

# City Happenings

February 2017

An eNewsletter from the City of Lexington, Nebraska



## Mobile Children's Museum to Visit Lexington This Summer



NEBRASKA STATEHOOD 150



This summer Lexington will be one of 42 Nebraska cities to host NE 150 Celebration's "Truckin' Through Nebraska: A Mobile Children's Museum." The 26-week tour will start in April, although exact dates for each city have not yet been determined.

Lexington's time with the exhibit will be on the grounds of the Dawson County Historical Museum, 805 N. Taft Street. The next closest cities will be Holdrege and Broken Bow.

With a focus on Nebraska history, this outreach is a part of Nebraska's Sesquicentennial Celebration, marking 150 years of statehood. While exhibits in the Mobile Children's Museum are intended for children ages 5-12, audiences of all ages are welcome. Admittance is free and open to the public.

The Mobile Children's Museum is contained in a 53-foot state-of-the-art custom air-ride, double-expandable trailer that is specially designed and outfitted for traveling museum exhibits. The unit is climate controlled, has GPS tracking, Wi-Fi, its own generator

and is ADA accessible. Interior exhibits will include areas where kids will build shelters and test them in a wind chamber or earthquake simulator, design their own simulated 10-acre homestead, test their

knowledge of Nebraska, create their own movie, explore toys from the past, craft their own postcards and more.

Exhibits will also surround the exterior of the trailer, allowing for optimal play and learning space. Those exhibits will include a timed "chore" challenge obstacle course, foam block invention area, toy creation station and more.

The Mobile Children's Museum is sponsored in part by Children's Hospital and First National Bank. Much of the credit for guiding this project goes to Omaha's Children Museum.

More information about the Nebraska 150 Celebration is available at [www.ne150.org](http://www.ne150.org) or on Facebook at [facebook.com/nebraska150](https://facebook.com/nebraska150).



# 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.**



### 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, you can save water



### Save Water

Did you know that each of us uses 77 gallons of water a day?

When we over-water our lawns, the excess water carries pollution into storm drains and ditches that lead directly to our lakes and rivers.

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

- Treat water as a valued resource. Water when necessary, instead of on a fixed schedule.
- Adjust your sprinklers to water only your lawn and plants – not your driveway, sidewalk or street.
- Use mulch around trees and plants to help retain water, reduce weeds, and minimize the need for pesticides.
- Use rainwater to water your plants by directing downspouts toward your plants, or by collecting water with rain barrels.
- Make your lawn cheaper and easier to maintain by mowing high – three inches is the rule. Longer grass has deeper roots and requires less water.

Save water and help keep our environment clean!



Support provided by NDEQ



www.cityoflex.com





## GGC Happenings

407 East 6th Street

### Annual Cake Decorating & Auction February 9, 2017, 1:00 p.m.



Join us for our annual cake decorating day! We will have cakes baked and ready for you to frost. You have your choice of white or chocolate cake and round, square or heart shaped as well as 1 or 2 layers. White, red, green and yellow frosting will be available for you to use. You will need to bring anything else you think you might need for your cake.

Teams can be one or two people. Your theme may be Valentines Day, or use your own ideas.

Decorated cakes will be displayed and up for auction through Friday, Feb. 10, at 1:00 p.m. All proceeds go to the GGC Support Fund.

Contact Susan or Deb at 324-2498 to reserve your cake at no cost.



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS  
TO ATTEND

## DINNER & AUCTION SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 2017

JOIN US FOR AN EVENING  
BENEFITTING LEXINGTON  
AND THE  
SURROUNDING AREA.

RESERVATIONS NOW  
BEING ACCEPTED

RESERVED, LIMITED SEATING ONLY

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE  
PAID IN ADVANCE

INDIVIDUAL SEATS: \$100  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

LEXINGTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

PO Box 422 | 607 N. Washington  
Lexington, NE | 308.324.6704  
lexfoundation@windstream.net



## Your City Progress: Before & After



**Own pieces of Lexington History!**  
We have tons of brick pavers left over from street projects.  
**ON SALE NOW: 5 for \$1**  
*(lots of 5 only)*

**Purchase and get the pavers at the Glenn Hawks Community Service Building**  
**801 West Vine Street**  
**324-5995**  
**Monday - Friday**  
**8 AM - 5 PM**

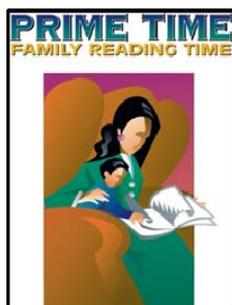


## Library News

by Kathy Thomsen  
Library Director



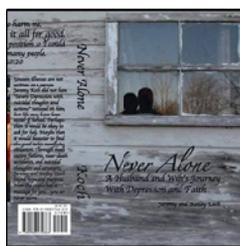
907  
North  
Washington  
Street



The Lexington Public Library is taking registrations for **Prime Time Family Reading Time** (Spanish/English)! If

