



*Getting to know Buc Bay residents*

# Making his mark in the Yucatan

The seeds of Chris Ross' working career were planted when he was attending high school and helping his stepdad's seed operation. His life many years later took a major change when he visited the state of Yucatan on a simple mission of delivering packets of school supplies to Mayan children.

After more than 40 years of humanitarian missions, Chris this month was recognized by Mexico as one of its top 10 international philanthropists of the year. The longtime Buccaneer Bay resident returned the first of this month one last time to accept his award from the Mexican government.

Interviewed last month at his home on Fairway Drive, Chris shared the story of growing up in rural southeast Nebraska, his long career in the seed industry and that life-altering first trip to Yucatan.

Chris was raised on a farm near the tiny unincorporated community of Wyoming in southeast Nebraska. He attended a one-room country school until eighth grade before attending school in Nebraska City. Less than two years later, his parents separated, and Chris moved with his mom to Chillicothe, Mo.

Chris' mother remarried, and that's when he was introduced to the seed business by helping his stepdad with his seed operation. He was 16 when he attended a Fourth of July picnic. That's where he met a 15-year-old girl named Terri.

After high school, he graduated from Northwest Missouri State University while continuing to court Terri. The couple wed in 1978. Chris began his working career with a seed company based out of Phillips, Neb., just east of Grand Island.

"I wanted to be in sales," Chris said. "They said, 'Well, hop in a car and find somewhere in southeast Nebraska or southwest Iowa.' So we ended up moving to Plattsmouth in a small place."

At the time, the couple were friends of Chuck and Cherie Gor-



**Chris Ross with some of the students holding the packets he brought with him from Nebraska. (Photo courtesy of Chris Ross.)**

man, who lived on Spyglass Court. On one of their visits with the Gormans, Chris and Terri saw a "for sale" sign on a home on Fairway Drive. They've lived there since 1980.

"There was a dirt road (Bay Road) leading to here," Chris said, "and there were about 50-some homes. It was really quiet, a great place for kids to grow up."

Chris and Terri raised their son and daughter here. Meanwhile, he continued working in the seed industry. His life took an unexpected turn in 1985 when he was an adult chaperone accompanying a college class trip to the Yucatan Peninsula. It was his first trip away from America.



**Over 40 years, Chris Ross has distributed more than 40,000 packets of school supplies to the Mayan children. (Photo courtesy of Chris Ross.)**

## **Visits: His first trip to the Yucatan left a lasting impression**

*Continued from Page 1*

Terri not only gave her blessing to go, she told him it would be a “once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.” As he headed there, he was thinking it would be a one-and-done visit. He left vowing to return, and for more than 40 years, he hasn’t missed many

trips back.

“We stopped at a village, and I just fell in love with the kids,” Chris said in a World-Herald story printed seven years ago. “I didn’t want to leave them. I felt there was something I could help them with.”

When he first began his annual visits, Chris would bring packets of school supplies – first around 100 packets to one village. He’d solicit local businesses for donations of notepads, pencils and other school necessities, and then he and Terri would put them into packets.

“I took care of that one school,” he said, “and I thought, ‘Well, that’s it, I’m done.’”

Before leaving, though, a teacher who spoke English took him on a tour of a couple of the primitive villages and four schools. That left a huge impression on Chris. He returned home hooked and energized.

To this day, Chris remembers being “overwhelmed” by the poverty he witnessed on that first trip and how happy the children were when he distributed the packets.

With each year, he added more schools and villages to visit, and before he knew it, Chris was up to 75 villages and 1,250 packets distributed. Eventually, the number of distributed packets skyrocketed to 3,250 a year. Of course, with that growth came a high total cost for the packets. Fundraisers helped cover a good chunk of that expense. Each school stop went quickly as the



**Chris and Terri Ross were married in 1978. She encouraged him to make his first trip to the Yucatan in 1978. (Photo courtesy of Terri Ross.)**

*See visits, Page 3*

# Visits: Chance encounter convinced him to return again

*Continued from Page 2*

students didn't speak English, just Maya.

Chris was surprised to learn that in the beginning, only about 30 percent of the students were enrolled in school. His goal was to increase that enrollment, and in just two years enrollment grew to 90 percent. But too many, he thought, weren't continuing their education beyond sixth grade. Hoping to see that happen, Chris first struck up a conversation with Bob Kerrey, with whom Chris became friends while Kerrey was Nebraska's governor.

Recalled Chris: "We were talking about it one day, and Bob said, 'Let's build libraries down there for those kids.' I said, 'Bob, they need basic school supplies. They don't have pens or paper. That's where we're really at now.' I told him we needed something beyond the sixth grade."

With Kerrey's help, Chris went through the U.S. Consulate in Mexico, which in turn introduced him to the Mexican Secretariat of Public Education. Sure enough, eventually schools began adding classrooms for seventh- through ninth-grade students.

As the years went by, students were beginning to learn Spanish, which allowed them to get jobs in town, where that was the common language.

Chris decided in 2012 he would make one final trip as it became more expensive to pay his way to the country. But while on a company trip to Puerto Vallarta the next year, he encountered a young man who recognized Chris from several trips he made to his native Yucatan. The man said he studied business in Mexico City and was fluent in seven languages. He was the manager of the hotel where Chris was staying.

"He said he thought about those packets all the time," Chris said, "and he always wanted to thank me for it."

That chance meeting got Chris to thinking about returning to the Yucatan kids one more time. But with the cost of the packets increasing, he scaled back on the number of villages to visit.

"We cut out 50 villages, which was tough," he said, "and we



**Busy as he was working on the school packets for the Mayan children, Chris and his wife, Terri, always carved out time to cheer on their Nebraska football team. (Chris Ross photo.)**

made it between 900 and 1,000 kids."

Chris was glad to see, at his urging, the building of one more new school, but he wanted to continue his work. Then came COVID-19, which caused the cost of the packets to increase even more.

The result of all those years of providing those packets – more than 47,000 total – was a marked increase in school attendance.

"The mothers went through it," he said. "Now school is important for their children."

With his years of charitable work behind him, Chris was humbled to be singled out for his work.

## Advertising is welcome

The Buccaneer Bay Newsletter is distributed to more than 400 homes, and even more eyes see it on the Buc Bay Facebook site. If you'd like to advertise, here are the monthly rates:

- Business-size card — \$2.00
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New advertisements/business cards should be emailed (as a jpeg) to John Fey at: [jmfey1952@gmail.com](mailto:jmfey1952@gmail.com)

## Buccaneer Bay Newsletter

The Buccaneer Bay Newsletter is produced monthly for residents of Buccaneer Bay's Sanitary Improvement District No. 5.

