



# Lucette's Gazette



News, updates, and happenings in our Hackensack Lakes Area - August 2020



## Countryside Co-op Reopens

by Terry Roeser

The Co-op successfully reopened, offering curbside only service on July 1st when it delivered 117 orders to members. After more fine-tuning of systems, the curbside pick-up service has been expanded for pick-up on Wednesday, Friday and Saturday. Product lists, order forms and directions are available by the front door, on our Facebook page, and at [www.countrysideco-op.com](http://www.countrysideco-op.com).

The Countryside Co-op has been serving our community for over 40 years, providing healthy food choices at affordable prices. It is a valued asset to the area and is run entirely by volunteers. Dedicated volunteers worked over several days restocking the store and bagging orders.

### Countryside Co-op Ordering Schedule

Order due by 6:00 PM	Pick-Up Day
Thursday	Wednesday
Sunday	Friday
Monday	Saturday

## UPDATE: Hackensack-Backus Relief Fund, by Terry Roeser

**DONATE**

In April, the Hackensack Lakes Area Community Foundation (HLACF) created the Hackensack-Backus Relief Fund, offering grants to nonprofits, government entities, and small businesses with expenses related to the pandemic. The Fund distributed grants to nonprofits assisting residents needing food, housing and transportation. It also helped nonprofits



## Mann Lake Ltd. Opens New Retail Store

by Kendra Hacker

Mann Lake Ltd. partnered with Stromberg's Chickens last year and opened a new store at their headquarters in Hackensack. Their mission is to provide a unique, one-stop shopping experience for customers to see all of the different products available for their backyard hobby and get their questions answered.

The store offers full product lines of beekeeping and poultry supplies such as hive bodies and supers, frames and foundation, protective gear, extraction and bottling, medication, feed, incubators and brooders, coops, feeders and waterers, and hand sanitizer.

Mann Lake is at 501 1st Street S. Open Mon.-Fri., 8am - 5pm. Or, shop anytime 24/7 at [www.mannlakeltd.com](http://www.mannlakeltd.com).



pay their basic expenses. Small businesses used the grants to pay rent, mortgage payments, utilities, phone, PPE, and additional costs related to reopening their businesses. HLACF thanks the fund donors without whom none of this would have been possible. As of July 31st, the grant applications for small businesses will close and we will focus on the needs of nonprofits. The HLACF looks forward to continuing to help our communities thrive.

## What's New

- **Local restaurants** and most **businesses** are open. Please call directly for current hours and details of operation.
- **Rendezvous Brewing** is now open!
- **Hackensack Flea Market** is August 12th, 8:00 am -3:00 pm.
- **Hackensack City Park** is open including the public restrooms.
- **Lending Library** is open, 10:00 am-2:00 pm. Monday - Saturday.
- **Sun 'N Fun** will be closed until May of 2021.



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# City of Hackensack News

- In the heart of Minnesota's 10,000 lakes. -

## Community Beautification

by Jim Schneider, Hackensack City Council

Collaborative efforts continue to be our focus. The following are examples of projects we are working on: Collaboration with the **Hackensack Lakes Area Community Foundation**, launching a **new comprehensive planning process**, a **new water project** and **improvement to infrastructure** including **future road improvements**, and plans to update our city ordinances to **make our community even more appealing** to residents, businesses, and visitors.

We would like to focus your attention on the last item: ordinances. An ordinance is a piece of legislation enacted by a municipal authority. In simple terms, ordinances are the values of our community. Our current Council's vision is to renew our city's

appearance while creating a positive culture for people and businesses to live and invest in.

Over the past two months, the Council has specifically discussed our nuisance and weed ordinances. This summer, we encourage residents to clean up their property and dispose of items that violate our ordinances. The Council believes in the individual responsibility of homeowners to seek clarity on ordinances and follow these practices. We encourage folks to use our local landfill, three miles north of the city, and dispose of your identified issues. If you are unsure of certain items or belongings, please contact the city office at 218.675.6400.

Together, let's renew our city and make it a more attractive place for our businesses and residents in which to live.



