

The Hastings Family Times™

A FREE Weekly Publication for Families

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P.O. Box 1361, Hastings, NE 68902

A Walk Through Historic Downtown Hastings



by Andrew D. Callahan, Editor

I love my job. Last Saturday morning I had the assignment to take a walk through beautiful, historic, downtown Hastings, and report back whether this would be an appropriate family activity.

It was a sunny, cool, and breezy morning, what I would call perfect weather for a walk. I parked my car in the public lot on First Street near Burlington. The historical marker on the Burlington sidewalk tells that this was once the site of the Fire and Police Stations. I proceed north, getting a good view of the Strand Center building, and cross Second Street to read the historical marker about the Strand Theatre. From there I head east down Second Street where I come to the Clarke-Buchanan Building at 800 W. Second Street. This one-time bank building has "the best doorway in Hastings" (now home to The Well-Read Book) and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Unfortunately, there is no historical marker on this building.

I cross Lincoln Avenue and look at the "Breath of Life" sculpture in front of Hometown Variety and Crafts, then head north on Lincoln. This gives me a good view of the ornate window treatments on the buildings on the west side of the street. I cross Third Street and turn east, getting a good view of The Kensington (formerly The Clarke Hotel). This section of downtown has bricks forming a pattern in the concrete sidewalks. When I reach the USBank Building, I read the historic marker about The Post Office, then head north on Hastings Avenue. Both the Masonic Temple and the City Auditorium were in clear view. I cross Fourth Street and admire the beautiful archway entrance and lamp posts of the Masonic Temple, then cross Hastings Avenue to read the historic marker on The City Auditorium. I proceed south down Hastings, across Fourth Street, again marveling at the former Clarke Hotel.

At Third Street I again encounter the bricks in the sidewalk and turn east to read the historic markers in the middle of the block about Hastings architects and The Courthouse. At Denver, I cross Third Street and meander through the Farmer's Market that is in the City Hall parking lot. I continue south on Denver looking at the Farrell Block (a.k.a. Stone Block) building. This is the oldest building in downtown Hastings and is also on the National Register of Historic Places (but again, no historic marker). At Second Street I turn east, crossing Denver and staying on the north side of Second. This affords a good opportunity to look at the beautiful Dutton-Lainson Victory Building and it's ornate clock. I cross to check the temperature on the old thermometer on the Victory Building, read the historical marker, then head south on St. Joe toward the old train station. In this block I can also see the beautiful Prairie Odyssey sculpture across the street. I cross to the train station, and walk on the cobblestone sidewalk completely around the old station. There is a beautiful garden on the south side. Once back on the north side of the station I cross First Street to read the historic marker about the Kool-Aid factory halfway down the block, then backtrack back to St. Joe and turn north. I stop briefly to admire the Prairie Odyssey up close, then turn west on Second Street.

On the way back to the car there are several more historic markers, buildings with neat cornices, window treatments, and even lion heads. There are art deco building fronts, flower baskets hanging from lamp posts and more sculptures, including The American Farmer. There are a number of benches along the way. The season is right, I would strongly encourage families to take a walk through beautiful, historic downtown Hastings.



Prairie Odyssey

"He is patient through difficulties, firm in his resolve, and persevering through the seasons..."

The American Farmer"

New sculpture at 2nd & Hastings in downtown Hastings donated by The Cottonwood Festival.

Garden Cafe

HASTINGS

LIVE STAND UP COMEDY

Friday, October 3
Doors open 7pm, Show at 8pm
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Organization Can Get Your Child an 'A' in School and in Life

by Lillian Vernon

(ARA) - It takes intelligence, hard work and dedication to get ahead in school and in life. I know how hard it was for me when I moved to America and had to learn the English language and fit in at school. Later, I started my own business which presented a whole new set of challenges. I could not have done any of these without organizational skills.

When my children were growing up, I observed that most parents placed great emphasis on grades yet overlooked organizational skills. These important life skills should be taught at an early age. Children today are challenged with more homework and responsibilities than ever before, and since many parents work, less time is spent together. To become self sufficient, children must learn to organize themselves. When it comes to excelling in school, organizational skills are just as important as reading, writing and arithmetic. After years of organizing myself and my children, here are some thoughts:

* Your child's room should have a workplace that is cheerful, comfortable, well lit, and conducive to studying and doing homework. It may not be a good idea to put a computer in their room since children will be tempted to play computer games, surf the Internet or e-mail their friends instead of studying. Include a calendar of upcoming homework assignments, after-school events and sports activities.

* Empty your child's backpack every night, then help them organize all materials and books. This will avoid lost or neglected homework assignments, misplaced papers and important school notices sent home to parents that can lower their grades. Have your child carry a separate homework folder for all completed assignments. This will ensure that completed assignments can be found easily.

