

City Happenings

#113



June 2025



East Viaduct Project Getting Girders



The East Viaduct project at Highway 30 and Road 435 are taking on a new dimension.

The first girder was placed May 22 (left photo), as of May 29 there are two more (right photo). There will be a total of 10 girders, which comprise the main support and infrastructure for the actual driving surface.

Each girder is 165 feet long, 6.5 feet high and

4 feet wide, and weighs about 155,000 pounds. Interestingly, there are only three trucks in Nebraska capable of transporting the girders, and then only one at a time.

Highway 30 motorists might encounter brief stoppages and/or detours for short periods while the girders are being installed.





Happy Retirement Jo Keim!

After 36 years of faithful service, the City of Lexington held a retirement reception at the Grand Generation Center on May 9. It's been quite a ride, Jo, and we all wish you the best in your retirement!



YARD WASTE ONLY!

At the Yard Waste Site at 1201 E Industry Drive

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

(May -

October):

The Service Building is open the

third Saturday of the month

8 a.m. - 12 p.m

- dispose of furniture, appliances, and other large items (small fee may apply)
- recycle paper, plastic, and cardboard
- pick up free wood chips or compost



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/profile.php?id=100064541806134>





Library News



907 N Washington
(308) 324-2151



by Jennifer Norton
Library Director

*"No person who can read is ever successful at cleaning out an attic."
~ Ann Landers*



Summer Reading Programs are slated for the month of June at the Lexington Public Library. Several special events are also scheduled.

Storytimes are each Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. Special guest readers and a trip to the farm are all scheduled:

- ★ June 4—Read with Rocio
- ★ June 11—Sheltering Hands (special guest)
- ★ June 18—Lexington Regional Health Center (special guest)
- ★ June 25—Storytime at the Farm

Students grades 3-6 are invited to attend **"Summer Exploration"** classes hosted by **Dawson County 4-H and Extension**. These classes will be held on Fridays at the Lexington Public Library at 10-11 a.m. Please register before the first class. Space is limited.



Art Classes for grades 3-7 will be held each Saturday in June from 9-11 a.m. Registration is required for all classes, as space is limited.

Teen Book Club for grades 8-12 will be held on Thursdays from 6 -7:30 p.m. in June. Teens will be provided with the book selection, **Profiles in Courage** by **John F. Kennedy**, and meet each week to discuss the book and take part in leadership development with guest speakers. Please register and pick up a copy of the book. The first meeting is June 5.



Golden Sower Book Club will meet on Friday - June 20 at 11 a.m.

This club is open to any middle school student or high school freshman. Pick up your copy of **What Happened to Rachel**

Riley, a 2024-2025 Golden Sower nominee, read it before June 20 and come for the discussion and snacks on June 20 at 11 a.m.



- ★ June 5; 10 a.m. - Lexington Middle School Auditorium
Crane River Theater presents:
Page to Stage: **The Little Mermaid**
- ★ June 16; 1 p.m. - Lexington Middle School Auditorium
Illusionist Keith West
- ★ June 20; 3 p.m. - Lexington Public Library: **The LEGO Guy**



Summer Reading BINGO sheets are available for all ages.

Kids can keep up their reading and have fun by reading, going



Like
us on
Facebook

(Library News continues
on next page)



Library News

(continued from previous page)

places, and exploring our colorful world. Start your BINGO today! Adults aren't left out! Pick up a BOOKISH BINGO and read for prizes throughout the summer. Get a Blackout and be entered to win the GRAND PRIZE.

ADULT programs

June 12; 7 p.m.- Lexington Public Library
Willia Cather & John William "Blind Boone" presented by **Tracy Tucker**,
National Willa Cather Center
(*"Blind Boone" Traveling exhibit on display at the Library*)
(*Impact Willa Cather art exhibit on display at the Library*)

June 24; 4-6 p.m.
Lexington Public Library
Creative Aging Arts Program - **Ceramics Art Show w/ students of Rose Mapel**



July 10; 2 p.m.
Lexington Public Library
Sean Gaskell & the West African Kora
(*musical program*)



DAWSON COUNTY FAIR & RODEO

July 16 - 20, 2025

1000 Plum Creek Pkwy, Lexington, NE



www.dawsoncountyfair.com



Lexington Police Chief Named to Regional Post

Congratulations to **Lexington Police Chief Paul Schwarz** on his recent honor!