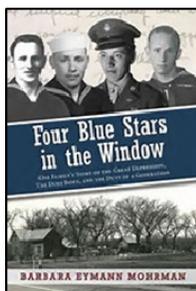
you have a child 6 to 10 years old, sign up for this Saturday morning program, then come as a family. We start with a light brunch, followed by sharing a story or two, and finish by learning a little about what the library has to offer you. Join us for this fun family program that builds your child's love of reading. Prime Time is scheduled for February 18 & 25, March 4, 18 & 25, and April 1, from 10:30 a.m. to noon. Space is limited, preregistration is required, call (308) 324-2151 or visit the library. This program is sponsored by the **Lexington Public Library, Humanities Nebraska, State of Nebraska, Nebraska Cultural Endowment, W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Peter Kiewit Foundation, the Sherwood Foundation, and Carol Gendler.**

"Booked for Lunch" programs for March and April will welcome two Nebraska authors. On February 23, **Jeremy Koch** from Cozad, Nebraska will present a program about his book "Never Alone: A



Bailey, his wife, have dealt with his depression and the road to healing.

Husband's and Wife's Journey through Depression and Faith." It is his story of how he and



On March 30, **Barbara Eymann Mohrman**, author of "Four Blue Stars in the Window: A Story of WWII," will present a program that follows her father and three uncles

as they move from the difficult dust bowl years into major battles of the Great War including Tarawa, Saipan, Leyte Gulf, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. The program also tells of those who waited at home. The author uses diaries, logbooks, interviews, photographs and authentic World War II memorabilia to tell the story of her family's experiences during WWII. "Booked for Lunch" programs will begin serving at 11:30 a.m. and will serve until noon. The speaker will begin speaking at noon.

Two musical programs sponsored by the Lexington Library Memorial Fund and the Lexington Community Foundation will be

held in March. Join us for these wonderful afternoons of musical entertainment. Refreshments will be served.

On March 12, 2:00 p.m., **Peter, Chuck, and Job** will perform at the Library.

Voted the number one band in their hometown of North Platte, Nebraska, Peter Rogers, Chuck Salestrom and Job Vigil focus on light rock and pop hits from the '60s and '70s, and they have fun doing it.



On Sunday, March 26, at 2:00 p.m. singer, songwriter **Roxanne Redd** from Omaha will be performing your favorite songs from the 70s until today, including some of her original songs. Lexington's Assistant City Manager, **Dennis Burnside**, will be accompanying her on guitar.



CITY OF **Lexington** NEBRASKA  
presents: **Lexington TURF TOTS**

**WHERE** Lexington Fieldhouse, 1502 Airport Road, Lexington, NE

**WHEN**

January 16 - March 30, 2017

Monday & Wednesday, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Tuesday & Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**ABOUT**

- ▶ Turf Tots is a drop-in free play program for children 1-5 years old. Kids can run and play with equipment provided by the City, including sport balls, crawl tunnels, hula hoops, and more!
- ▶ Parents are required to play on the field and supervise during the event.
- ▶ Please ensure you and your toddler wear comfortable clothing and tennis shoes.
- ▶ An extra layer is advisable in case they get cold.
- ▶ No food is allowed in the Fieldhouse.
- ▶ Water is allowed in spill-proof bottles on concrete areas.



**CONTACT** Ann H. Luther, 308-325-5277

**STUDENTS!**

**NOW** is the time to apply for summer City jobs: concessions, lifeguards, & 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!**

**WE ASK OUR CUSTOMERS**

**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.

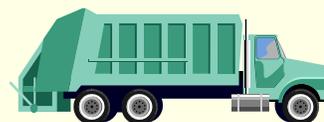
If your curbside trash container fills before the weekly pickup, please call for additional containers.

**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.

**Dan's Sanitation**

324-6693 • Lexington





## Qualities for an "alive city"

- Alive cities always have parking problems, dead cities don't.
- Alive cities are constantly innovating new methods, dead cities don't have to.
- Alive cities have lots of "noisy" youth, dead cities are fairly quiet.
- Alive cities seem to find the money to do what is needed, in dead cities' money becomes a big issue.
- Alive cities grow so fast you forget people's names; in dead cities everybody knows everybody's name.
- Alive cities support community projects enthusiastically, dead cities don't.
- Alive cities focus on people, dead cities focus on problems.
- Alive cities are filled with givers; dead cities are filled with takers.

