

A heartfelt thanks to Pelican Press readers, advertisers and friends

By Louis Høglund, managing editor

Despite the all disruption, the stress, and the uncertainty; times of crisis also offer heartwarming evidence of generosity and kindness.

For the Pelican Rapids area, these couple months have been especially challenging. In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, and the myriad of related disruptions—we also lost our school superintendent, Ed Richardson, who died unexpectedly April 9. The loss is unmeasurable, as the school district was beginning to rise from negative cash flow, budget cuts and low morale.

COVID and Richardson's passing are only two of our challenges.

In an area that welcomes back seasonal residents, it appears doubtful that our local businesses will experience the usual economic boost by Memorial Day. So continue to support small business now—and especially as things open up as the summer continues.

We're grateful for support from our readers and advertisers during the pandemic. A number of businesses have helped us out with timely advertising placements that have helped us keep the presses rolling.

At the Pelican Rapids Press, we're working on the annual "Lakes and Lifestyles" magazine, which has been a "sign of summer" for us and our many advertisers.

Memorial Day weekend has always been our target, but official publication date will likely be delayed to early June—due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We continue to be grateful for the support we've received from our readers and advertisers during the pandemic. A number of businesses have helped us out with timely advertising placements that have helped us keep the presses rolling.

Meanwhile, dozens of readers have responded—with new subscriptions and gift subscriptions for family members. Existing subscribers have also renewed early, which helped bolster our cash flow.

We're also delighted to report that our audience for the Press website pelicanrapidspress.com has increased dramatically. We've also received many online only subscribers, who are reading the website online—and also our electronic newspaper, which is presented as a digital "flipbook" that reads exactly as the print newspaper. Look for the link to the flipbook at the bottom of our home page.

Many, many of our loyal readers have delivered words of encouragement through phone calls, email and written messages. Among them, the correspondence from Glenys Ehlert, which is re-printed as a letter to the editor this week.

We also received a hand-written note from long-time reader Mary Ohe, which we take the liberty to quote here.

"You guys are doing an amazing job with the Press," wrote Mary. She is one of our readers who buys weekly at the newsstands, but the COVID pandemic prompted her to send in for a subscription. "The Press is what I miss the most about not going to town, to buy it in the stores...So I'm finally getting this (subscription order) sent in."

"Hang in there!" wrote Mary. "You are much needed."

Thanks Mary—and thanks to all our readers and advertisers for your continued support.

Writer responds to previous letter, supports Trump

I am writing in regards to Jerome Ness' letter to the editor near the end of April.

Yes, we have lived in troubled times over the course of American history and many presidents have had to make tough choices.

When President Obama was in office, he was out on the golf course when ISIS was chopping off the heads of Christians, crucifying people, raping innocent women and girls and setting fire to a person while alive in a cage.

As for President Trump, he has been working night and day to help stop the spread of COVID-19. It was Dr. Fauci who said as late as Jan. 26 that the American people shouldn't have to worry about the outbreak in China, that it's a very low risk.

It's a good thing Trump closed the borders, otherwise many people would have died.

Since Trump closed the southern border, far less drugs have entered and far less illegal criminals have come in.

As for the governors doing such a good job, many of them are restricting people so bad that our country will be like a Socialist country by the time it's all said and done. Of course that's what Bernie Sanders and the Democrats want all along. Our soldiers who have fought and died for our freedoms didn't fight for Socialism, but to have our freedoms maintained.

As for the stimulus packages that are supposed to go to small business, Nancy Pelosi wants \$25 million for the Kennedy Center, \$75 million each for

the National Endowment for the Humanities, \$324 million for diplomatic programs, \$25 million for salaries and expenses in the House of Representatives and \$78,000 for the Institute of the American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts development. Say nothing about Nancy, over expensive freezer with expensive ice cream that she showed on CNN.

The governors open liquor stores which are booming when we can't even worship the Lord Jesus Christ who is the most important person.

