We are still working at the Hills City Office, however; due to the Covid-19 outbreak, we are keeping the doors locked. Sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause. We are doing our best to keep our employees and our community members safe.

If you need assistance please call our office at 319-679-3197 or email us at cityhills@sharontc.net.

If you need to make a payment on your utility bill, please do so by leaving it in an envelope in the secure drop box outside of the office door.

If you need garbage tags, contact us and we can charge your account and send tags to you via mail or you can purchase tags at Casey’s.

TEST IOWA
Please log onto www.testiowa.com and fill out a short survey. Results will determine whether or not it is in your best interest to get tested for COVID-19.

We encourage everyone to continue to follow the advice of the Johnson County Public Health Department. Frequently wash your hands and stay home whenever possible.

If you need assistance with transportation, food assistance, in-home services, or other needs, please contact Johnson County Social Services at 319-356-6090. Additional program information is available at www.johnson-county.com/ss.

Musings from the Mayor
By Tim Kemp

Well what a difference a few months makes! Where will we be in two more months? Fifty years ago, George Harrison released his All Things Must Pass album. It included such songs as, My Sweet Lord, What is Life, and the title track, All Things Must Pass. All of those songs seem to fit into our current situation. A little music can be very soothing and so can some humor. You can find your own music to listen to, but hopefully, I can supply a little humor.

I was watching the nephew’s grandson over the weekend and we had a terrible Peek-A-Boo accident, so I took him to the I-C-U.

The good news is that with so many sporting events cancelled, they are going to televise the World Origami Championship. Apparently, it will be shown on PaperView.

I once worked at a bank, but I got fired. A woman asked me to check her balance, so I pushed her over.

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I got fired as an Uber driver, I always went the extra mile for my customers, but they didn’t appreciate it.

I only wish the virus would have started in Las Vegas, because what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas.

I got a job at Old McDonald’s Farm. It was C-I-E-I-O.

I once dated a girl who worked at the zoo, she was a keeper.

I read that the man who invented autocorrect died, may he restaurant in peace.

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I got a job at Old McDonald’s Farm. It was C-I-E-I-O.

Why do they call it necking? Shouldn’t it be lipping?

At what age do you tell a highway it is adopted?

I sold my vacuum cleaner; all it was doing was collecting dust.

Okay the person who came up with the word fireplace, really didn’t put much thought into it.

I also quit my job at the helium factory, I just didn’t like being talked to in that tone of voice.

I read that police arrested the World Tongue Twister Champion for a variety of crimes, I imagine that they will give him a tough sentence.

Claustrophobic people are better at thinking outside the box.

Stay Safe, Stay Sane, All Things Must Pass!
**May**
5/4  First Monday Pick Up
5/11  City Council Meeting 7pm – Hills Fire Station
5/13  Planning & Zoning Meeting 6pm – Hills City Office
5/20  Utility Bills Due
5/22  Splash Pad Open
5/25  Memorial Day - City Office Closed
5/29  Meter Read

**June**
6/1  First Monday Pick Up
6/4  Music in the Park – Kevin Burt & the Big Machine - 7pm-9pm
6/8  City Council Meeting 7pm - Hills Fire Station
6/9  Senior Dining 12pm – St. Joseph Church – Hopefully!
6/10  Planning & Zoning Meeting 6pm – Hills City Office
6/11  Music in the Park-The Cassie & Randy Band - 7pm-9pm
6/12  Hills Town & Country Meeting 6pm – Hills Comm. Center
6/18  Music in the Park- The Recliners – 7pm-9pm
6/20  Utility Bills Due
6/22  City Council Meeting 7pm – Hills Fire Station
6/25  Music in the Park- Royce Johns – 7pm-9pm
6/30  Meter Read

**July**
7/3  Music in the Park- Dogfathers - 7pm-10pm
7/3  Independence Day Holiday – City Office Closed
7/4  Independence Day
7/6  First Monday Pick Up
7/8  Planning & Zoning Meeting 6pm – Hills City Office
7/9  Community Center Board Meeting 6pm – Hills Comm. Center
7/10  Hills Town & Country Meeting 6pm – Hills Comm. Center
7/13  City Council Meeting 7pm – Hills Fire Station
7/14  Senior Dining 12pm – St. Joseph Church
7/20  Utility Bills Due
7/27  City Council Meeting 7pm – Hills Fire Station
7/31  Meter Read

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**Hills City Parks**

Due to the Covid-19 outbreak, the Governor has required that all public parks remain closed. We encourage residents to get outdoors during this time, but we ask that people stay off of playground equipment and to not congregate in the park shelters during this time. We thank you for your patience and understanding!

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**Music in the Park**

We are very excited about this year's Music in the Park summer series. Every Thursday evening beginning on June 4, a band will be performing at the new park stage from 7pm-9pm. If there are schedule changes or cancellations, we will post those on Facebook, our website and the post office bulletin board.