*From Nebraska Municipal Power Pool newsletter **Esselte**, which cites the source as a November 2008 Chamber of Commerce "Pacesetter" issue.*



## Historic City Happenings Headlines



**2009**

The Lexington Police Department got a new radar trailer. Grant money paid for all the \$10,000 cost of the solar-powered unit.



**2010**

The Concessions/Restroom building near the Optimist Recreation Complex soccer stadium was completed. The building is now attached to the new Lexington Fieldhouse.



**2011**

Both Lexington water towers were repainted, incorporating the City's logo and the legend, "EST. 1874." Fun fact: the official name of the color is "Wicker."

**2012**

Ground was broken for a new Orthman Manufacturing plant in the City's new Southeast Business District. That plant went into full operation last year.



**2013**

The Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED) awarded the City of Lexington \$225,000 in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to renovate the Majestic Theater.



## EnergyWise Tip: **EnergyGuide Labels**



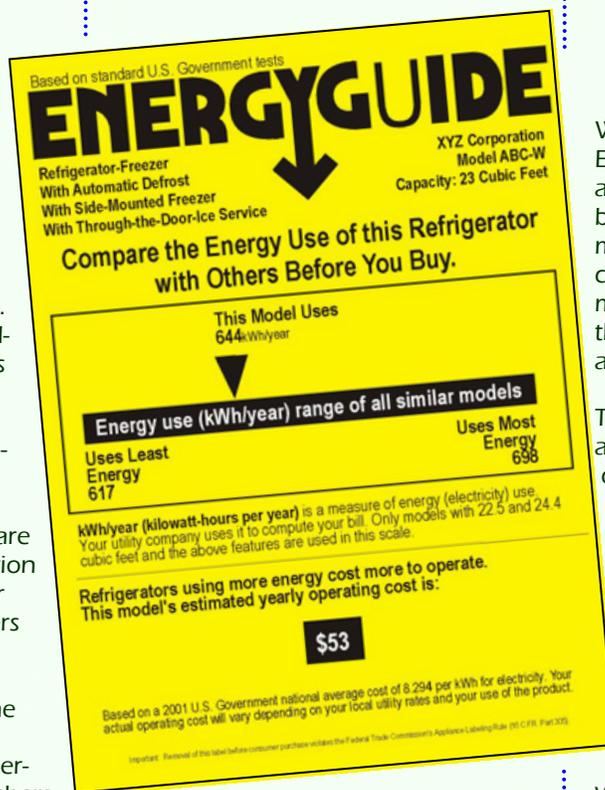
Have you been shopping for a refrigerator or washer lately? If so, you probably noticed many of the appliances in the store have a bright yellow and black label on them. While you may know this “EnergyGuide Label” provides an idea of what it will cost to operate the appliance, most people are not aware of how to gain the most value from the information it contains.

First of all, it is worth noting that appliance energy labels have been around for quite a while. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) issued the Energy Labeling Rule in 1979 pursuant to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act of 1975. The rule requires energy labeling for major home appliances and other consumer products to help consumers compare competing models. It also prohibits retailers from removing the labels or rendering them illegible. In addition, retailers are directed to post label information on their websites and in paper catalogs from which consumers order products.

When it was first published, the rule applied to eight product categories: refrigerators, refrigerator-freezers, freezers, dishwashers, water heaters, clothes washers, room air conditioners and furnaces. Over time the FTC expanded the rule to include central air conditioners, heat pumps, plumbing products, lighting products, ceiling fans and televisions. Clothes dryers, dehumidifiers, humidifiers, ovens and ranges are still exempt from labeling.

EnergyGuide labels contain three key product disclosures: Estimated annual energy cost; a product’s energy consumption or energy efficiency rating as determined from U.S. Department of Energy test procedures; and a comparability range displaying the highest and lowest energy costs or efficiency ratings for all similar models.

3. A cost range to compare the energy use of different models with similar features.
4. An estimate of how much electricity the appliance uses in a year based on typical use.
5. If you see the ENERGY STAR® logo on the label too, it means the appliance met certain quality, energy efficiency, environmental and warranty criteria to be considered better than average.



What if you cannot find the EnergyGuide label on the appliance, Look inside or on the back of the appliance; the label might be there. You can also check the retailer’s or manufacturer’s websites to see the EnergyGuide for a particular appliance.

Though shopping for the right appliance can be difficult when considering all the features, product reviews and prices, the EnergyGuide label can at least reduce some of the questions you might have about energy usage. For more ideas on saving energy while running your home, along with possible EnergyWise<sup>SM</sup> energy efficiency financial incentives, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit [www.nppd.com](http://www.nppd.com).

While there are four particular formats for EnergyGuide labels, all four present the following:

1. The manufacturer, model and size of the appliance it is attached to.
2. Cost to run the appliance for a year, based on its electric use in an “average” household and the national average cost of energy.

