

# City Happenings



August 2019



## Veterans Memorial Plan Moving Forward



As reported in the June/July issue of *City Happenings*, the City, in cooperation with a local veteran group and the Lexington Community Foundation, is planning a veterans memorial and amphitheater west of the recently renovated lake at Kirkpatrick Memorial Park. Enjoy these new artist's renderings of how the memorial may look. This will be a community-funded effort, spearheaded by our local veterans. Watch for opportunities to contribute in the near future. See the Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-Veteran-Pavilion-2026349250828041/>





## Library News

by Kathy Thomsen  
Library Director



907  
North  
Washington  
Street  
(308) 324-2151



**LEGO Club** will resume on Thursday, August 8. LEGO Club meets monthly on the second Thursday of the month from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. No sign-up is required. All children under the age of eight must be accompanied by an adult. LEGOs are provided by the Library and Duplo blocks will be provided for smaller children. The LEGO Club themes for the 2019-2020 school year are:

- August 8 – Bridges
- September 12 – Flying Machines or Space Craft
- October 10 – Pumpkins or Something Scary
- November 14 – Houses and Barns
- December 12 – Christmas Trees or Snowmen
- January 9 – Free Build!
- February 13 – Stand Alone Heart or "Love"
- March 12 – Spring Flowers or Clover
- April 9 – Spell Your Name with LEGOs
- May 14, 2019 – Make a Pizza.

## Story Time



The first library **Storytime** of the 2019-2020 school year will be held on Wednesday, September 4, at 10:30 a.m. Storytime offers a fun, educational experience with books, rhymes, songs and activities. Storytime helps develop early literacy in young children, while providing a time for parents and children to participate in healthy, enriching activities together.



**Prime Time** for Preschoolers will begin on Saturday, September 21. Prime Time for

Preschoolers is a six-week program that will meet from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Prime Time Preschool introduces young children and their families to the humanities and to literature through age-appropriate storytelling and literary exploration via center-based play. Preregistration is required. If you are interested in your preschooler attending this program, contact JoAnn at the Lexington Library. This program is sponsored by Humanities Nebraska.

The August **Family Movie Night** will be featured on Thursday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m. Family Movie Night offers the opportunity to see a great family movie. For more information about Family Movie Night and the selected movie, contact Libby at the Library (308-324-2151). Snacks will be provided.



## BOOK CLUB

**Monday Afternoon Book Club** will resume on Monday, September 9 at 3:00 p.m. The Monday Afternoon Book Club meets the first Monday of each month at the Library. The book selected for September is **True Sisters** by **Sandra Dallas**.

The **Lexington Literary Guild** will also resume their book discussion in September. Lexington Literary Guild meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Library. The Lexington Literary Guild's selection for September is **Every Note Played** by **Lisa Genova**. If you are interested in joining either of these book clubs, contact the Library to sign up.



## There are Now Rebates for Electric Vehicles and Chargers



The City of Lexington, in cooperation with Nebraska Public Power District, has long offered incentives to homeowners to make energy efficiency improvements. Examples include heat pumps, electric water heaters, and “learning” thermostats.

Thanks to funding provided by Nebraska Environmental Trust, we’ve now upped the ante by adding incentives for Electric Vehicles (EVs) and EV charging stations. This does not include “hybrid” vehicles.

Incentive amounts are \$4,000 for the purchase or lease of a new battery EV; \$500 for installation of a ChargePoint 32 amp, wi-fi enabled charging station; and \$100 for in-home pre-wiring for the future installation of an EV charging station. These are three separate incentives and may be taken individually.

There are more details and pre-authorization (“reservation request”) is required. Approved incentives will be paid upon submittal of a final application and proof of purchase and/or installation.

For more information on these and other incentives, visit [www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com). To download forms that include City of Lexington incentives, go to <http://www.cityoflex.com/departments/city/utilities>. The links are near the bottom of the page.

**On a side note**, be aware that, due to catastrophic weather in Nebraska this year, NPPD has temporarily increased most of its heat pump rebates by an average of \$100. If you’ve been thinking about upgrading, this would be a good time.



“To leave the world better than you found it, sometimes you have to pick up other people’s trash.”