- Editor/Publisher ..... John Fey
- Designer/Creative Director ..... Gerry Fey
- Copy Editor ..... Shirley Fey
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**To contact the editor or contribute stories, photos or comments email: [jmfey1952@gmail.com](mailto:jmfey1952@gmail.com).**

# He stays, plays and volunteers

For the past nine years, Buc Bay resident Mike Buchman has served as the volunteer coordinator for Omaha's Pinnacle Bank Championship, one of the top summer stops on the PGA's Korn Ferry Tour. Last month, he was playing the volunteer role at the PGA's American Express tournament held in Palm Springs, California.

Mike's job was to keep the gallery quiet on La Quinta Country Club's fourth green and fifth tee box.

"It was easy duty," he said by phone from the condo he rented near Palm Springs. "At the Pinnacle Bank, I'm running around in a cart, I've got a PGA walkie-talkie and a tournament walkie-talkie, so I have to take care of everything that's going on. Here I was just a volunteer."

Homes lined the edge of the course, so part of Mike's job was to keep residents and their guests from coming onto the course without a ticket. Like the other volunteers, he also was charged with keeping the spectator noise down.

For the first three days of the tournament, players rotated between Mike's course, the Pete Dye Stadium course and the PGA West Nicklaus course. Sunday's final round was held at the Dye course, giving Mike a chance to turn from volunteer to spectator.

"I saw everyone who played in the tournament," he said.

During his three-day volunteer gig, Mike was able to converse with the professionals while they were waiting to tee off.

"It was something we weren't supposed to do, but I don't think it was an issue," Mike said. "I told David Skinns what a legend he was in Omaha, because he won our tournament twice (2018 and 2021). He had a different caddie than he did when he played in Omaha."

Mike remembered last year's tournament when Skinns didn't make the cut in Omaha.

"One day I came to the volunteer area and was looking for somebody to help me out," Mike said. "A guy jumped into my cart and said, 'I'll help you out.' It was David Skinns' caddie. David had gone home, and the guy was stuck in Omaha for the weekend. He said he had nothing else to do."

Matt McCarty was another pro who took time to chat with Mike.

"He raved about Omaha and our tournament," Mike said. "He told me our course in Omaha was his favorite. He was amazed that (Indian Creek) was a public course."

Mike noted that the PGA galleries were relatively small.

"The biggest crowd we had at La Quinta was when Justin Thomas and Jason Day were playing together," he said. "We had bigger crowds at the Omaha tournament than they had at



**Mike Buchman worked the Jan. 16-19 American Express golf tournament in Palm Springs. He spent the first three days at the La Quinta Country Club course, one of three sites for the PGA tournament.**

the La Quinta course."

Two weeks before the tournament, Mike was able to play the Dye course.

"I hit an approach shot on the 16th hole and I thought it rolled all the way to the back of the green," he said. "I walked up there, and it was 17 feet straight down. I had to chip from the bottom."

He was amazed at the speed of the greens.

"It was like putting on a tile floor," Mike said. "They're nothing like (Bay Hills). You just had to tap it on a line in the right direction."

Mike said he and the other volunteers were treated well by tournament officials.

"We'd show up in the morning, and they had scrambled eggs, and potatoes and all kinds of doughnuts and fruit," he said. "They brought lunch out while you were on the course. And afterwards they put on a happy hour with an open bar."

Volunteers, as part of the fee they paid, received official golf shirts. Mike bought two extras so he'd have a clean one each of the three days he worked. So you'll likely see him wearing one this summer while playing Bay Hills.

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# Kat's Book Nook opens for swapping



There's a new place to swap books on Buccaneer Boulevard. Kat's Book Nook opened last month. It was the brainchild of Kathy and Todd Bruner.

"I'm very excited to launch Kat's Book Nook!" Kathy wrote on her Facebook page. "I've received much positive feedback. This is a first for me, so it's very rewarding to see the interest and participation. We saw a boy on his bicycle at the Nook. This really put a smile on my face. Feel free to place your books in the nook. If there's not enough space, you can place them on front porch, and I will cycle them in."

The Bruners' home is on the north side of the Boulevard, across from the golf course parking lot. (Photo courtesy of Kathy Bruner.)

## Fire prevention tips relevant here in Buccaneer Bay

**Editor's note: One of our concerned residents, noting the fires that devastated California, offers some advice for those of us who might be closer to combustible materials than others.**

As Smoky the Bear says, "Only You Can Prevent Forest Fires." For many of us living out here with the forest right behind us, we are particularly at risk of a forest fire that could destroy our home and those of our neighbors. While there are many events that could trigger such a fire, perhaps the greatest risk is a fire starting in one of our homes. If the wind is blowing, as it often does out here, a house fire could quickly spread into our forest. When seconds count, our help is several minutes away. The best prevention is to do three things:

1. Create a defensible space between your house/decks and the woods of as much as 100 feet or more where there are minimal inflammable materials and any trees are properly trimmed and maintained, leaves and dead wood and brush removed.
2. Harden your home, inside and out, to remove any hazards that could cause a house fire. There are many fire prevention checklists available online to help you recognize any problem areas in your home.

3. Remain watchful within your range of vision of the woods, watching for indications of fire dangers, kids playing with fireworks or even taking a look-see if you hear a bolt of lightning striking nearby during a storm. The sooner it is reported, the better our chances of prevention.

Wildfires affect everyone in a community. They can spread fast and jeopardize our homes, families and pets. It has been calculated that from all most probable causes, there is a 77 percent probability a disastrous wildfire could happen, but the good news is that we can take action to prepare for and prevent such a fire in our forest. Like the Boy Scouts motto says, "Be prepared."



# Dry weather can pose a fire risk



**John Fey**

January's weather turned out to be good news, not-so-good news. For people like us who pay HOA dues for snow removal, we got a nice reprieve. Of course, there's plenty of winter left, and we know Nebraska can get some dandy February and March snow events.

January wasn't the lone month of lower-than-normal precipitation. One recent television news report said since October, the Omaha area hit a record low for rain and snow. That's cause for concern on more than one level.

To start, a lack of rain/snow isn't good for trees and lawns. But a bigger concern applies to residents who have woods near their property — and that includes a lot of folks up on the hill. As you'll note on Page 6 of this month's newsletter, one of our residents offers some easy tips that can help prevent disaster. While we may not have the extensive forest of California, there's lots of combustible brush in our community.

