By Jan Rahn
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Home-cooked meals on site are now a part of the daily activity at the Perkins County Senior Center in Grant.

The center has new kitchen equipment, and as of Monday, Sept. 12, lead cook Sherry Krause and kitchen staff have been preparing the noon meals, including freshly baked bread, to serve area seniors and members of the community who are cordially invited to eat any time.

Krause is joined by kitchen staff Debbie Engel and Joanne Kueten. Jim Hendrickson (known as Stumpy) is the center's substitute cook.

According to Perkins County Senior Center Director Tabby Cornelius, the cooks will use supplies from local retailers as much as possible in meal preparation.

Nancy Reynolds of Tin Can Diner in Venango, who provided senior meals for both Venango and Grant, did not renew a contract to take daily meals to the Grant center—and senior meals in Venango will be provided only on Tuesdays each week. Her cafe is still open six days a week with daily specials, and seniors are obviously invited and welcome to come in any other day in addition to eating the senior meal on Tuesdays.

Due to lack of a meal provider, senior centers in Madrid and Elsie closed when their current catering contracts expired the end of June.

The board made the decision to shut down effective July 1 after exhausting all efforts in trying to find a provider.

Cornelius said there are some other changes brewing at the center in Grant, so watch for more details in the future.