**LEXINGTON**  
**FARMERS**  
**MARKET**

June 8 - October 12, 2019  
Bob's True Value Parking Lot  
(1601 Plum Creek Parkway)  
Saturdays 8 - 11 a.m.  
Tuesdays 3 - 6 p.m.



## **Public Hearing September 12 for Lexington East Viaduct** **Público de la Audiencia el 12 de Septiembre: Lexington Este Viaducto** **Dhageysiga Dadweynaha Sebtember 12: Lexington East Viaduct**

The City of Lexington, in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), will hold a public hearing on Thursday, September 12, 2019, regarding the proposed Lexington East Viaduct project in Dawson County. The hearing, held at the City Council Chambers - Lexington Municipal Building, 406 E 7th Street, will include an open house from 4:00 to 5:00 PM, a presentation at 5:00 PM, followed by a public forum from 5:20 PM to 6:00 PM. Media availability will be from 3:30 PM to 4:00 PM.

The City of Lexington has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) to evaluate the potential effects of the project. The public hearing will present information regarding the DEA analysis and provide the public with the formal opportunity to comment on the project.

The DEA can be reviewed at the following locations during regular business hours: Lexington Municipal Building, 406 E 7th Street, Lexington, NE; Dawson County Courthouse, 700 N Washington Street, Lexington, NE; Lexington Public Library, 907 N Washington Street, Lexington, NE; NDOT Headquarters, 1500 Highway 2, Lincoln, NE; and FHWA Nebraska Division, 100 Centennial Mall N., Lincoln, NE.

The DEA is also available for review on the City of Lexington website at <http://www.cityoflex.com/find-info/city-services/public-records>, and the Nebraska Department of Transportation (NDOT) website at <https://dot.nebraska.gov/projects/environment/pubs/project-docs/>. Comments will be collected through September 27, 2019.

La Ciudad de Lexington, en cooperación con la Administración Federal de Carreteras (FHWA), celebrará una audiencia pública el Jueves, 12 de Septiembre, para presentar el propuesto Lexington Este Viaducto en el Condado de Dawson. La audiencia, celebrada en la cámara del Consejo de la Ciudad - Edificio Municipal de Lexington, 406 E 7th Street, incluirá una casa abierta de 4:00 a 5:00 PM, una presentación en 5:00, seguida de un foro público de 5:20 a 6:00. Disponibilidad de medios de comunicación será de 3:30 a 4:00 PM.

La Ciudad de Lexington ha elaborado una evaluación ambiental de proyecto (DEA) para evaluar los efectos potenciales del proyecto. La audiencia pública presentará información sobre el análisis DEA y proporcionar al público la oportunidad formal para comentar sobre el proyecto.

El DEA puede ser revisada en las siguientes ubicaciones durante horas de oficina regulares: Edificio Municipal de Lexington, 406 East 7th Street, Lexington, NE; Dawson County Courthouse, 700 N Washington Street, Lexington, NE; Biblioteca Pública de Lexington, 907 N Washington Street, Lexington, NE; NDOT sede, 1500 Carretera 2, Lincoln, NE; y FHWA Nebraska División, 100 Centennial Mall N., Lincoln, NE. La DEA también está disponible para revisión en el sitio web de la Ciudad de Lexington, <http://www.cityoflex.com/find-info/city-services/public-records>, y el sitio web del Departamento de Transporte de Nebraska (NDOT), <https://dot.nebraska.gov/projects/environment/pubs/project-docs/>. Comentarios se recogerán a través de 27 de Septiembre de 2019.

Magaalada Lexington iyadoo la kaashaneysa Maamulka Fidinta Federalka (FHWA) waxay qabanaysaa dhageysi dadweyne oo la xiriira soojeedinta dhismaha horumarinta iyo hagaajinta wadooyinka ee agagaarka Xarunta Wadada 435, Isgoyska Wadada Pacific Pacific (UPRR), iyo Wadada US 30. (US-30) dhanka bari ee Lexington ee Dawson County. Dhageysiga wuxuu ka dhici doonaa Xafiiska Golaha Magaalada - Lexington Dowlada Hoose, 406 E 7th Street ee Lexington Khamiista, 12ka Sebtember, 2019, laga bilaabo 4:00 illaa 6:00 PM.