## 8 Ways to Make Hackensack Beautiful!

1. Pick up trash
2. Keep the park clean
3. Deposit aluminum cans @ Southside
4. Maintain your lawn
5. Repair & paint property
6. Plant flowers and shrubs
7. Water the community flower pots
8. Take pride in the community!



## Recycling Refresher

There's a good chance you're already recycling. However, it's so complicated, people often fall short despite having the best intentions. To help, here are highlights from the **Cass County Recycling Guidelines**:

**Plastics & Cans**— Cass County **ONLY** accepts bottles, jars, tubs & lids. **NO** Styrofoam, shrink wrap, food packaging or films, plastic dishes or utensils, automotive containers, no pesticide containers. Aluminum and metal cans/containers can be commingled with plastics. **NO PLASTIC BAGS OF ANY SORT.**

**Fluorescent Bulbs**—Dispose at any Cass County Transfer Station and not in your recycling bin.

**Batteries**—**Alkaline batteries** should be thrown into the trash as they no longer contain mercury. **Lead acid** from automotive, marine and some computer batteries can be taken to Cass County solid waste transfer site. **Button and rechargeable batteries** may have mercury or other metals and should be dropped at special boxes at a solid waste transfer station or participating pharmacy or retail store.

**Furniture**—Donate working or usable items or appliances.

**E-Waste, Appliances & Tires (off-rim)**—Bring computer & electronics disposal, appliances & tires to Pine River, Walker-Hackensack, and May Township transfer sites.

**Hazardous Waste/Paint**—Take to the Transfer Station. Good used paint and other products may be stored at the transfer station and given away.

**Sharps/Pharmaceuticals**—Must be disposed of in household garbage, inside of puncture-resistant containers such as coffee cans, detergent bottles or containers designed for such use. These **cannot** be disposed of in pharmaceutical drop boxes. Special labels are available from the county public health and environmental services departments.

**Unneeded Medications**—Can be dropped off in "Take it to the Box" drop-off sites at the Cass County Sheriff's Office and other locations.

**Motor Oil & Antifreeze**—Cass County offers disposal of used motor oil, antifreeze and oil filters at all locations except Crooked Lake Township. Do **NOT** mix motor oil and antifreeze. Antifreeze has its own disposal container.





# Comprehensive Planning

- Improving quality of life in our local community. -



## AUGUST UPDATE: City of Hackensack Seeks Community Input for Comprehensive Plan

by Tad Erickson, Senior Regional Planner, Region Five Development Commission

Since the last edition of *Lucette's Gazette*, the City has developed a Local Planning Team comprised of approximately 16 individuals intended to be a representational cross section of the residents of Hackensack. **If you are interested in participating on the local planning team, there are still a few remaining spaces.**

The local planning team's first course of action has been to plan a public, informational kickoff meeting which will mark the official start of the planning process! **This public, informational kickoff meeting will be held at the Birchwood Char House, on Tuesday, July 28<sup>th</sup> from 6:00pm – 8:00pm.** In order to safely accommodate members of the public who wish to attend the meeting in person, we will be utilizing Birchwood's outdoor patio seating area which enables us to accommodate up to 25 individuals. Should we exceed this number, Birchwood has reserved an additional 10 spaces indoors that we can use as overflow seating where R5DC staff will facilitate a breakaway session of the meeting and/or stream the outdoor meeting indoors! Additionally, a virtual meeting option via Zoom will be available for those not able or wanting to attend in person. Please email Tad Erickson for the Zoom link.

### What Can You Expect At The Hackensack Comprehensive Plan Public Informational Kickoff Meeting?

You will hear several brief presentations from Region Five staff, city representatives, and local planning team members including **overview of what a comprehensive plan is**, what it does for cities, and how it is intended to be used. We'll also hear an update from Cass County and MnDOT regarding **two major future road construction projects affecting Hackensack**. Finally, **we want to hear from YOU**, the residents of the Hackensack area. There will be an interactive portion of the meeting with some group planning activities.

For updates and details about the Comprehensive Plan process, including the project's timeline and ways to participate, feel free to reach out to Tad Erickson.

