

Ione School District installs drainage systems for \$40,000 savings

Ione Community members came together once again last week to solve a problem and also save the new district a significant amount of money. A design problem with the new building did not make allowance for the high water table when draining water from the roof. Rain and melting from last year's heavy snow pack flowed down the sidewalks and flooded the cafeteria and flowed into the swimming pool. The repair was estimated to cost \$5000 for engineering and architecture work and the project construction was estimated at \$40,000. The Ione School Board decided not to spend taxpayer's money trying to find fault with the construction, but to teach problem solving skills to its students by fixing the problem as a community.

Community members volunteered their time and equipment to make the project work. Equipment loaned for the project included three backhoes, four loader tractors, three trucks and one belly-dump semi to haul the gravel. Over 60 volunteers in two days took out all the landscaping in the front of the new Elementary Building, dug trenches for two new drain



(L-R): Kevin Haguewood, Dustin Haguewood, Joe Rietmann and Jim Swanson connect drain pipes together.

fields, installed 800 foot of drain pipe and gravel, filled and smoothed the trenches and replanted the grass or laid sod and re-landscaped the front of the building.

Water from the front half of the roof was diverted to a new drain field located along the length of the landscaped area in front of the new building. Water from the back of the building and the cafeteria area of the old building was diverted 200 feet onto the football field and dispersed into three different 100 foot drain field lines.

Students belonging to the Ione Christian Youth Organization volunteered to remove the necessary plants from the front of the building the night before to get a jump-start on the project. Teachers pitched in and helped with the project after their workday on Friday and provided snacks and coffee. Collier's Market made sandwiches to feed the crew both days.

With the momentum, energy and extra materials, the volunteers managed to complete and tidy up several other projects that needed



(L-R): Arlynda Gates, Ken Klinger, Keith Morter and Conrad Tworek hook up drain pipes from under the school building.



(L-R): Joe Orem, Del LaRue, Eric Orem and Gregg Rietmann work at laying the drain pipes.

finished at the same time. Volunteers laid a new section of sidewalk between the buildings to provide handicap access to the football field and swimming pool. They also laid gravel in front of the new greenhouse and used the extra cement to smooth the drainage flow down to the creek from the parking lot,

as well as laying gravel and sod near the new track practice lanes behind the tennis courts. Three days had been set aside for the projects starting on Thursday Nov. 18, but by Friday evening trenches were covered and re-seeded, the plants had been replaced and new bark laid, the sidewalks had been pressure-

washed and cleaned, equipment was returned and everything was tidied up and finished.

Total cost to the Ione School District for materials not donated was about \$4,000. The \$40,000 the community saved the Ione School District will now be available for instruction, not building repair or legal costs.

National Hospice Month celebrated in November

November is National Hospice Month. In communities like ours across the country, hospices are honoring patients and families coping with life-limiting illness. Hospices are recognizing the professionals and volunteers who provide high quality care to those who need it most. National Hospice Month also provides an opportunity to promote important discussions with our loved ones and our health care providers about the care we would want at the end of life.

Hospice offers the services and support that Americans want when coping with life-limiting illness. Considered to be the model for high-quality, compassionate care at the end of life, hospice care involves a team-oriented approach to care that includes expert medical care, pain-and-symptom management and emotional and spiritual support. All care is expressly tailored to the patient's needs and wishes.

Based on current trends, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization projects that more than one million U.S.

patients will receive hospice care in 2004. But for every person that receives hospice, there are several people who don't receive this special care that could benefit from the services hospice offers. While hospice usage is growing, 36 percent of hospice patients will receive care for seven days or less—hardly enough time to benefit fully from the wide-range of services that hospice offers.

One of the best ways to make sure you and your loved ones benefit fully from hospice, should you ever need this care, is to talk about it before it becomes an issue. We plan for weddings, the birth of a child, college and retirement. We may spend months planning for vacations, but rarely, if ever, do we plan for what we would want in the final phase of our lives.

It's not that Americans don't make end-of-life decisions. We write wills, we purchase life insurance and we give consent to organ donation. Many people will even purchase a cemetery plot years before it is ever needed, we usually just don't prepare, or plan, for the actual process of dying.

"Most people think hospice is what you do when there's nothing left to do," commented Pioneer Memorial Hospice Director, Molly Rhea. "That couldn't be farther from the truth. Hospice provides a wide range of services to the patient and family with the goal of improving the quality of life through the final phases of their illness. We help people live as fully as possible, on their terms."

Hospice uses an interdisciplinary team of health care professionals and trained volunteers to provide pain-management, symptom control, psychosocial support and spiritual care to patients and their families, coping with life-limiting illness. Hospice is a covered benefit under Medicare, Medicaid in most states and most private insurance plans and HMOs.

Pioneer Memorial Hospice is committed to informing our communities about the benefits of hospice and palliative care. "National Hospice Month provides a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of the options of care available," states Rhea. "Far too many people wait until they are facing a health crisis to learn about care options. The best time to learn about end-of-life care is before it becomes a serious issue."

For additional information about hospice and palliative care call Pioneer Memorial Hospice at (541) 676-2946. Internet information can be found at www.hospiceinfo.org.

Rural Policy director to speak in Boardman

David Azumano, Director of the Office of Rural Policy will be in Boardman on Saturday, Dec. 4, at 9:30 a.m. at the Boardman City Hall. He will be discussing the goals and purposes of the Office of Rural Policy.

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Thanksgiving is Thursday, Nov. 25th



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