Magaalada Lexington waxay diyaarisay Qoraal Qabyo-Qoraal ah oo Deegaanka ah (DEA) si loo qiimeeyo saameynta suuragalka ah ee mashruucu leeyahay. Dhageysiga dadweynaha wuxuu soo bandhigi doonaa macluumaadka ku saabsan falanqaynta DEA wuxuuna dadweynaha siin doonaa fursad rasmi ah oo ay kaga faalloodaan mashruuca.

DEA waxaa dib looga eegi karaa meelaha soo socda inta lagu gudajiro saacadaha shaqada ee caadiga ah: Dhismaha Dawlada Hoose ee Lexington, 406 E 7th Street, Lexington, NE; Court Court Dawson, 700 N Washington Street, Lexington, NE; Maktabada Dadweynaha ee Lexington, 907 N Washington Street, Lexington, NE; Xarunta dhexe ee NDOT, 1500 Highway 2, Lincoln, NE; iyo Qeybta FHWA Nebraska, 100 Centennial Mall N., Lincoln, NE. DEA sidoo kale waxaa laga heli karaa dib u eegista bogga internetka ee Magaalada Lexington ee <http://www.cityoflex.com/find-info/city-services/public-records>, iyo Websaytka Gaadiidka ee Nebraska (NDOT) ee <https://dot.nebraska.gov/projects/environment/pubs/project-docs/>. Faallooyinka ayaa la soo ururin doonaa illaa Sebtember 27, 2019.





**Before**

YOUR **2014** CITY  
**Ponderosa Apartments**

**2016**  
PROGRESS!

**After**

CITY OF  
*Lexington*  
NEBRASKA

**RYDE**  
Transit

**RYDE Transit is your public transportation service available to all residents of Lexington.**



**Hours – 8 AM to 5 PM – Monday thru Friday.**

Please schedule rides 24 hours in advance by calling 308-324-3670 or stopping at the office located at 407 E 6th St.

**Public Transportation is easy to ride, and open to everyone.**



Lexington  
Family Aquatic  
Center 2019 Season  
May 25 - August 11

Hours: 1 :00- 6:00 PM  
10th & Monroe

Admission Information: [www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com)



## DRIVING RANGE NOW OPEN



May be closed if cold or rainy . . .  
 Notices posted on the City's Facebook Page  
**Just southeast of the Lexington Fieldhouse**  
**Optimist Recreation Complex**  
**13th & Airport Road**

**Small Bucket**  
 about 40 balls  
**\$3**

**Medium Bucket**  
 about 75 balls  
**\$5**

**Large Bucket**  
 about 105 balls  
**\$7**



### 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>

Remember, it ALL drains to our lakes and rivers



### Help keep pollution out of storm drains

#### Only rain in the drain!

That's because storm drains and roadside ditches lead directly to our lakes and rivers. So, any oil, pet waste, leaves, trash, or dirty water from washing your car that enters a storm drain gets into our lakes and rivers. With thousands of people living in and around Lexington, we all need to be aware of what goes into our storm drains.

#### So what can you do? Simple:

- Sweep fertilizer off of driveways and sidewalks, back onto your lawn.
- Keep leaves, grass clippings, trash, and fertilizers out of storm drains.
- Do not dump motor oil, anti-freeze, chemicals, pet waste, dirty soapy water, or anything else down the storm drains.
- Volunteer to label the storm drains in your neighborhood to inform your neighbors that storm drains flow directly to our lakes and rivers (contact Keep Lexington Beautiful, (308) 324-7986, or [keeplexbeautiful@yahoo.com](mailto:keeplexbeautiful@yahoo.com)).

**KEEP OUR WATER CLEAN!**



Support provided by NDEQ

CITY OF  
**Lexington**  
 NEBRASKA  
[www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com)





**EnergyWise Tip: Household Fans**

*by NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer*

Hot weather means Nebraska households will try to find ways to beat the heat without driving up air conditioning costs. If used properly, fans help manage these costs while maintaining indoor comfort. But used incorrectly, your next electric bill might be a shocker!

During the air conditioning season, household fans are used for two primary purposes: circulation and ventilation. More on the pitfalls of ventilation later.

