have good department heads that are fiscally minded with their dollars."

For questions about the city's budgeted projects, contact City Hall at 402-873-5515 or visit [nebraskacityne.gov/city-hall](http://nebraskacityne.gov/city-hall)



**Nebraska City City Administrator Grayson Path provided a Rotary program update of current projects during Wednesday's noon hour meeting at the Eagles Club.**

PHOTO BY BRITTANY SZYDELKO