I remember helping with last year's neighborhood cleanup day when I walked up Treasure Island Road picking up trash, mostly cigarette butts — dozens of them. If tossed far enough to land in a pile of brush, a cigarette butt could spark a fire. Please be mindful of that during these dry periods. Your neighbors will thank you.

\* \* \*

There are quite a bit of Kansas City Chiefs fans in Buc Bay land, including us at Fey Manor, and it was another exciting game for the team that kept things interesting with almost every outing this season. The NFC title game with visiting Buffalo was another nail-biter that had more than its share of close officiating calls.

Those of us who follow officiating closer than others knew before the game that Omaha's own Clete Blakeman was the lead referee for the Chiefs game. There had been talk on social media all season how the calls always seemed to go Kansas City's way. After the game that sent the Chiefs to their third straight Super Bowl, the howling by non-Chiefs fans appeared on several Facebook posts.

Officiating sports isn't easy, especially at the super-fast pace of most professional events. I umpired baseball for about 20 years, and that was easy compared to football, basketball or hockey. As an official, you do the best you can, but any close call is going to please half the fans and upset the other half. More than a couple of the Kansas City game calls needed to be reviewed.

Are the conspiracy theory folks right about Kansas City getting help from the officials? I'm sure I'm not alone in thinking it

may appear that way, but that's simply not the case. Officials in all professional sports get evaluated, and only the best are selected for the postseason. Of course, that won't stop those who swear the fix is in for some teams, especially the one who happens to have arguably the league's best quarterback.

So if you plan on watching Super Bowl LIX, expect more close plays when the Chiefs take on Philadelphia in search of a record third-straight world championship.

\* \* \*

We have more than our fair share of Nebraska football fans here, and last month came the sad news that standout running back from the 1990s, Calvin Jones, died in his Omaha home from apparent carbon monoxide poisoning. After rushing for 3,166 yards during his NU career (1990-93), Jones played on the Green Bay Packers Super Bowl XXXI championship team.

Jones was highly recruited out of Central High School, which was known as "I-back high." His death caused me to reflect on the year our oldest son Gerry ran track for Westside against Jones in a district meet held at Burke High.

After getting cut from the baseball team, Gerry went out for track and found himself entered in the 200-meter relay. I was watching near the start line, and there from the World-Herald was photographer Rudy Smith.

Next to Gerry was Jones, and I asked Rudy to photograph them before Jones left Gerry in a cloud of dust. And that's just what happened. I often joked that our son became the first runner to get lapped in the 200-meter dash.

After graduating from Westside, Gerry attended Kansas University, and we were there for the KU-NU games. We'll always remember the 1991 game in Lawrence when Jones ran for 294 yards as the Huskers won 59-23.

I had forgotten that after his NFL career ended he played one season for the Omaha Beef in 2000. That was when I began covering the team for the paper. Back then, the Beef drew large crowds at the Civic Auditorium.



**Our son Gerry, left, "explodes" out of the box in the 200-meter dash. To his left is Calvin Jones.**

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**Trip Details:** December 8-16, 2025 - 9 Days - 11 Meals  
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**Includes:** RT Airfare, Taxes, Fees, Hotel & Transfers  
**HIGHLIGHTS...** Venice, Gondola Ride, Classical Music Concert, Ravenna, Republic of San Marino, Winery Tour & Cooking Class, Florence, Orvieto, Rome, Trastevere Food Tour Dinner



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**Trip Details:** August 17-27, 2025 - 11 Days - 14 Meals  
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**Deposit:** \$698 Secures spot, Final Payment due May 19, 2025  
**Includes:** RT Airfare, Taxes, Fees, Hotel & Transfers  
**HIGHLIGHTS...** Glasgow, Sheepdog Demonstration, Scottish Highlands, Loch Melfort, Oban, Isle of Mull, Isle of Iona, Urquhart Castle, Moray Firth Cruise, Culloden, Blair Castle, Impact Moment, Whisky Tasting, Edinburgh Castle

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# Buccaneer Bay Market Minute!


January 1, 2025 - Jan. 30, 2025

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|---------------|------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sold/Pending  | 5                | 95                     | \$338,000                  |

Current Homes For Sale - January 2025

| Address                 | List Price |
|-------------------------|------------|
| *2602 Fountain Circle   | \$355,000  |
| *4120 Buccaneer Blvd.   | \$450,000  |
| *3018 Davy Jones Circle | \$525,000  |



The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. 

Helen Keller



\* Denotes Properties listed by other Real Estate Agencies & For Sale By Owner.

"If you have a brokerage relationship with another agency, this is not intended as a solicitation."

Statistical information from Great Plains REALTORS® Multiple Listing Service & Cass County. Information has not been verified, and is subject to change.

# Cass County Museum growing

**Editor's note: Wife Shirley and I made our first visit to the Cass County Historical Society Museum, which is just up the hill at the west end of downtown Plattsmouth. The information from this report came from Margo Prentiss, who took over as curator in November 1996. — John Fey**

Founded in 1936, the Historical Society first had exhibition space in the courthouse. In 1959, on land donated by Thomas Pollock and with a bequest from A.L. Tidd, the society began construction of the current museum in the fall of 1959.

The museum opened in September 1960. The conference room was added in 1968 and renovated in 1986. The farm building was added in 1976 and the shed in 1980.

The Society also owns the Cook log cabin, Burlington caboose and a replica of Lewis and Clark's pirogue that are on view at the

end of Main Street and Rock Bluffs School about 10 miles south of town. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 4 p.m. The other buildings are open for special events or by appointment.

Exhibits are changed approximately every quarter. In 2024, around 2,300 visited the museum. Besides Nebraska, they came from 23 states and three foreign countries (England, Japan and Germany).

The Historical Foundation in 2023 launched a fundraising drive for a new extension. Donations to the building fund, which are tax-deductible, can be made payable to the Cass County Historical Society Foundation and mailed to 646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE 68048.

The museum is looking for someone to assume the duties of Volunteer Coordinator. If interested, call 402-296-4770.



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# A picturesque January morning



January, as is often the case here, provided us with sensational sunrises. This was captured by Kathy Bruner.

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# January invasion of the golf course



Last month's warm weather brought the geese away from Sailboat Lake to search for food on the 10th fairway.

