

# City Happenings



February 2019



## Game & Parks Commission Commits to Fund Lex Trail



Following a competitive process that attracted 14 Nebraska project applications, the **Nebraska Game and Parks Commission** (NGPC) in January announced it would grant funding for a Lexington Hike-Bike Trail for up to \$250,000. Three other projects also received notice of grant funding.

NGPC's **Recreational Trails Program** (RTP) is backed with funding from the **Federal Highway Administration** (FHWA).

The proposed trail would start where last year's Northwest Trail Project ended near 20th & Independence. It would



continue south, turn west just before the existing houses, then south again through The Optimist Recreation Complex until it connects with an existing east-west trail on the north side of 13th Street.

There is also a non-contiguous leg that starts at the west end of the 13th Street trail, going north along the east side of

Airport Road, and meets up with the Lexington Fieldhouse parking lot.

The project awaits a final go-ahead from FHWA, as well as several environmental clearances. City officials are hopeful these can be accomplished in time to complete the project in 2019.



## Nebraska H2O stormwater improvement tips

### What you can do to help

#### Easy tips for keeping our waters clean.

##### Litter disposal

Dispose of litter by throwing it in a trashcan or recycling it. In addition, do your part by disposing of litter you find in the street or on the sidewalk.



##### Washing your car

You can either take your car to a self-service car wash, which is designed with special drains for proper disposal, or wash your car on your lawn. The dirt below will act as a filter for the soap.

##### Pet waste

It's best to dispose of pet waste in the trash or, better yet, flush it down the toilet. This water will be properly treated.

##### Household chemicals

Cleaning products and other household chemicals should never be dumped outside, down the sink – or down a storm drain. Visit [www.NebraskaH2O.org](http://www.NebraskaH2O.org) and click on our Tips section to find out the location of a facility that will dispose of them properly.

##### Fertilizer and Pesticides

You'll need to take leftover substances to a designated waste control area.

Visit [www.NebraskaH2O.org](http://www.NebraskaH2O.org) for more information about stormwater information and related topics!



## Updated Cemetery Policies



The Lexington City Council recently approved two documents that represent policies, rules and regulations applicable to our two cemeteries. (**Greenwood Cemetery** is north of Lexington on Taft Street; and **Evergreen Cemetery** is east of town on Highway 30).

The newly approved documents represent a modernization of language, most of which was decades old. The "Rules and Regulations" document rewrite is intended to improve clarity with more user friendly language. In addition to revamped definitions (e.g., the difference between "lot" and "space," other language is designed to ensure consistency and improve the City's ability to efficiently maintain the areas.

The new "Certificate of Interment Rights" is a brief agreement between the City and the purchaser.

Both documents are available for download (PDF) at [www.cityoflex.com/departments/city/cemeteries](http://www.cityoflex.com/departments/city/cemeteries).







## GGC Happenings

407 East 6th Street



Who will be the next Lexington GGC Boss of Cakes?



## Annual Cake Decorating & Auction February 7-8, 2019

The Lexington Grand Generation Center will hold our annual cake decorating on Thursday, Feb 7 beginning at 1:00 PM. The cakes will be baked and ready for you to frost during that time.



There will be white, red, green and yellow frosting available for you to use. You will need to bring anything else you'd like to decorate with.

**We would like your business/organization to participate with a team!!**

The teams can be individuals or two people from any group, business or organization. You may keep with the Valentines Day theme or use your own ideas. To participate we need to know; your name, white or chocolate cake, 1 or 2 layers and round, square or heart-shaped.

The cakes will then be displayed and up for bid for a silent auction from 3:00 p.m. on Thursday until 1:00 p.m. following our February birthday dinner on Friday, Feb. 8. All proceeds will go to the Lexington Grand Generation Center Support Fund.

Call Susan or Deb at 324-2498 to reserve your cake at no cost by Friday, Feb 1st!

Will you be the next **Boss of Cakes??**



### What Not To Flush (or put down the drain) Could clog your drains or sewers!



- ▶ paper, plastic or cardboard
- ▶ feminine hygiene products
- ▶ wipes (baby or personal)
- ▶ prophylactic items
- ▶ cloth or string
- ▶ grease, oil, wax or fats
- ▶ diapers
- ▶ wrappers
- ▶ bottles
- ▶ cat litter
- ▶ medicines





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- ★ View updated billing and consumption history
- ★ Account balances are automatically updated



## STUDENTS!

**NOW** is the time to apply for City summer jobs: concessions, lifeguards, and lawn mowing.

Go to [www.cityoflex.com/departments/city/human-resources](http://www.cityoflex.com/departments/city/human-resources)

for more information and to download a blank application form.