* Teach your child to keep a notebook with them to write down all assignments and tasks for every class along with their due dates. When the school day is over and they return to their locker, have them to check their notebook and decide what needs to be brought home.

* After dinner, discuss short and long-term assignments and break them down into a manageable schedule. A child, especially of elementary age can easily become overwhelmed with work if they don't know to prioritize tasks.

* Set aside a specific time each night to complete homework. Encourage your child to develop a routine. Don't force a child to complete homework right after school. Children need time to rest after a long day at school. Have a snack or play with friends before starting homework.

* Teach your child to set aside school clothes and pack all belongings the night before. This will reduce worrying about locating misplaced school materials or being late for the school bus. Starting the day on the right foot helps put children in a positive mood. *-Courtesy of ARA Content*

What's New at the Library

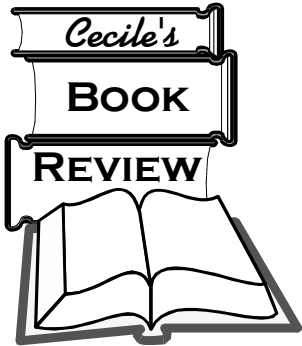
Jane and the Wandering Eye Is a Very Enjoyable Book

by Cecile J. Callahan, Managing Editor

This past week, I found a treasure on the New Books shelf in the Hastings Public Library. A paperback copy of Stephanie Barron's *Jane and the Wandering Eye*, was just sitting there, waiting for me like an old friend. I had read this book before, several years ago, as well as the two preceding it in the series, but this particular title is new to our library.

As a Jane Austen fan, it's interesting to see Jane herself as a character in a book, as she portrayed others. The language, the customs, the descriptions of dress and furnishings are all very like Austen's own. Indeed, some of the speeches her characters made in her various novels are here heard to come from the mouths of her own family. Possibilities occur to one about where she came up with her plots, so to speak. The footnotes are characteristic of an Austen novel, and generally advance the story as well as contain possible clues. Although some of them come at such an exciting point in the action as to be almost an annoyance, you ignore them at your own peril.

As a mystery aficionado, I find that the puzzle is well tangled and completely absorbing. All of the clues are there, as well as a sufficient number of red herrings to keep you guessing up until the very end, without having to resort to arcane knowledge or rely on senses we aren't in a position to employ. *Jane and the Wandering Eye* was truly an enjoyable read. And since our library owns all of the books in the series, I plan to read the rest of them as well. See you at the Library!



Some Words for the Week

He plants trees to benefit another generation.
Caecilius Statius

Life comes before literature,
as the material always comes before the work.
The hills are full of marble
before the world blooms with statues.

Phillips Brooks (author of O Little Town of Bethlehem)

Life teaches us to be less harsh
with ourselves and with others.
Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

Upcoming Events

Sept 26 - **No Classes - Hastings Public Schools**

Sept 30 - **Parent-Teacher Conferences** - 5 to 9 pm - Hastings High School

Sept 27 - **53rd Annual Melody Round-up Parade** - 10 am - Downtown Hastings - featuring high school and junior high school marching bands and the Hastings College Marching Band

Hastings YMCA Volleyball Basics - Registration Deadline: Sept 28 - call Terry: 463-3139

The Hastings Family Times™

Original & Local Word Search #4

by Dale T. Callahan (age 14)

E A P Y D R E S S O R P	Airport
Z I B N A E N R O B S O	Ayr
G R V A T C S U T T O N	Broncos
E P F L S A F N D D B Q	City Hall
N O E N I L U A P K P N	Doniphan
U R Y A M A Y T A G I N	Fremont
B T U L A I V N M Y N I	Hansen
I H U L A B F O W A E E	HRC
R L Y A L C H M J W S G	La Amistad
T I S H A N S E N B T A	Maytag
L Y D Y R E Z R Y U R L	Osborne
Y B C T A I E F D S E L	Pauline
D O N I P H A N A C E I	Pepsi
O S O C N O R B P G T V	Pine Street
R C H R N P E P S I K T	Prosser
W T J H X M M S K P O G	Spady
	Subway
	Sutton
	TCBY
	Tribune
	Village Inn

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K.I.D.S. Recipe of the Week

No Bake Chocolate Cookies

2 cups sugar ½ cup margarine ½ cup milk
1 teaspoon vanilla 1 cup coconut 6 Tbsps cocoa
3 cups uncooked oatmeal

Combine sugar, margarine and milk in saucepan. Bring to boil and allow to boil 3 minutes. Put remaining ingredients in bowl and mix. Pour hot mixture over this and blend well. Drop by teaspoonfuls on waxed paper. Allow to cool completely before using.

These cookies are one of the few fond memories I have of school lunches as a child and I have been happy to share them with my children, who all love them, except Grace, who doesn't like coconut. (Sometimes we leave it out so she can enjoy them too!) - *Cecile*