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This months quiz: Nebraska covers 77,358 square miles. Where does that place it among all 48 contiguous states? A) 41st. B) 29th. C) 16th. D) ninth. Answer on Page 20 (above the Edward Jones ad).

## This month in history

» **Feb. 1, 2003** — The Space Shuttle Columbia breaks apart in flight over west Texas.

» **Feb. 3, 1913** — The 16th Amendment to the Constitution authorizes income tax collection.

» **Feb. 8, 1910** — The Boy Scouts of America is founded by William Boyce in Washington, D.C.

» **Feb. 14, 1929** — The St. Valentine's Day massacres takes place in Chicago.

» **Feb. 21, 1994** — CIA agent Aldrich Ames is arrested on spy charges on Russia from 1985-91.

» **Feb. 23, 1991** — In Desert Storm, the Allied ground offensive begins.

» **Feb. 24, 1867** — The House of Representatives votes to impeach President Andrew Johnson.

» **Feb. 27, 1950** — The 22nd Amendment is ratified, limiting the president to two terms or a maximum of 10 years in office.

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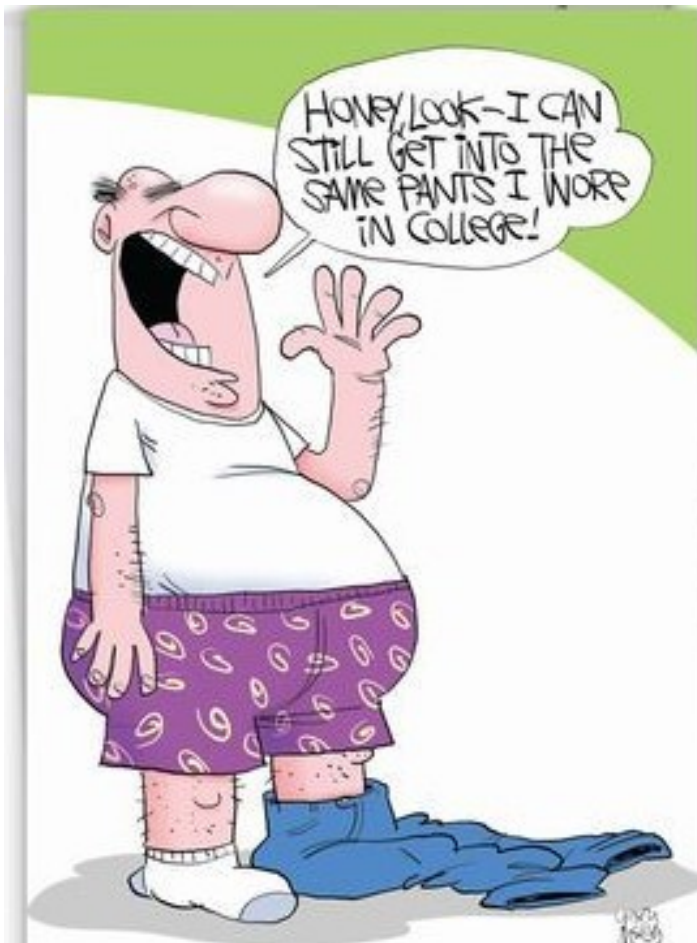


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# Your dose of February funnies



**HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY  
TO ALL THOSE IN BUC BAY!**

# Pancake feed benefits baseball team



There was a steady stream of donors at the Jan. 11 pancake feed hosted by Plattsmouth Post 56 held at the VFW Club. Members of the Legion baseball team served pancakes and bacon.

# Gretna Sanitation pickup for first half of 2025

| Day | Date   | 2025 Service      | Notes           |
|-----|--------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Thu | 2-Jan  | Trash Only        | (Delay Jan 1st) |
| Wed | 8-Jan  | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 15-Jan | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 22-Jan | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 29-Jan | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 5-Feb  | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 12-Feb | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 19-Feb | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 26-Feb | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 5-Mar  | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 12-Mar | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 19-Mar | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 26-Mar | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 2-Apr  | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 9-Apr  | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 16-Apr | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 23-Apr | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 30-Apr | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 7-May  | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 14-May | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 21-May | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Thu | 29-May | Trash & Recycling | (Delay Mem Day) |
| Wed | 4-Jun  | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 11-Jun | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 18-Jun | Trash Only        | (Delay none)    |
| Wed | 25-Jun | Trash & Recycling | (Delay none)    |

## How to Recycle Right

Yes - In the Bin

**Plastics:**

- ✓ Food & Beverage Containers
- ✓ Detergent & Shampoo Bottles
- ✓ Hard Plastic Take-Out Containers
- ✓ Spray & Pump Bottles

**Paper:**

- ✓ Newspaper & Inserts
- ✓ Magazines & Brochures
- ✓ Paperback Books
- ✓ Envelopes
- ✓ Shipping boxes
- ✓ Egg Cartons
- ✓ Cereal Boxes
- ✓ Milk & Juice Cartons

**Cans:**

- ✓ Aluminum Cans
- ✓ Steel Cans

No - Skip The Bin

- ✗ Film plastics / bags
- ✗ Styrofoam
- ✗ Straws
- ✗ Cassette Tapes / VHS
- ✗ Wet / Soiled Paper
- ✗ Paper Towels
- ✗ Tissues or Napkins
- ✗ Waxed paper items
- ✗ Electronics / Scrap