**SCHEDULE**

- June 4:  Kevin Burt & the Big Machine
- June 11:  The Cassie & Randy Band
- June 18:  The Recliners
- June 25:  Royce Johns
- July 3:  Dogfathers

We want to thank our sponsors for supporting this wonderful event!

- City of Hills
- Hills Bank & Trust
- ITC
- McCreedy-Ruth Construction
- Old 218 Tap
- Sharon Telephone
- Stevens Erosion Control
- Stutsman, Inc.

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**Splash Pad**

As of today, the Splash Pad will be opening on Friday, May 22 for the Memorial Day Weekend. Please check the post office bulletin board or the City website for changes or updates.
New Trash & Recycle Contract

Hills City Council approved moving forward with a new trash and garbage contract with Johnson County Refuse. The proposed contract will include the following changes and become effective on 7/1/2020:

- Each household will be provided with 2 carts – one for trash and one for recycle
- Residents must choose between 2 service options:
  - 1) 35-gallon trash cart & 65 gallon recycle cart $16.50/month
  - 2) 65-gallon trash cart & 65 gallon recycle cart $18.50/month
- Forms to make your cart choice mailed May 1st or download from City website at www.hills-ia.org. Return forms by May 20th.

- Stickers will no longer be required unless you have more trash than fits in your cart.
- Additional stickers will be $3.00 each and can be purchased at the City Office.
- Carts will stay with the residence and be owned by Johnson County Refuse.
- Pick up will continue on Tuesday mornings.

2020 Census

Help shape your future and our community’s future by responding to the 2020 Census. It only takes a few minutes. Log on to https://2020census.gov/ and enter the ID you received in the mail.

Residential Butterfly Gardens

There is still time to fill out an application for a butterfly garden. The City of Hills established a program that will reward residents who install pollinator gardens on their properties. These gardens will attract butterflies and other important pollinators to our community and help conserve and sustain their populations. Application can be found on the City’s website: https://hills-ia.org/

Hills Fire Association Spring Dance - Postponed-

The Hills Fire Association is postponing its Spring Dance Fundraiser & Poker Run until the Fall 2020. Watch for tickets in your mail and make sure to send them back with your donation to help support the Hills Fire Department.

Hills Ball Association Update

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Hills Ball Association will be cancelling the ball leagues this year. We will assess the situation later on in the summer/fall and make a decision on when we will be able to start other sports leagues. Please contact Heather at 319-333-4516 or heather.kuep@gmail.com with any questions. Thank you and say safe and healthy during these trying times.

Seasonal Help

The City is looking for seasonal help this summer to assist with First Monday pickup and general upkeep of our City. If you are interested please call the City Office and we will send you an application or you can print one from our website.
St. Joseph Church
As the numbers of people with COVID-19 continues to rapidly rise in Iowa, our diocese emphasizes that we all need to do more to help people maintain safe distancing recommendations to slow the spread of the virus. St. Joseph’s, as well as all Catholic Churches in the diocese, are to be closed to public access until further notice. The parish office is available to receive phone calls. Our FOOD PANTRY is open each Wednesday from 10 am – noon for those who have a need for food. Thank you to Mike and Lucy Parker for their continued effort and dedication to open the pantry during these weeks the church is closed. Church’s website: stsmaryandjoseph.com

Prayer for a Pandemic
May we who are merely inconvenienced remember those whose lives are at stake.
May we who have no risk factors remember those most vulnerable.
May we who have the luxury of working from home remember those who must choose between preserving their health or making their rent.
May we who have the flexibility to care for our children when their schools close remember those who have no options.
May we who have to cancel our trips remember those who have no place to go.
May we who are losing our margin money in the tumult of the economic market remember those who have no margin at all.
May we who settle in for a quarantine at home remember those who have no home.
During this time when we cannot physically wrap our arms around each other, let us yet find ways to be the loving embrace of God to our neighbors.
(This prayer was shared by Fr. Larry Tensi, and is used with permission. It was written by a member of the Interfaith Hospitality Network in the Cincinnati area.)

Be Safe, practice social distancing, stay home whenever possible and take care of yourself. We will get through this!

Hills Elementary News
Hills Lightning Bolts are working together through this pandemic. We are connecting with our students and families twice per week. We have four main goals: stay connected; help families access technology and/or community resources; serve meals (lunch and next day’s breakfast) each weekday; and encourage students to do Dreambox and Lexia programs 20 minutes per day each, as well as, access the suggested learning options teachers send.

Meals are free to anyone age 18 and under and each child does NOT need to be present. Meals are served at the following locations and times:

Hills School @ 12:10-1:00
Regency @ 12:10-1:00
Coles @ 11:00-11:50

Because of the pandemic, we have the unfortunate news of canceling Grandparents’ Day. This is the first time in decades that we need to do this; however, the health and welfare of all is our number one priority. We are saddened by this because this is a special day at Hills.

During this new and unexpected way of education, our heart goes out to all. We know firsthand the difficulties of juggling the many challenges, and we are concerned for everyone’s health and well-being: emotionally, physically, and mentally. We will get through this together! #BoltBrave #ThroughThisTogether #ICCSDTogether