*You're Invited*

**Hackensack Comprehensive Plan Public Informational Kickoff Meeting**

Tuesday, July 28th  
6:00pm-8:00pm  
Birchwood Char Grill & Bar

No need to RSVP

**Questions?**

**Contact Tad Erickson**  
terickson@regionfive.org  
(218) 894-3233 Ext. #7




### Road Happenings in Hackensack

Bill Kennedy, City Council Member

The work on First Street is still slated to start Spring of 2021 after it was delayed from this year to better evaluate the work to be done on Hwy 371. There was a recent Zoom meeting to review the Hwy 371 project. The project is continuing as planned with currently only two changes. There is a new MN DOT project manager assigned to the project and the project was delayed by MN DOT from 2023 to 2024. You can follow this project on the MN DOT site.

[www.mndot.gov/d2/projects/hwy 371-hackensack](http://www.mndot.gov/d2/projects/hwy%20371-hackensack)





**HACKENSACK  
LAKES AREA**  
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## Celebrating Nonprofits

- Working collectively and collaboratively to make a positive difference for our future. -

### Celebrating our Hackensack Nonprofits

by Gary Dietrich

This edition of *Lucette's Gazette* features information regarding several of the nonprofit organizations in the Hackensack community. Nonprofits represent over thirteen percent (13%) of Minnesota's workforce and provide essential services to our state, our communities and to our residents. The nonprofit industry employs over 385,000 people in our state and contributes in excess of \$50 billion to the state's economy. Minnesota has a long tradition of services from nonprofit organizations. Our state hosts the largest state association of nonprofits, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, in the U.S.

We would also like to give a shout out to another nonprofit: the Initiative Foundation of Central Minnesota.



**Hackensack Hub**, by Myra Damm

The Hackensack Hub has been a fixture in the town of Hackensack since 1986. We are located next door to the post office and this used to be the place to go, with 100 members coming in for meals, socializing, and playing cards or cribbage. In 2001, the center was in danger of being closed as the people running it were retiring and needed new people in leadership. People recognized the value of the building as a meeting place, wrote up new by-laws, and supported making the Hub a viable community building. A Facebook page was created to keep the public informed about our activities, a newsletter is now sent to all members regarding activities for the month including information that might interest them. The Hub holds popular fundraisers throughout the year including – Book, Bake and Plant Sales and an indoor garage sale the last week in April. We also offer a free tech class on the third Monday at 1 p.m. offered by Bill Kennedy, a very techy person with fun information that is easy to follow. The building is available for rent for most events. A pool table is also available for a group to shoot pool. For rental information, please contact Myra Damm at the Hub phone 218.675.6885 or her cell 218.820.0258 for more information. We are always looking for volunteers to help out where needed. Our annual meeting will be **Thursday, July 30, at 4 p.m.** to elect new officers and discuss The Hub future directions. Please join us!

This foundation has helped return \$5.6 million to Cass County through grants, loans and scholarships and has been instrumental in helping to launch and provide support to our local Hackensack Lakes Area Community Foundation (HLACF).

We are proud of the important nonprofit agencies and organizations in our community featured in this edition. We want to share who they are and describe what and how they contribute. These agencies offer a great place to volunteer and are an excellent way for people to contribute through nontaxable donations for the betterment of our area. Look forward to the October edition of *Lucette's Gazette* for a feature article about the Deep Portage Learning Center, another invaluable nonprofit in our area.



**Northwoods Arts Council**, by Terry Roeser

The Hackensack and surrounding communities look forward to **Northwoods Arts Council's** annual summer events such as **Josh Duffee and his Big Band** in July and the **Northwoods Art & Book Festival** in August. Although these events have been cancelled



for 2020, our mission continues to be bringing the arts to you. The organization will engage the community with links for **Josh Duffee's** concerts and a virtual **Northwoods Art and Book Festival**. Visit [northwoodsartscouncil.org](http://northwoodsartscouncil.org) and you will see— Coming soon! — the fabulous lineup of artists and authors that were scheduled for 2020 with links to their websites, Facebook and/or email. Everyone associated with the festivals work yearlong to bring new ideas to life and to produce the most entertaining and safest festivals possible. Josh Duffee's **Sinatra! Part II** is scheduled for July 9-10, 2021. Next year's **Northwoods Art & Book Festival** is scheduled for August 14, 2021. Mark your calendar. It will be an energizing and invigorating year to look forward to. If you are interested in joining the Northwoods Arts Council, contact them by email at [nachackensack@gmail.com](mailto:nachackensack@gmail.com).