**In the Hefty® EnergyBag®**

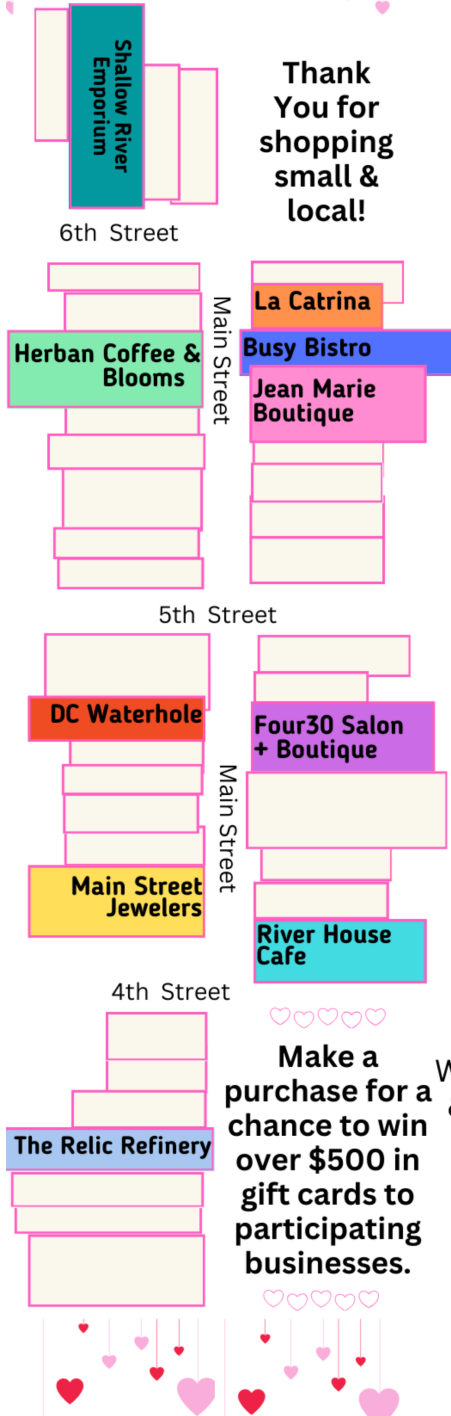
- ✓ Soft flexible plastics
- ✓ Straws and stirrers
- ✓ Juice Pouches
- ✓ Plastic cutlery, bowls, plates
- ✓ Snack & chip bags
- ✓ Candy wrappers
- ✓ Foam "to-go" containers
- ✓ Cake mix and cereal box liners

*Tie full bags shut and place out in your normal recycling*



# GALENTINE'S DAY

## block party



Thank You for shopping small & local!

### The Relic Refinery

Refurbished & upcycled antiques  
Pop-up shopping featuring handcrafted small businesses.

### Main Street Jewelers

Custom Fine Jewelry | Gifts  
Home Decor | Kitchenware

### DC Waterhole

Great drinks at good prices.  
Family owned for 44 years!

### Herban Coffee & Blooms

Handcrafted Coffee | Full Service  
Flower Shop | Plants | Bakery | Bistro

### Shallow River Emporium

Vintage | Rustics | Antiques  
Upcycles | Handcrafted | Uniques

### La Catrina Mexican Grill

Full service mexican resturant  
serving truly authentic dishes,  
margaritas & more!

### Busy Bistro

Family owned cozy bistro serving  
breakfast & lunch.

### Jean Marie Boutique

Women's Clothing | Shoes | Handbags  
& Accessories | Sizes Small up to 3X

### Four 30 Salon + Boutique

Full Service Salon | Hair Care  
Women's Clothing & Accessories

### River House Cafe

Soups | Salads | Sandwiches  
An old fashioned soda fountain!

Make a purchase for a chance to win over \$500 in gift cards to participating businesses.

**WHEN:**

**FEB 8, 2025**

**WHERE:**

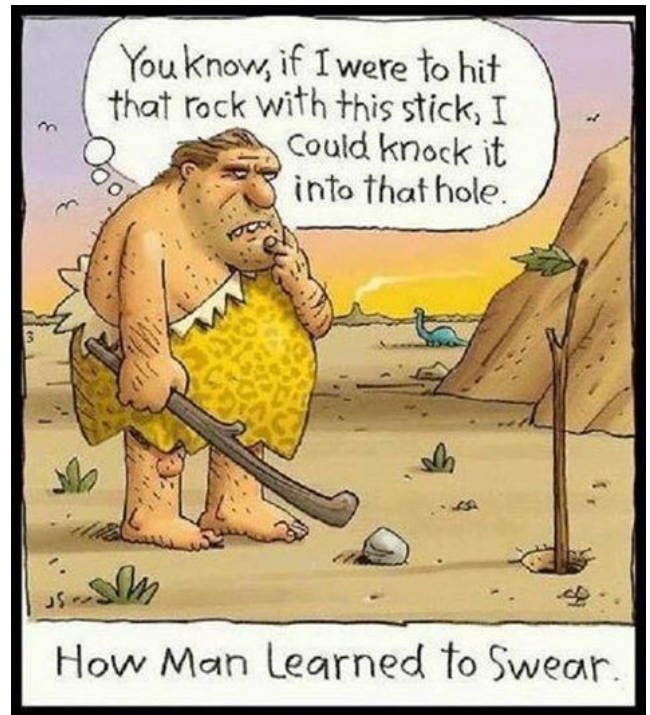
**PLATTSMOUTH  
SHOP HOP**

**OVER \$500**

**IN GIFT CARD  
GIVEAWAYS!**



# More February chuckles



## Old Sayings & Where They Came From

Review some old and well-known sayings that we have learned to live by. Are they a help or a hindrance?

**Keyword:** Sayings • \$10

**February 13, 2025** | Noon-1 p.m.



## Free Land!

The Homestead Act opened land in the Nebraska Territory in 1862. Discover the Martin family who claimed land near Hastings, and their experiences in this revolutionary concept.

**Keyword:** Land • \$10

**February 27, 2025** | Noon-1 p.m.



## Life After Retirement

It's not everything you expect and sometimes more! Learn what to live through, laugh at and love after retirement.

**Keyword:** Retirement • \$10

**March 13, 2025** | Noon-1 p.m.

Come see us today at 537 Main St., call 402-437-2700 or visit [southeast.edu/PlattsmouthLC](http://southeast.edu/PlattsmouthLC)

▶ Register today!



**S** Southeast Community College  
LEARNING CENTER AT PLATTSMOUTH

The first one-hour lesson is Free (All Ages)

402-804-6455

Call us today!



**Relaxation:** Playing the classical can be a meditative experience, offering a calming effect that helps reduce stress and anxiety.

**Emotional Outlet:** Music provides a healthy emotional outlet, allowing individuals to express feelings and emotions through their instrument, improving their emotional well-being.

**Mindfulness and Focus:** Concentrating on playing the guitar helps divert attention from daily stressors, promoting mindfulness and enhancing focus. <https://www.unclebobguitarlessons.com>

## They were born this month

- » Michael Jordan — born 2/17/1963
- » Abraham Lincoln — born 2/12/1809; died 4/15/1865
- » Steve Jobs — born 2/24/1955; died 10/5/2011
- » Jennifer Aniston — born 2/11/1969
- » George Washington — born 2/22/1732; died 12/14/1799
- » Kurt Cobain — born 2/20/1967; died 4/5/1994
- » Johnny Cash — born 2/26/1932; died 9/12/2003
- » Thomas Edison — born 2/11/1847; died 10/18/1931
- » Steve Irwin — born 2/22/1962; 9/4/2006
- » Ronald Reagan — born 2/6/1911; died 6/5/2004
- » Floyd Mayweather Jr. — born 2/24/1977
- » George Harrison — born 2/25/1943; died 11/29/2001
- » Babe Ruth — born 2/6/1895; died 8/16/1948
- » Ashton Kutcher — born 2/7/1978

Quiz answer: C.