Send completed application to address below or email to [pbaruth@cityoflex.com](mailto:pbaruth@cityoflex.com).

**Don't delay - Do it today!**



## Tips to Prevent Frozen Pipes



**Leave Water Running** - Just a small, slow stream/trickle is usually enough to keep the pipes from freezing.

**Leave cabinet doors open** so house heat can warm the pipes better.



**Do not set your thermostat lower than 55°F**, even if you plan to be away for an extended time.

**Unhook Garden Hoses.** You can also install frost-free faucets and insulate outdoor faucets.



## Mobile Homes Need Special Pipe Care



Install **Insulated Tape Wrap** or even better **Electric Heat Tape** on pipes under the trailer.

Make sure the **trailer is skirted.**





## Library News

by Kathy Thomsen  
Library Director



907  
North  
Washington  
Street  
(308) 324-2151



The first session of **Prime Time Family**

**Reading Time** will be held on Saturday, February 16, at 11:00 a.m. The remaining sessions will be held on the next five Saturday mornings. A light brunch will be served at 11:00 a.m., followed by the bilingual reading program at 11:30 a.m. The Prime Time Reading program targets K-5 grade children and their families. Please stop by or call the Library to register your family. Prime Time is sponsored by **Humanities Nebraska** and the **Lexington Public Library**.

The Library has scheduled two **Library Initiative Grant** programs. The **Friends of the Library** will serve refreshments following these programs. Both of these programs are funded by the **Lexington Library Memorial Fund**, the **Lexington Community Foundation**, the **Emerson Fund** and the **Friends of the Library**.

On Sunday, Feb. 24, at 2:00 p.m., **Stephanie Grace Whitson** will present **"Stories in Stone."**



This will be a virtual "cemetery walk," illuminating the poignant, unexpected, and sometimes humorous "stories in stone" found in pioneer cemeteries.



On Sunday, March 3, at 2:00 p.m., **Rascal Martinez** will perform.

Hailing from a small Nebraska village, Rascal began his multi-instrumentalist career at a young age in the family basement, learning guitar and drums and playing alongside his older brother. Throughout school, Rascal continued to develop his craft and began writing his own music, channeling an eclectic mixture of Americana and Folk. "Rascal's music is a mix of rockabilly, folk and country, with a subtext of Latin melodies. His vocals come up out of the Nebraska plains like cool summer swell." Rascal enjoys writing his own songs, but also appreciates performing the '50s and '60s timeless hits along with other genres.

The Library has borrowed the **button maker** from the **Central Plains Library System** for the month of February. Drop in between 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 5, or Tuesday, February 12, or between 2:00 and 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, or Wednesday, February 13, for help using the button maker. Once you have learned to operate the button



maker, you are invited to return to the Library at any time during the month of February to make the buttons, mirrors or key rings of your choice. A small fee will be charged to cover materials.



**Monday Afternoon Book Club** meets the first Monday of each month at

3:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room. Members of the book club discuss a variety of books in different genres during the year. If you would like to join this fun group and add your own comments to the discussion, pick up the next book at the library and join us.



The **Friends of the Library** will be meeting on Monday, February 18, at 3:00 p.m. in the Library Board Room. The Friends of the Library are a dedicated group, who sponsor the **Gently Used Cookbook Sale**, **Java Junction** and support **Prime Time** and other special projects. They also sell brownies at the Library one week each month. Brownie sales in February will be held the week of February 18. You are invited to join this amazing group of ladies, who make the Library a better place.



## Preparing for the 2020 Census

Every 10 years the nation takes a count of everyone living in the United States. This is what the Census Bureau calls the **Decennial Census**.

An accurate count is critically important for our community and state. Federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on population totals and demographic factors. When residents respond to the Census, they help our community get its fair share of the more than \$675 billion per year in federal funds spent on schools, hospitals, roads, public works and other vital programs.

Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, and this creates jobs. Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness. Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.

The City is spearheading formation of a Complete Count Committee. CCC members will meet a few times until the actual Census, and will simply receive information they can spread to their communities to encourage people to complete their surveys. Consider joining Lexington's CCC (even if just by email). Contact Assistant City Manager Dennis Burnside, [dburnside@cityoflex.com](mailto:dburnside@cityoflex.com), or 308-324-2341, for more information or to sign up.

## Federal Employment Opportunity

### Temporary U.S. Census Job - Partnership Specialist (Spanish)

MUST RESIDE IN one of the following counties:  
Hall or Dawson

**Hurry! Opening closes February 6, 2019**

Full information is at:

<https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/522327200>

### SUMMARY

This is a bi-lingual position. Applicants will be required to self-certify proficiency in Spanish as a condition of employment.