I would suggest to Mr. Ness that he stops his hatred for President Trump and do some homework to learn the truth.

**Nancy Dallman,
 Alexandria**

Acknowledging newspaper role; applauds library

Continued thanks for the awesome work the Pelican Rapids Press is doing with the newspaper! Truly, you put out the best small town newspaper I have seen and I keep track of a few.

I appreciate them all because community newspapers keep our democracy, businesses and services for citizens going.

Meantime, I will renew our subscription and send another friend a subscription.

The story on Joe and Iliana Clauson and Pelican Motel was inspiring plus Brenda Brand's history column included so many names and good community projects.

It was wonderful to see ad inserts for Larry's and Strand Hardware again. They always give me ideas about sea-

sonal food and garden work! I am happy to see an ad with plans for Garden Pleasures opening too.

Back to news features, the combination of Averi Phan reporting on Nanette Albright's work with an after school book club from the perspective of ten years was remarkable. I'm sending to my Colorado family to help my granddaughter see the possibilities of friendship through books.

Speaking of creative ideas to highlight in The Press, I'd like to let you know about the Library's summer reading program. Children's Librarian Sarah Davis sent both Friends of the Library and Rotary information about the summer reading program.

Both organizations provide regular support for literacy and both con-

tributed to this summer's program. Here is an excerpt of Sarah's thank you to the groups.

"During this unique time of social distancing, our summer story times will take an unconventional turn; we are working to plan for no-contact programming. The money you have given this year will go toward creating weekly family literacy packs, craft supplies, gardening supplies, and will help bring flexibility to expand our programming beyond the brick walls of our library building."

"Thank you for your continued support of literacy programming, and for encouraging us to invent new ideas that will keep the library a destination for families during these uncertain times."

Glenys, Gerry Ehlert and family

From the pen of the mayor ... Time to support local businesses

By Brent Frazier, mayor
 City of Pelican Rapids

Weekly greetings to you from the City of Pelican Rapids on this first week of May 2020. Spring is quickly moving along even though this time of the COVID-19 pandemic may not seem to be moving as fast, but we will get through it one day at a time.

Yes, it looks as if spring has arrived in our community as we see more and more of our residents out and about in the outside environment, all while practicing their social distancing. Thank you residents of Pelican Rapids! You are doing a fantastic job.

MN Governor Tim Walz recently announced that the 'Stay At Home' Order will be extended until Monday, May 18, 2020.

The Governor did also announce that beginning on May 4, retail businesses and other non-critical businesses may begin offering curbside pick-up deliv-

eries for us, the customer.

The City of Pelican Rapids Emergency Management Team continues to meet weekly, but we daily observe and monitor the COVID-19 situation and how it relates to our community.

Again, thank you for your understanding of the paying of your city utility bills in the drop box at City Hall. This is truly appreciated by City Hall staff members who continue to work from home.

Our municipal swimming pool will undergo regularly scheduled spring maintenance and is on track to open to the public this summer, if allowed by an Emergency Executive Order by MN Governor Tim Walz.

While E.L. Peterson Park and Sherin Park remain open to the public, our municipal campground and bath house in Sherin Park continue to remain closed to the public at this time until further notice.

It was unfortunate to learn that

As we all move through these difficult financial times it is of utmost importance to support our local business of our home town...without them where would we be today?

25 years ago, Jennie O bought Pelican's West Central Turkeys

Trygstad honored by FFA in 1970
 100 years ago May 6, 1920

Industrial Departments make excellent showing

The home economics and manual training departments of our high school gave a public exhibition of the work done by the pupils this year and many of the citizens of the village availed themselves of the opportunity to inspect the work. The grades also had an exhibit of work done in the class rooms which made a fine display and was highly spoken of by the observers.

The manual training exhibit was a surprise to many as most people do not realize what has been done along this line and it has to be seen to be appreciated.

The display of the sewing department was especially good, showing that the girls are getting practical knowledge in the art of needlework as well as learning how to cut out and make the various garments needed in the home. This is good practical work. They also learn how to cook in the home-economics department which is a valuable asset for any girl.