## Celebrating Hackensack Nonprofits



### Hackensack Area Fire & Rescue Department

by Dawn Peterson

The fire department formally began operation in the 1920s with a pull cart water pump. In 1951, the department purchased its first motorized truck, a new International with a 500-gallon water tank, a couple hundred feet of hose, nozzles, and one fire extinguisher. Realizing that without intervention the "Golden Hour" would be lost before reaching the nearest hospital fifty miles away, the Hackensack First Response Team helped inspire the birth of first response teams nationwide. In 1985, the department built its current building on First Street.

Extensive training keeps us abreast of the newest technology, equipment, and procedures available. Each EMT carries about \$8,000 of emergency care equipment. In 2005, the Hackensack First Response Team joined forces with the Hackensack Fire Department, merging the two entities and is a nonprofit entity, entirely separate from the City of Hackensack. We currently maintain three



### Share-N-Care, by Cheri Westphal

Our community service center was started in 1956. We provided clean clothing at that time. As the need grew, we expanded. In 2002, we moved to a new location and leased a building. We soon outgrew that space and bought the current property on HWY 371 and moved forward in faith; faith meaning that people would come. On December 8, 2005, we opened our doors and renamed the building Share-N-Care. The retail building is over 3,000 sq. ft. and we have over 6,000 sq. ft. of working space and storage. In 2007, we added a garage for furniture and larger items. While we had a small food pantry, the community need was greater than the space provided. Thanks to God and planning, money was provided for an addition. In February 2014, the new Food Shelf was open and is available to all in need. The heart out in front of the building is in memory of a very dear young member of our church who liked volunteering at Share-N-Care. We run a volunteer staff and all volunteers are welcome. We are owned by the Seventh Day Adventist Conference. Share-N-Care hours are **Mondays and Wednesdays: 9am-5pm, Fridays: 9am-4pm. Food Shelf hours are the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, from 5-7pm.**

Class A Pumpers, which pump 1,250 gallons a minute, two Tankers carrying 3,200 gallons of water, an Equipment Van, which houses the Jaws of Life and has the ability to refill SCBA tanks at a fire scene, a Brush Rig, and a 3,000 gallon pumper/tender along with a side-by-side ORV and trailer for Search and Rescue and wildland fire fighting.

Our department averages 30 fire calls and 250 EMT calls annually. We respond directly to emergencies 24/7 when paged out through 911 by way of the Cass County Sheriff's Department. Those calls include house, car, and wildland fires, air care (helicopter) landing zones, lift assists, car accidents, search and rescue, mutual aid, and medical and trauma calls. One-third of our members are women: Eight are EMTs, one an EMR, and one is a paramedic. Five of these women are currently cross trained as firefighters. We also have multiple third generation firefighters and six husband/wife couples within our 29 members.

Along with training and regular fundraising, we also participate in the **National Night Out event on the first Tuesday in August** and have two sections of adopted highway on CTY RD 45 and HWY 371.



### Faith in Action Fills the Gaps, by Theresa Eclow

Faith in Action for Cass County connects community volunteers who provide nonmedical, neighborly assistance to seniors, the disabled, and people in need throughout Cass County. With 26.5% of its population aged 65 and better, Cass County sees many people who retire here who don't have nearby family support. Without public transit or even taxi services, people of all ages struggle to get things done if they cannot drive. Many people are on fixed incomes or have mobility problems. Faith in Action volunteers are glad to fill in the gaps in services lacking in our area, even providing an accessible van for people with wheelchairs. In 2019, 123 volunteers assisted 356 people, provided 3,497 rides, contributed 9,800 hours and drove 158,875 miles. They fill about 266 requests each month. We serve people of all ages and have no income restrictions or fees. For more information about Faith in Action community services or volunteer opportunities call 218.675.5435 or email [cassfia@uslink.net](mailto:cassfia@uslink.net).



Faith in Action Volunteers



# Hackensack Opportunities

## Paws + Claws Rescue & Resort

by Kaitlyn Yutrzenka

We would like to thank all who have put in hard work, given generous donations, and supported us since we opened in 2017. In our three years of operation, we've found homes for more than 800 pets! We feel that animals are an important element of completing lives and families, and it is great seeing them play that part.