Kitchen open Tuesday – Friday

Dine in or Carry out

402-298-8191

**Tuesday:** Taco Tuesday, Special menu only 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.

**Wednesday:** Burger Special, regular menu also available 5 – 8 p.m.

**Thursday:** Broasted Chicken and Country Fried Steak special, regular menu also available 5 – 8 p.m.

**Friday:** Prime Rib Special, regular menu also available 5 – 8 p.m.

# Edward Jones<sup>®</sup>

## You can't predict the future, so plan for it.



**Brad Ksiazek, AAMS<sup>™</sup>**  
Financial Advisor

2380 West 8th Avenue, Suite 5  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048  
402-296-0515

MKT-5894M-A

> [edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com)  
Member SIPC

**CAPTAINS BUCCANEER BAY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BLOCK**

Last Updated – May 1, 2024

| <b>Block Captain #</b> | <b>Block Captain Name</b>  | <b>Block Captain Territory</b>  |
|------------------------|--|---|
| 1                      | Chris Crisman 402-699-8338                                       | Treasure Island Rd. from Cape Horn Cir. To end of road., 27 homes                   |
| 2                      | Mary Moneke 402-298-8055   | Cape Horn Cir. 26 homes   |
| 3                      | <b>VACANT</b>  | <b>Captain Morgan Ct. 10 homes</b>  |
| 5                      | AJ Poppleton 402-706-5459  | Front half of Buccaneer Blvd. up to Ewel Ct. 3501-3617 – 10 houses                  |
| 6                      | Jeff Groshans 720-644-7418                                       | Buccaneer Blvd. 3811 – 3911, 11 houses  |
| 7                      | Jennifer Sommer 402-889-1918                                     | Buccaneer Blvd. 3706 – 3810, 10 Houses  |
| 8                      | <b>VACANT</b>  | <b>Buccaneer Blvd. 3920 – 4016 – 15 houses</b>                                      |
| 9                      | Debbie Meyer   | Sterling Ct. – 23 houses  |
| 10                     | <b>VACANT</b>  | <b>Davy Jones Cir. &amp; Davy Jones Dr. – 25 houses</b>                             |
| 11                     | Linda Goodman 402-917-2914                                       | Rainey Cir. – 11 houses   |
| 12                     | Patty Weirauch 402-298-7325                                      | Fairway Cir. – 10 houses  |
| 13                     | Cheryl Myers 402-296-6924  | Becker Ct. – 9 homes  |
| 14                     | Carol Kellison 402-296-0282                                      | 19309 – 19413 Spyglass Ct. 22 houses  |
| 15                     | <b>VACANT</b>  | <b>19225 – Spyglass Ct. – 11 houses<br/>Cypress Ct., 6 homes (17 total homes)</b>   |
| 16                     | Sheila Nelson 402-297-4101                                       | 19201 – 19223 Spyglass Ct. – 16 houses  |
| 17                     | Rita Offutt  | Ridgeway Rd. – 46 homes, Blk 15 Lots 7-35   |
| 18                     | Cheryl Myers   | Ewel Ct. – 16 homes   |
| 19&20                  | Jill Bobenhouse Tesar 402-298-7171<br>Kayla Graff & Teresa Dilts | Townhomes on Sailboat Lake - 36 houses<br>Homes on Sailboat Lake, Blk 27, 32 houses |
| 21                     | Renie Kula 402-296-5239  | Buccaneer Blvd. 4018-4109 – 16 houses   |
| 22                     | <b>VACANT</b>  | <b>Buccaneer Blvd. 4113 -4130 - 17 lots</b>   |
| 23                     | Agness Lenaugh 531-205-7797                                      | 4320 – 4416 Windward Dr.<br>708 – 714 Windward Ct. – 14 houses                      |
| 24                     | Barbara Hamlin 402-298-9911                                      | 3501-3618 Fairway Dr. – 17 lots   |
| 25                     | Lauri Deseck 402-672-9866  | 4211 – 4319 Windward Dr – 48 homes  |
| 26                     | Jeanne Thompson 402-216-4287                                     | 3224 – 3335 – Fairway Dr. 17 lots   |
| 27                     | John Fey 402-250-6574  | 2833 – 3043 – 14 Townhomes  |
| 27.5                   | John Fey   | Lakeside Dr. – 1 home, 2 Townhomes  |
| 30                     | Todd Clark 402-926-1737  | 4420-4432 Windward Dr.<br>819-841 Wedgwood Ct. – 20 homes                           |
| 31                     | Judy Link 402-298-8750   | 21034 Treasure Island Rd. – End 6 homes   |
| Lead Coordinators      | Jill Bobenhouse Tesar, John Fey                                  | Fill in vacancies, schedule meetings as needed, liaison to Sheriff's Office         |

# Contact information for SID No. 5 Board

| <u>Board Member</u>    | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Email</u>                        | <u>Committee – Primary</u> |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Kurt Meisinger (Chair) | 402-297-4365 | kurt.meisinger@buccaneerbay-ne.org  | Finance                    |
| David Martin (Clerk)   | 402-578-7147 | david.martin@buccaneerbay-ne.org    | Utilities                  |
| Frank Gorhau           | 402-880-2960 | frank.gorhau@buccaneerbay-ne.org    |                            |
| Jennifer Sommer        | 402-889-1918 | jennifer.sommer@buccaneerbay-ne.org | Grounds/Recreation         |
| John Bolton            | 402-676-1854 | john.bolton@buccaneerbay-ne.org     | Roads                      |

Please feel free to contact any board member with your problem using the contact information from above but please give board members at least 24 hours to respond. Most of the board members have full time jobs and are subject to business trips, meetings, etc. If your concern or problem is of an emergency nature you may try to contact one of the other board members.