Sold out

Irish and Fredrickson, who have been operating a pool hall and bowling alley since early last fall, have sold their business to Charles Hay of Hillsboro, ND, who has taken possession.

Eddie Grey of Hillsboro came with him to assist in running the establishment.

75 years ago May 10, 1945

GERMANY SURRENDERS

The most devastating war of all time came to a close Monday forenoon at 2:41 French time or about 7:41 Sunday evening Central War Time here, when all German armed forces were told to cease hostilities.

The war had been raging in Europe for five years, eight months, and six days and was in progress for quite a time before the United States entered the conflict. This war has been the bloodiest and most costly of all wars in the history of the world. It is estimated that there have been

40,000,000 casualties on both sides in killed wounded and captured and billions of dollars have been spent and un-estimated amount of property have been spent and un-estimated amount of property has been destroyed.

Lots of clothing collected

Last week it was announced that about a ton of old, serviceable clothing had been collected in the village for the needy in the war areas. When the final check-up was made it was found that 5,858 pounds, or nearly three tons, had been contributed, which was a remarkable showing.

50 years ago May 7, 1970

Woman has unusual statistics

A familiar name appeared recently in the Wayne Lubenow column of the Fargo Forum: Mrs. Hannah Thompson.

Lubenow revealed that Mrs. Thompson was born in 1881, is 88 years old, and her name is Hannah.

"So what?" he asked.

"So all of them read the same backwards, including Hannah," Lubenow wrote. "Not only that, Hannah had 8 children — and that reads the same backwards or even upside down."

Mrs. Thompson, who lived in Pelican until recently, is now making her home with a son, Ray, at Fargo.

Student Art

Final touches for a mural to be shown at the fourth annual student art exhibit are being added on by students Julie Straight, Patti Cooper, Cindy Velo, Sheila Shulstad, Greg Bauman, Dean Engebretson, and Wesley Tweeton. The exhibit will be open to the public from 7 to 9pm., Wednesday, May 13.

Junior high students, grades 7 and 8, will show color charts, crayon designs, perspective drawings, water colors, lettering, paper mosaics, linoleum prints, paper sculpture, etc.

Senior high art students will show colored ink drawings, clay, paper mache, scratchboard, woodcut prints and model houses in addition to some of the media used by the younger artists.

Service award presented

Looking BACK

by Brenda Brand,
 Columnist



Mr. Cyrus Trygstad received the Outstanding Service Award presented by the Pelican Rapids Chapter of Future Farmers of America. Trygstad, who is a counselor at Pelican Rapids High School, was cited for his contributions to the organization.

25 years ago May 10, 1995

Jennie-O is purchasing West Central Turkeys

The official announcement came from Jim Rieth, President of Jennie-O Foods: the company is exercising its option to purchase West Central Turkeys, Inc.

At a dedication ceremony marking completion of an \$8 million expansion at West Central, Reith said the purchase should be completed by July. The company negotiated a purchase option as part of a lease agreement signed three years ago.

West Central will retain its name as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Jennie-O Foods, he told the assembled employees and officials. Jennie-O Foods is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hormel Foods, through an acquisition completed eight years ago.

On hand to help cut the ribbon were Earl Olson, founder of Jennie-O Foods, George Gorton, West Centrals board chairman, Rick Rogers, West Central's Director of Operations and Finance, Emma Ciliberti, spokesperson for plant employees, Jim Rieth, President of Jennie-O Foods and Don Hodapp, Executive Vice President of Hormel and Vice-Chairman of Jennie-O Foods.

Donation to Library

Recently Bonnie Bring of the Women's Civic Club presented a check for \$1,000 to librarian Pam Westby.

The donation will be used to cover the cost of site preparation for automation of the public library's circulation and searching system, which will replace the old card catalog. When the system is in place, patrons will be able to search for materials at other Viking library systems.

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