Our boarding services have been beneficial, as all revenue gained goes back to supporting our shelter pets. In the summer, we often have every kennel full -- especially on the weekends! Post-COVID-19, we are grateful we have been able to resume our boarding services to help provide for community pets once again.



Being involved in and giving back to our community has always been important to us. From volunteers and fosters, to Memory Cafes and the development of a service dog program, we are grateful for all of the ways we have been able to benefit our pets and create options to keep the community active and involved.

Without our volunteers and the support the rest of the community has shown, Paws+Claws would not be here. If you'd like to donate, donations can be made in person, online, or over the phone. Proceeds from purchasing our merchandise and boarding your pets with us also go to the care of our shelter pets. Please give us a call at 218.675.7297 with any questions. Thank you!

## Plenty of Opportunities to Enjoy Nature Around Hackensack!

by Linda Ottman

While many of our popular community events such as Sweetheart Days and the Art and Book Fair have been cancelled due to the pandemic, you can still enjoy the outdoors around Hackensack.



### MN State Forests Are Open!

Family-friendly campgrounds with beaches and hiking trails are nearby. Miles of trails accommodate hiking, hunting, mountain biking, OHV riding, horseback riding. Campgrounds, day use, and dispersed camping are open in our area including Badoura, Paul Bunyan, Foothills, and Chippewa National Forest.



### The North Country

Trail traverses 4,600 miles from central North Dakota to Vermont, and wiggles its way through our area in several spots. Find trailheads and maps at their website.



State Biking Trails - The Paul Bunyan Trail, runs from Brainerd to Bemidji and goes right through the heart of Hackensack. It is paved and level with one sharply rolling area just south of Walker. The Heartland Trail also connects with the Paul Bunyan Trail, so the opportunities are great for short or long trail adventures!



### Deep Portage Conservation

Reserve Minnesota's largest outdoor classroom is right here in Hackensack. The DPCR's 11 miles of trails are open year-round for birding, hiking, and skiing. The woods, lakes, bogs, and birds are fun to explore!



Geocaching - Nearly 1,000 geocaches can be found along the Paul Bunyan Trail alone as well as many more in our area!



## Flea Market

The popular **Hackensack Flea Market** is scheduled to happen as planned on **Wed., August 12, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.** This fun flea market has been going on for 53 years and has 150+ vendors. Over 90% of the proceeds go to community service through various channels, so it is certainly a great asset to our community!

## Get Involved

### Want to Share Your Time & Talent?

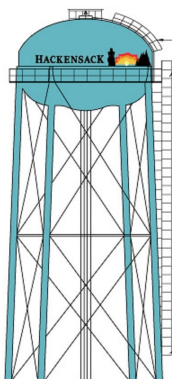
Support these featured organizations that serve our community in positive ways.

- **Countryside Co-op**
- **Faith in Action**
- **Hackensack Fire & Rescue**
- **Hackensack Hub**
- **Hackensack Legion & Auxiliary Post 202**
- **Hackensack Lions Club**
- **Northwoods Arts Council**
- **Paws & Claws**
- **Share-N-Care**



## Game Changers

- Teams working to make Hackensack a beautiful place to live, learn, play and work. -



### Branding Team—Campaign to Paint Our Logo on the Water Tower

by Lisa Tuller, Game Changer Team

The Game Changers Branding Committee will be conducting a fundraising campaign throughout July and August to raise \$7,000 to paint the new Hackensack logo on the water tower. For a \$100 donation, you will receive a Lucette garden flag like those in the flower pots around town. For \$25-\$99 donations, you will receive a

Lucette sticker made from the logo contest design from Tom Watson of Sun 'N Fun.

**DONATE**

The committee will have a table at the August 12th flea markets as well as an online campaign at [GiveMN.org: Hackensack Water Tower Project](https://www.givemn.org/Hlacf-Watertower).

<https://www.givemn.org/story/Hlacf-Watertower>

Donations can also be mailed, payable to: City of Hackensack, PO Box 490, Hackensack, MN 56452. Please write Water Tower Painting in the memo line.