You can also contact a board member via regular mail via the SID #5 address at:

SID #5 Board of Trustees  
19457 Treasure Island Rd.  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

**Text message alerts:** Would you like to receive alerts and notifications related to SID infrastructure such as a water main break, road closure or hydrant flushing via text message? Click this link to find out: [Alerts and Notifications via Text Message – Buccaneer Bay – SID #5 \(buccaneerbay-ne.org\)](https://buccaneerbay-ne.org/alerts-notifications-via-text-message)

**To view the most-recent meeting minutes and find out future meeting dates, click on this link (it's under the tab at the top that says communication):**

<https://buccaneerbay-ne.org/>

## Cass County Historical Society information and news

**Cass County Historical Society Museum**  
646 Main Street, Plattsmouth, NE

**Winter Hours – November–March:**  
Tuesday-Saturday – Noon-4 p.m.

**Summer Hours – April–October:**  
Tuesday-Sunday – Noon-4 p.m.

Closed Sundays and Mondays

**Admission:** \$2.50 for adults, free for museum members and children under age 12.

Website: [casscountynemuseum.org](http://casscountynemuseum.org)

**Mission Statement:** The Cass County Historical Society shall collect, preserve, and study materials to document, interpret and present the history of Cass County Nebraska to the public.



### 2024 Board of Directors

**President**

Roger Wehrbein, Plattsmouth

**Vice President**

Roger Behrns, Louisville

**Secretary**

Pat Meisinger, Plattsmouth

**Treasurer**

Alicia Garbers, Plattsmouth

**Board Members:** Sandra Allgeier, Plattsmouth; Judy Attebery, Murray; George Eledge, Plattsmouth; Jim Elworth, Nebraska City; Lanny Glup, Plattsmouth; Lisa Grotrian, Plattsmouth; Del Hervey, Plattsmouth; Julie Schmale, Murdock.

*The board usually meets the fourth Tuesday of the month.*

**Cass County Historical Society Foundation:** Dave Pankonin, President; Pat Meisinger, Secretary; Leigh Jean Koinzan, Treasurer; Mel Luetchens, Board Member; Roger Wehrbein, Board Member; Bruce Wiles, Board Member.



**What did one pig say to the other?**

**“Don’t go bacon my heart.”**

## SID#5 Covenants – Architectural Control

**The Buccaneer Bay Architectural Control process of reviewing requests for changes on your property is now being managed by Teresa Dilts and Kayla Graff. They will be working with Mike Jensen, Cass County Zoning Administrator.**

There are 8 sets of Covenants for Buccaneer Bay. It seems like every time a new section of Buccaneer Bay opened up another set of covenants was made. I try to make sure that every resident in Buccaneer Bay gets a copy of the covenants that is for their section of the neighborhood. Some realtors will provide a copy of the covenants to the buyer, but I don't think all of them do. Most of the covenants have some sort of termination clause.

All sets of covenants are filed at the Register of Deeds office at the Court House. Not all of the covenants have the same number of years that the covenants are in force.

**HILLS COVENANTS** in the second section titled: **“AMENDED DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS”**, which covers the following: These covenants shall run with the land and be binding upon the current and future Owners of all Lots in Blocks One (1) through Six (6), inclusive; all Lots in Blocks Fifteen (15) through Twenty (20), inclusive; Lots one (1) through Five (5) in Block Seven (7), and; Lot Ten (10) in Block Fourteen (14), all in Buccaneer Bay, a subdivision as surveyed, platted and recorded in Cass County, Nebraska, until the year 2029, together with any Lots created by a replat of these Lots, and shall be continued for successive periods of twenty-five (25) years unless sooner modified or terminated in writing by seventy-five percent (75%) or more of the then record owners of the Properties, with one vote per Lot.

**BAY LAKE COVENANTS** in the second section titled: **“AMENDED DECLARATION OF COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS”**, which covers the following Blocks: Block 21, 22, 23, 24, and 26 until the year 2000, at which time the covenants shall be extended for **successive terms** of 25 years, which should make them good until 2025.

**Block 31 in Buccaneer Bay** includes Windward Dr. and all side streets in this section, approved in September 2008 for term of 25 years, which would then expire in 2033.

**Blk 28 Lots 8A/B, Lots 9A/B, and Lot 10** on Lakeside Dr. These first 2 townhomes and one house are under the original covenants for Lakeside Dr. approved May 18, 2005 for a term of 25 years, which should terminate in 2030.

**Blk 28, Lots 1A – 24B, minus Lots 8A/B, 9A/B and Lot 10** on Lakeside Dr. as described in the Covenants from Lone Tree Holdings. Approved May 18, 2017 for a term of 30 years, which would terminate in 2047.

**Bucc Bay 1<sup>st</sup> Edition – Lots 1R – 39R – Davy Jones Dr. and Davy Jones Cir.** Filed February 14, 1996 for a term of 25 years. **These Covenants have expired.**

**Blk 29 Lots 1-26 Fairway Cir., Blk 30 Lots 1-6 – Fairway Dr.** – Covenants and restrictions shall run with and bind the land and for a term of twenty-five years. Filed May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2005, which would expire in 2030.

**Blk 27 Lots 1A – 20B, and Lots 21 – 62 – Sailboat Lake** – The Covenants and restrictions shall run with and bind the land for a term of 25 years. Filed December 23, 1996, the Covenants have been renewed.

***Residents under the covenants that will be expiring can be renewed by having residents who want to have the covenants continue review and update them. Each set of covenants has a specification of how many signatures are required to approve the revised covenants. It has been done, but it takes a lot of work. Once the covenants are out of date, that section of residents will no longer have to follow any restrictions for their section.***

***Note: The process below may be modified as the Newsletter and Welcome Packages are being updated.***

*Each time a new resident moves in they receive a Welcome Package that has a copy of the covenants for their location. The information on new residents come in an email from Peoples Service. Jill Bobenhouse-Teaser will take on putting the Welcome Packages together and provide the packages to the appropriate Block Captain so the new resident can fill out a Data Sheet to be sent to one of the members taking over for Janet. The changes will require the new information to be added to the Buccaneer Bay Phone Directory, if the new resident approves, and update the Block Captains list as residents move in and out.*

# Helpful Phone Numbers

## Board of Trustees S.I.D. #5

*Elections held in even numbered years.*

Kurt Meisinger — 402-297-4365  
 Frank Gorhau — 402-880-2960  
 John Bolton — 402-676-1854  
 Jennifer Sommer — 402-889-1918  
 David Martin — 402-578-7147

## SID Fiscal Agent

Ameritas Inv. Corp. 402-384-8433

## Water/Waste Water Maint.

PeopleService Inc.  
 402-932-8143  
 888-527-9853

Contact for water or sewer issues.  
 24 hour Emergency# 888-861-1921

## Monthly Water Billing Rates

Sewer \$17.00 + tax monthly flat fee  
 Waste Water Treatment Plant Debt  
 Reduction — \$16.00 a month  
 Water base fee up to 5,000 gallons — \$17.00  
 Additional fees beyond 5,000:  
 5,001 — 10,000: \$3.80  
 10,001 — 20,000: \$4.65  
 Over 20,001 — \$5.30

## Architectural Control Committee

Neighborhood Watch/Block Captains

Kayla Graff and Teresa Dilts are the  
 new ACC leaders. The general number  
 for ACC submissions is 402-813-5295.  
 Teresa can be reached at 402-680-  
 1631.