We are proud to announce that Chief Paul Schwarz of the Lexington Police Department has been selected as the Region 2 Director for the Police Chiefs Association of Nebraska (PCAN). This position recognizes Chief Schwarz's dedication, leadership, and commitment to excellence in law enforcement.



Please join us in congratulating Chief Schwarz on this well-deserved appointment. We are confident that he will serve with the same integrity and commitment that he has consistently demonstrated throughout his career.



The City's website has tools to help you save energy and money.



Interactive Energy Home



Look for this button at

www.cityoflex.com/departments/utilities



Please Take the Backflow Survey

Here's how you can help us keep your water supply uncontaminated! The City has created an online survey, short and simple to complete. All water customers – please help with this state requirement!

The survey can be found at the City website: www.cityoflex.com. Just click on the Backflow article in the "News" section.

If you have questions please call 308-324-5995





EnergyWise Tip: **Robotic Mowers**



by NPPD Energy Efficiency
Program Manager
Cory Fuehrer

You know it's springtime when you hear certain sounds in the fresh morning air: the gentle rumble of an approaching thunderstorm, the soft buzzing of bees pollinating flowers, the singing of songbirds announcing their return . . . and that over-zealous neighbor who noisily starts mowing before 7 a.m. on Sundays!

You know what that neighbor needs? A robotic mower. Most operate within the range of 55 to 60 decibels (dB). That's the average level of a conversation between two people speaking in a soft to normal voice. Your neighbor's gas-powered mower, like others, probably ranges between 90 to 100 dB. That's the same level of noise produced by hair dryers, blenders & motorcycles.

You could also tell your neighbor about the other great advantages robotic mowers have, including:

Time savings

Whether you're on vacation or doing projects around the house, robotic mowers operate autonomously, allowing you to set a schedule and forget about mowing. When the mower's battery is nearly depleted, the mower heads to its station for recharging, which usually takes one to three hours. Then it heads back to keep mowing where it left off.



Less maintenance

The blades on a robotic mower should be replaced every two to three months. Other than that, occasionally clean the undercarriage, then check and lubricate moving parts, and you should be set. Compare that to the hassle of removing and sharpening blades and changing oil when relying on a gas-powered mower.

Healthier lawn

Because robotic mowers are designed to mow more frequently, clippings are smaller and decompose more quickly. Compared to mowing once or twice a week with a gas-powered mower, the robotic mower's reduced length of cut creates less stress to grass and helps to promote a healthier, denser lawn.

Efficiency and energy cost savings

Consider the seasonal energy use and cost for mowing the average Nebraska lawn, which is reported to be 13,921 square feet according to Today's Homeowner, the #1 syndicated home improvement TV show in the U.S. Over the course of a seven-month mowing season, a randomly selected robotic mower clips the lawn every other day and consumes almost 62 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity. At last mowing season's average cost of 11.56¢ per kWh in Nebraska, the total is about \$7.14.

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Robotic Mowers

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In comparison, this size of lawn could be trimmed with a 21-inch, gas-powered mulching push mower every third day. By the end of the same seven-month mowing season, the push mower will have used 35½ gallons of gasoline and required 71 hours of someone's time to push it. If gas were \$3 per gallon, that comes to \$106.50. You can determine what 71 hours of free time is worth.

Safety

Cutting on slopes with push or riding mowers always presents a safety concern. Robotic mowers can typically mow slopes of 20-35 degrees, with some tackling even steeper grades. More advanced models have sensors that can detect obstacles and maneuver around them or even automatically stop the blades when the mower is lifted.

With a little luck, your neighbor's early morning lawncare routine will never disrupt your morning tranquility again. Who knows? By now, maybe you're interested in a robotic mower. To find additional information about incentives for purchasing electric yard tools including robotic mowers, or other energy-saving opportunities, contact your Lexington Utilities System or visit www.energywisenebraska.com.