According to [www.energy.gov](http://www.energy.gov), circulating fans include ceiling, table and floor fans, and fans mounted to poles or walls. These fans create a wind chill effect that makes people more comfortable in their home, even if it's only cooled by natural ventilation or a small window air conditioner.

While air conditioners use compressors and refrigeration cycles that are much more energy intensive, fans only move air and require much less electricity. Their energy saving opportunity becomes more important when considering human physiology and thermodynamics. By blowing air around, the fan makes it easier for the air to evaporate sweat from your skin, which is how you eliminate body heat. The more evaporation, the cooler you feel.

If a room's air is well circulated, the process is improved.

**Ceiling fans** are considered the most effective at room circulation. According to a study by the Department of Energy, ceiling fans enable occupants to raise the thermostat setting about 4°F with no reduction in comfort. During those times when it's just slightly warm in a room, ceiling fans allow people to avoid using the air



conditioner. But too often, people forget to switch ceiling fans and other circulation fans off when leaving a room for an extended period of time. Fans cool people, not rooms, by creating a wind chill effect on their skin.

**Table, floor, pole and other fans** provide effective air movement in a particular direction or area. Often, they can be used to move cooler air from cooler parts of the home to the rooms being occupied.

Now, for those "other" fans: the ventilators. When effectively used, they can help manage home cooling costs. Unfortunately, overuse or misuse can increase air conditioning costs.

**Window fans** are a classic example. When the sun sets and outdoor air cools, window fans use little energy and can provide effective cooling to a stuffy home. They are best mounted in windows facing away from the prevailing wind and exhausting hot air from inside. Tightly close windows near the fan and open windows in rooms far from the fan. Windows near cooler shaded outdoor areas provide the best intake air. But when the fan is forgotten or the window is left open and the hot sun of a new day is bearing down, the cooling effects of the night before are quickly lost, and air conditioning must take over.

**Bathroom fans** are excellent for removing hot, humid air after showers and baths. Unfortunately, these fans often run much longer than needed to remove excess moisture. As they continue to operate, they exhaust cooled, indoor air at the rate of 60 to 180 cubic feet per minute until

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## Household Fans

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turned off. To prevent this from happening, install a timer switch with a maximum of 60 minutes. This should keep the fan running for at least 10 minutes after you leave the room to remove excess humidity.

Cooking can create lots of extra heat and humidity in the kitchen. If you must use ovens, cooktops or other heat intensive appliances during hot weather, a **ducted kitchen exhaust** fan is a must. Like a bathroom fan, they are ideal for removing extra heat and moisture out of the conditioned space. But over-ventilating is even more of an issue because many kitchen exhausts can move 90 to 350 cubic feet per minute. This can require up to one ton of your home's air conditioning capacity to replace!

Finally, many people assume **attic or whole house fans** are guaranteed to save on cooling costs. The idea is the attic gets very hot because there is not enough ventilation. In turn, that heat seeps through the ceiling into the living space below, which then requires air conditioning to cool the room. These fans are often installed with an entry louver at the other end of the attic and a thermostat switch, so they only operate when it gets hot. What the homeowner doesn't consider is that the fan is drawing air from all places it can, not

just the entry louver. That includes through the ceiling of the room below. This is possible through gaps around light fixtures, ductwork and other penetrations. Without realizing it, the need for replacement air conditioning can offset the benefit of a cooler attic. Other means of attic ventilation, insulation and sealing are much more cost effective.

Lexington Utilities System and Nebraska Public Power District want to help you make the most of your energy dollars by reducing cooling costs. For more ideas on how you can make your home or business EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup>, along with possible energy efficiency financial incentives, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit [www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com).



### 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.



## Marking the Opening of the New Trail now Lined with Trees

*The following is a transcript of Assistant City Manager Dennis Burnside's remarks at the ribbon cutting for the recently completed Northwest Hike and Bike Trail Phase One.*

This dedication and ribbon cutting today is serving double duty. Let me explain. We stand at the trailhead of Lexington's Northwest Hike and Bike Trail Phase 1. Most of this trail follows what for many years was an irrigation ditch owned by Nebraska Public Power District. Only after the City finally acquired the land did we move forward with construction.