This is a Work At Home (WAH) position. The duty station will be the selectee's home address.

In order to be considered, applicants MUST CURRENTLY RESIDE IN one of the following counties: Hall County or Dawson County, NE.

Relocation will not be paid.





## EnergyWise Tip: **Lumen Depreciation**

by NPPD Energy Efficiency  
Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

Valentine's Day is just around the corner, and my sweetheart will ensure I endure six weeks of cold winter shoulder if I forget. But what if you're strapped for cash after lavishly tending to your loved one's Christmas wish list? Well, don't worry. I have the perfect, potentially cost-free gift in mind that still communicates "You are the light of my life!" After all, how could offsetting the nasty effects of lumen depreciation in your sweetie's world NOT brighten their day?!

What is lumen depreciation? It is simply the decrease in lighting output that occurs over the life of a light fixture or bulb. Gradually, without notice, illumination levels gradually dim. Before you know it, your significant other experiences eye strain and difficulty reading small print. As it continues, headaches and decreased productivity result. If left unremedied, poor lighting can even lead to accidents or depression.

Here's where you become your love's hero without emptying out your next-of-kin's inheritance. First, know that some light loss factors are "recoverable." These include lamp burnouts, lamp lumen depreciation, fixture (luminaire) dirt depreciation and room surface dirt depreciation.

### **Lamp Burnouts**

When a lamp or bulb expires, it becomes a "burnout." This

sounds fairly simple. But, if the entire light fixture has numerous lamps or if the fixture has a shade or translucent panel, globe, lens, etc., you may not have noticed the burnout. On behalf of your loved one, take time to investigate all your fixtures. And, if you come across a burnout? Well, simply replace it with a highly efficient LED lamp!

### **Lamp Lumen Depreciation**

As lamps age, they produce less and less light on a predictable curve, the extent of which depends on the type of lamp. In the home, fluorescent lamps tend to be the worst. By the end of their life, output can drop lower than 80 % of their original rating. Don't leave your Honey in the dark!



Replace old, dim lamps with new ones. If possible, use a permanent marker to write the installation date on the lamp or bulb's base. This will help you determine whether you are getting the hours of life and anticipated light output you expect!

### **Fixture (Luminaire) Dirt Depreciation**

Dirt and dust are inevitable, and particles are often attracted to and trapped in electrical equipment. Even if fixtures are cleaned every 18 months, dirt buildup can reduce light output by 10 percent between

cleanings. This is a simple fix. Get your cleaning rags, soap and water, glass cleaner, etc., and get to work. (Don't forget to switch the light "off" first.) And, don't forget about all those dead bugs lying in the bottom glass of your ceiling fixtures! Nothing says, "You're my love bug!" like cleaning the dead ones out of your light fixtures.

### **Room Surface Dirt Depreciation**

Since you already have the cleaning rags out for the step above, don't stop there! Dust and other contaminants will build up on light-reflecting walls, floors, tables, countertops and other surfaces. These surfaces will become dirty over time and will not reflect light like they used to. Restore their reflective power by cleaning. Don't be a dimwit this Valentine's Day and blow through a bunch of money like Cupid at an archery sale! Compensate for your sweetie's lumen depreciation by taking these simple steps. Both of you will be . . . (wait for it) . . . "enlightened!"

For additional ideas on how you can reduce the effects of lumen depreciation and save energy while illuminating your home, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit [www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com). You may even find you are eligible for incentives for helping with the cost of other energy-saving home improvements.



## Housing Lots Available in Northwest Lexington



- **Dozens of sites to choose from**
- **\$5,000 each**
- **Utilities on site (Electric, Sewer, Water)**
- **Protective covenants in place**
- **Are not located in floodplain;**
- **Sewer depths accommodate basements**
- **Close to Optimist Recreation Complex and Sandoz Elementary School**
- **Lots sizes: approx. 12,000 - 25,000 square feet**



Contact Lexington City Manager, 308-324-2341



### Like us on Facebook!

Get the latest scoops about what's going on in Lexington!

FaceBook users: be sure to search for "City of Lexington, Nebraska" (not to be confused with the generic page the FaceBook folks created). Only our official page gives you the latest news and updates.