Email [lisa.a.tuller@gmail.com](mailto:lisa.a.tuller@gmail.com) for further information. Please help us give our water tower a beautiful facelift!

### Hackensack Lions June 2020 Recognition

by Ann Zeman

District Governor Sandy Remington presented:

- **Years of Membership** pins: Mike Bohanon (10 yrs.), Rodney Damm (15 yrs.), Sue & Kevin Larson (20 yrs.)
- **Silver Centennial Awards:** Julie Cline and Dick Buche
- **Certificate of Appreciation:** Rodney Damm, Lynn Reinertson, Annie Zeman, Jim Tuller, and Jay Cline
- **Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards\*:** Mark Biessener, Mike Bohanon, and Julie Cline
- **The Melvin Jones Fellowship award for non-Lion members** who are remarkable citizens of our community: Mary Parrish, Steve Hoopman, and Cheri Westphal
- **Progressive Melvin Jones Fellowship** pin: Sue Larson

Art Schmidt of 'Can Do Canines' presented 'Top Dog Award' to President Denny Ganz.

\*Melvin Jones Fellowship award is the highest form of recognition and embodies humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lionism.

### Clean Energy Team— Hackensack Making Progress Toward Improving Energy Efficiency

by Mike Tauber, Game Changer Team



Hackensack now joins 139 other Minnesota cities in the quest to make Minnesota more resilient for the future, while also helping our cities thrive economically.

An "Energy Planning and Prioritizing Blueprint" has been prepared for the City by Jason Edens (formerly founder and Executive Director at RREAL) with funding from Sourcewell and individual community donors. This suggested plan lays out progressive actions for the City starting with improving energy efficiency, pursuing a level 2 charging station for electric vehicles, and moving on to possibilities in solar power generation.

Energy audits for the City's four main buildings are set to be conducted. RETAP (Retiree Environmental Technical Assistance Program) personnel will review soon-to-be-submitted City building data and schedule a visit to Hackensack for a look at the buildings.

The level 2 charging station for electric vehicles could come to be with monies available from the Volkswagen diesel emissions settlement. There are also possibilities that a city business or two could set up charging stations.

The longer range vision in the plan includes bringing more solar energy production to Hackensack. This requires further study, external funding, and planning to see where and how this can be done with maximum effect and efficiency.



Dist. Gov. Sandy Remington, Sue Larson, Rodney Damm, & Mike Bohanon of the Hackensack Lions Club



## Announcing a Photo Contest!

by Linda Ottman

Do you appreciate good photos?  
Do you have an interest in sharing photos that you have taken in our local area recently?

We hope you enjoyed the aerial drone picture by Matt McNamara in the June edition of *Lucette's Gazette*. The showy lady's slipper in this edition was taken by one of *Lucette's* co-editors. Did you see any blooms this year?

We decided to reserve space on the back page of the newsletter for photos that inspire and display the beauty and nature of our community. A \$50 cash prize will be awarded per edition!

We are only accepting photos taken this

year. Please submit high resolution, JPEG-formatted photos, identify where the photo was taken, and contact information and mailing address in the event you are the WINNER to [howdy1953@gmail.com](mailto:howdy1953@gmail.com). The \$50 prize will be mailed to the address provided.

Submissions become the property of the City of Hackensack and may be used for other purposes. One winner will be announced in each of the upcoming editions of *Lucette's Gazette* which has a distribution of well over 1,500 readers.

So families, young people—anyone with a good eye for nature—let's get some great photos. Have some fun and show off your photography talents!



### Lucette's Co-Editors

Gary Dietrich,  
[garydietrich@icloud.com](mailto:garydietrich@icloud.com)

Linda Ottman,  
(218) 820-1461

### Publisher

Kim Hrubá  
Red Shoes Writing Solutions  
[kim@redshoeswriting.com](mailto:kim@redshoeswriting.com)

To receive an e-copy of  
*Lucette's Gazette*, email  
[hlac@ifound.org](mailto:hlac@ifound.org)



## *Telling our stories together*



## Community Newsletter

August 2020

[www.hackensackfund.org](http://www.hackensackfund.org)  
[www.hackensackchamber.com](http://www.hackensackchamber.com)  
1-800-279-6932