The completion last year of this Phase adds close to a mile to the City's Master Trail Plan. The 10-foot wide concrete path, already seeing much use, stretches mostly west with a northerly angle to just past Independence Street, then cuts south to 20th Street. If you go west on 20th Street just past Independence, you'll see the other terminus of this Trail Phase. The next Phase, being designed right now, will pick up from there and continue the Trail south through the park and to 13th Street.

Over the years The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, in concert with other Nebraska Tree organizations, has offered various grants of trees that the Lexington Tree Board has applied. Sometimes we get actual trees, a few at a time, but often we develop a plan, solicit bids, and agree to pay a portion of the cost of the tree installation and maintenance. We are proud to say that since 2009, these state programs have helped add more than 300 high quality trees to Lexington's Urban Forest.

Last fall we became aware of a new round of TNT Grants. That's "Trees for Nebraska Towns." The



**Along with Tree Board members, City staff and Chamber Ambassadors, the ribbon cutting took place at the trailhead near 20th & Adams.  
Photo by Brian Neben, Lexington Clipper-Herald**

Tree Board, seeing the long unbroken length of fresh concrete, realized an opportunity to improve and soften that landscape. We applied for 50 trees and our request was approved.

Thus, the second part of this dedication is to recognize these 50 TNT trees, some of which you see here but most of which stretch along this trail for eight-tenths of a mile. Now that these beautiful trees are sporting their first sets of leaves in their permanent home, it's time.

As we cut the Double Duty Ribbon today, I want to thank the Lexington City Council, The Lexington Tree Board, City Manager Joe Peplitsch, Kevin Lien and his crew at Lien Landscaping, the Lexington Parks Crew, the Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce and Ambassadors, the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, the Nebraska Forest Service, the Nebraska Environmental Trust, and the University of Nebraska Lincoln, and the Nebraska Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.



# YARD WASTE ONLY!

At the yard waste site on East Walnut



**Violators subject to fines.**  
**Other large items may be disposed of at the City Service Building, 801 W Vine.**



**801 West Vine St.**  
**308-324-5995**  
**Mon. - Fri.**  
**8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

## SUMMER SATURDAYS:

**The Service Building is open the third Saturday of the month**  
**8 a.m. - 12 p.m**

- dispose of furniture, appliances, pallets, and other large items
- recycle paper, plastic, cardboard and pallets
- pick up free wood chips or compost



## 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



# TORNADO

Now that “tornado season” is here, Emergency Management Warning Sirens will sound to alert residents of an impending tornado in our area.

## TORNADO NATURAL DISASTER TECHNICAL HAZARD

### 3 MINUTE STEADY SIGNAL

This signal indicates that a tornado, natural disaster, or technical hazard is pending. Persons should take cover or move to a place of safety and listen to a local radio or television station for information and further instructions. This siren may sound more than once if deemed necessary by Emergency Management.

**Do not call the police or radio station to ask for information. People SIGHTING a tornado or funnel in this are urged to notify the Dawson County Emergency Center at 911.**

### ALL-CLEAR

The all-clear bulletin will be issued by the local radio and TV stations in cooperation with the National Weather Service.

**Local Emergency Management WILL NOT issue an all-clear statement.**

During unusual threatening weather or emergency conditions, listen to a local radio or TV station for further information.

## SAFETY GUIDELINES

The following are general safety guidelines for seeking shelter:

- Move to a lower level or basement
  - If no lower level is available, move to an interior room or hallway on the lowest floor and get under a sturdy piece of furniture. Put as many walls as possible between you and the outside.
  - Stay away from windows.
  - Flying debris from tornadoes causes most deaths and injuries. Cover your head and make yourself the smallest target possible.
- Do not try to outrun a tornado in your car; instead, get out of the vehicle and seek safe shelter in a nearby building.
- If you are outside and there is no shelter immediately available, avoid trees and vehicles. Do not get under an overpass or bridge. You are safe in a low, flat location. Lie flat in a nearby ditch or depression and cover your head with your hands.

Emergency warning system tests of one minute in duration are conducted the first Thursday of each month at 9:00 a.m. **Sirens are designed for outdoors warning only.** For optimal safety, citizens are encouraged to get weather radios using the **NOAA** (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and/or **SAME** (Specific Area Message Encoding) standards.