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Lexington-Nebraska/157277430966096>



*You won't want to miss...*

**THE HOTTEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR!**

## Save the Date

# KEY '19

### Dinner & Auction Saturday April 27, 2019

RESERVATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Reserved, Limited Seating Only

RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

Individual Seats: \$125  
Tables Seat Eight  
Credit Cards Accepted

PREVIEW NIGHT: Friday, April 26, 2019

Admission is Free and Open to the Public

Please contact the Foundation office to make reservations. If you would like to volunteer, become a Key donor or would just like further information about the Key, please contact the Lexington Community Foundation office at [office@lexfoundation.org](mailto:office@lexfoundation.org) or 308-324-6704.



## Lexington snow and ice removal

**W**inter is not over yet and the City would like to remind citizens of the following points related to snow removal. There is also an Emergency Snow Route map on the next page, and is also found on the Maps link at the City's website.

Property owners are required to remove snow and ice from sidewalks abutting their property, within 48 hours of the snowfall. Removal of snow and ice from sidewalks not only ensures safe passage for pedestrians (including school children), but also limits liability. Someone who sustains injuries from slipping on ice might claim their injuries resulted from property owner neglect.

Please remember that snow and ice removed from your property is not to be placed into the street. Instead move it to non-paved areas.

The City needs the cooperation of all citizens as we work to remove snow and ice from the streets. Citizens are encouraged to check

the City website or Facebook page, listen to local radio stations or read the local newspaper for announcements of possible Snow Emergency situations where substantial snowfall is experienced or anticipated.



In times of a declared Snow Emergency, parking along streets in the designated Snow Emergency Route is prohibited. Commercial Areas may also be included (see Snow Route map).

In addition, during a Snow Emergency, parking in the Downtown area is prohibited. In non-emergency times, citizens are still encouraged to move their parked vehicles off of the street in a reasonable period of time after snowfall to allow City crews access to remove the snow and ice. Information regarding the removal of snow in your area of the City can be obtained by contacting Tom Nelson at 308-324-5995.

The City of Lexington would like to reiterate that snow and ice removal is important for vehicular traffic as well as pedestrian traffic.

Please take the time to do your part to keep our streets and sidewalks safe. The City of Lexington thanks everyone for their cooperation and prompt attention to this issue.



### WE ASK OUR CUSTOMERS



**Dan's Sanitation**  
324-6693 • Lexington

### DO NOT DEPOSIT IN TRASH DUMPSTERS:

yard waste • tree branches • wood • cement • iron • batteries and tires . . .  
. . . as the landfill will not accept these items.

### YOUR DUMPSTER IS FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD TRASH ONLY

If you have a curbside trash container, **DO NOT** place trash in large alley dumpsters. These are for alley customers only.

If your curbside trash container fills before the weekly pickup, please call for additional containers.

**DO NOT** under any circumstances put hot BBQ coals or fireplace ashes in your dumpster. If you are caught doing this you will have to pay to replace the dumpster if fire occurs.

If you see someone using alley containers for construction materials, yard waste, or other unaccepted items, please call us right away and we will take care of it.







**Youth Baseball (Grade 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th)  
Instruction & League Play**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Age on January 1, 2019 \_\_\_\_\_ DOB \_\_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Parents Name \_\_\_\_\_

Work Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_ Parent(s) will coach \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

**Boys: Grade 3rd & 4th \_\_\_\_\_ Grade 5th & 6th \_\_\_\_\_**

*(Cost \$30.00 - Includes Shirt and pants. If cost is a problem contact Ann.)*

**T- Shirt Size (circle one) Youth M L Adult S M L XL**

I give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the City Youth Baseball Program. I release the City Of Lexington, Coaches, Sponsors, etc., for any and all injuries which my son/daughter might suffer in connection with this program. I also understand that no medical insurance is provided by the City of Lexington.

Parents Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Sign-up Monday and Wednesday February 18, 20, 25 or 27.**

**At the Hitting Complex, 1601 W 13th Street.**

**Instruction will be on Mondays (Hitting), Thursdays (Fielding),  
Saturdays (Pitchers and Catchers)**

**Starting Monday, March 5, through Saturday, April 13, 2019. (6 weeks)**

**Monday Instruction is at the Lexington Hitting Complex.**

If weather permitting it could be outside on the Baseball/Softball Fields

**Grade 3rd & 4th 6:00-7:00pm • Grade 5th & 6th 7:00-8:30pm**

**Thursday Instruction is at the Lexington Field House.**

**Grade 3rd & 4th and 5th & 6th 6:00-7:30pm**

**Saturday Pitching & Catching Instruction  
at Hitting Complex.**

**All grades 3rd-6th 9:00-11:00pm**



Games will start in May. The Boys will be playing in the South Central Baseball League.

**Any questions call Ann H. Luther 325-5277**