## Plattsmouth Schools

St. John School 296-6230  
 First Baptist 296-5489  
 Plattsmouth High School 296-3322  
 Plattsmouth Middle School 296-3174  
 Plattsmouth Elem. School 296-4173  
 Superintendent's Office 296-3361  
 Head Start 296-5250

First Students Bus Service 296-5624

## Bad Weather

The school district will notify the  
 following radio and TV stations with  
 school closing information:

KFAB (AM 1110)  
 WOW (FM 94.1)  
 The River (FM 89.7)  
 KMTV (TV Channel 3)  
 WOWT (TV Channel 6)  
 KETV (TV Channel 7)  
 KPTM (TV Channel 42)

## Local News

Cassgram — Free at Local Businesses  
 Contact Steve Warga via E-mail:  
[Cassgram@windstream.net](mailto:Cassgram@windstream.net)  
[www.cassgramonline.com](http://www.cassgramonline.com)

Omaha World Herald — 444-1000  
 Daily Delivery

## Buccaneer Bay Newsletter

John Fey — 402-250-6574  
[jmfey1952@gmail.com](mailto:jmfey1952@gmail.com)

## Other Numbers

Emergency 911  
 Cass County Sheriff — 402-296-9370

Neighborhood Watch Lead Coordinators  
 Jennifer Sommer, Jill Bobenhouse Tesar

Bay Hills Golf Course — 402-298-8191

COX — 402-933-3000  
 Windstream — 800-501-1754

Future Technologies (Internet)  
 — 402-933-2877

Spiral (Internet) — 712-800-1100

Black Hills Energy — 888-890-5554  
 Emergency — 800-694-8989

**OPPD Electric — 877-536-4131**  
**Outages — 800-554-6773**

Trash Pickup:

**Gretna Sanitation — 402-332-4701**

Plattsmouth Post Office — 296-2152

Union Pacific RR — 800-848-8715  
 Burlington Northern — 800-832-5452  
 Public Service Comm. — 471-3101

## Architectural Control for Blk 27 Sailboat Lake

Sailboat Lake Board/Architectural Control

## Buccaneer Bay Web Site

[www.buccaneerbay-ne.org](http://www.buccaneerbay-ne.org)

Provides various information on the  
 Sanitary Improvement District.





## WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT?

| FUNCTION  | WHO IS RESPONSIBLE                                | COMMENTS   |
|---|---|--|
| <u>ANIMAL CONTROL</u>                             | <u>Property Owner/Resident</u>                    | The county does not have an Animal Control unit. In 2008 the Nebraska State Legislature passed a new law that the county is responsible for capturing dangerous animals. Cass County has not created an Animal Control Officer, so it is up to the Sheriff's department. The Sheriff will come out on dangerous animal calls. If someone has been bitten they will try to trap the animal. |
| <u>COMMERCIAL PROPERTY</u>                        | <u>Other</u>                                      | Governed by County and State Laws. Lot must be zoned appropriately.  |
| <u>ELECTRICITY</u>                                | <u>OPPD</u>                                       | OPPD – 234-2455 Outages – 800-554-6773   |
| <u>ENFORCEMENT OF COVENANTS</u>                   | <u>Property Owners</u>                            | The original developer of a neighborhood, to help protect the community, establishes covenants. Buccaneer Bay has 7 sets of covenants: Davy Jones, Sailboat Lake, Bay Lake, Hills, Blk 28, Blks 29&30, and Blk 31. The SID is not involved with enforcing protective covenants.  |
| <u>FIRE/RESCUE</u>                                | <u>Plattsmouth Volunteer Fire &amp; Ambulance</u> | Plattsmouth Volunteer Emergency/Fire - 911   |
| <u>LAW ENFORCEMENT</u>                            | <u>Cass County</u>                                | Cass County Sheriff's Department 911 or 296-9360   |
| <u>MAIL</u>                                       | <u>Plattsmouth Post Office</u>                    | It is up to the post office to determine if you can install a mailbox in front of your home or if you will be assigned to a cluster box – 296-2152.  |
| <u>MOWING</u>                                     | <u>SID/Resident</u>                               | SID property only – including maintenance of the front island<br>Resident – responsible for owned lot and right-of-way   |
| <u>NATURAL GAS</u>                                | <u>Black Hills Energy</u>                         | Service – 888-890-5554<br>Emergency – 800-694-8989   |
| <u>NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH</u>                         | <u>Property Owner Resident</u>                    | Everyone can belong to Neighborhood Watch. When suspicious activity is spotted it should be reported to the Sheriff's department and information passed on to the neighborhood through the volunteer Block Captain and the Lead Coordinator. These names are listed in the Buccaneer Bay Phone Directory.  |
| <u>NEW CONSTRUCTION OR CHANGES TO BE APPROVED</u> | <u>Architectural Control</u>                      | Neighborhood Watch/Block Captains will review new house plans and any changes you may be making to your home externally, as well as any additions you might want to make to your home.<br><br>Sailboat Lake – Blk27<br>Sailboat Lake Board/Architectural Control   |
| <u>OUTLOTS</u>                                    | <u>SID</u>  | SID is responsible for maintaining the outlots.  |
| <u>ROAD MAINTENANCE</u>                           | <u>SID</u>  | SID is responsible for keeping roads within the district boundaries, repaired in safe operating condition.   |
| <u>SCHOOLS</u>                                    | <u>Property Owner Resident</u>                    | Plattsmouth School District or school of choice.   |
| <u>SNOW REMOVAL</u>                               | <u>SID</u>  | SID is responsible for having the roads within the district snow plowed, salted, and sanded when needed. The board has set a 2-3 inches as the threshold for having the streets plowed.  |
| <u>WATER/WASTEWATER PLANT</u>                     | <u>SID</u>  | Peoples Service – to establish/terminate service or questions<br>403-932-8143<br>888-527-9853<br>888-861-1921 – Emergency Calls  |