GGC Happenings



407 E 6th Street
308-324-2948



Cattle Trails: Songs of the West

Saddle up and join us at the GGC for a special Western-themed performance!

June 25

12:00 PM

Grand Generation Center

Featuring Joan Wells and Kris Simon

"Cattle Trails: Songs of the West"—a musical journey celebrating cowboy life, cattle drives, and the spirit of the frontier.

Don't miss this toe-tapping good time!



Sons of the American Revolution Dedicate Liberty Tree



In cooperation with Dawson County's Bonneville Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, members of Nebraska Chapters of the Sons of the American Revolution on April 26 dedicated a "Liberty Tree at Lexington's Veterans Pavilion.

The event was inspired by 2025 being the 250th anniversary of the Battle of Lexington, Massachusetts; the first major military campaign of the Revolutionary War. The actual battle date was April 19.

Dozens of spectators attended, despite cold and rainy conditions. SAR speakers, some of whom dressed in period costumes gave talks about the battle and patriots of the day, as well as the significance of the Liberty Tree, a famous elm tree that stood near Boston Common in the years before the American Revolution. Lexington Mayor John Fagot spoke, and was invited to sign a reproduction of the Declaration of Independence.



For the finale of the one-hour event, everyone moved to the memorial brick wall area, where Lexington's Liberty Tree was dedicated with an aluminum plaque. Then several groups took turns to share inspiring words as they performed commemorative wreath placements near the wall. Finally everyone was invited to the Dawson County Historical Museum for a lunch served by the local DAR.

Thank you SAR, DAR, all the associated groups, and all veterans and their families for their sacrifices.



HOW DOES STORMWATER IMPACT OUR WATER SUPPLY?

A WATERSHED IS ALL THE LAND AREA THAT DRAINS INTO A STREAM, RIVER, LAKE OR OTHER BODY OF WATER. STORMWATER RUNOFF – RAINFALL THAT DOES NOT SOAK INTO THE GROUND, BUT INSTEAD FLOWS OVER THE LAND OR THROUGH STORM SEWER PIPES INTO THESE SURFACE WATERS – IS IMPORTANT TO REPLENISH OUR WATER SUPPLY AND CONTRIBUTES TO MAINTAINING GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER FLOWS THAT SUPPORT AQUATIC LIFE AND HABITAT.

STORMWATER IS NOT TREATED AT FACILITIES BEFORE IT ENTERS THE ENVIRONMENT. ANY POLLUTANTS OR LITTER PICKED UP BY STORMWATER GOES DIRECTLY INTO SURFACE WATER SOURCES. AS THE NUMBER OF IMPERVIOUS SURFACES SUCH AS ROOFTOPS, ROADS AND PARKING LOTS INCREASE, THE FEWER OPPORTUNITIES RAINFALL HAS TO NATURALLY RETURN TO THE ENVIRONMENT. PROPER MANAGEMENT OF STORMWATER CAN HELP AVOID NEGATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS LIKE EROSION, FLOODING AND CONTAMINATION OF OUR WATER.

WHILE STORMWATER IS AN IMPORTANT ASSET FOR REPLENISHING NATURAL BODIES OF WATER, STORMWATER POLLUTION CAN MAKE MONITORING AND TREATMENT OF OUR DRINKING WATER MORE DIFFICULT AND COSTLY, ESPECIALLY IN METROPOLITAN NORTH GEORGIA WHERE ALMOST ALL OF OUR DRINKING WATER COMES FROM SURFACE WATER. WHEN MANAGED PROPERLY, STORMWATER CAN SUPPORT THE HEALTH OF THE AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM OF THE STREAMS, RIVERS AND LAKES THAT SO MANY USE FOR SWIMMING, FISHING OR OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES.



**KIRKPATRICK
MEMORIAL PARK**

**CITY OF
Lexington**

JULY 2, 2025

EXTENDED POOL HOURS (8 PM CLOSE)
FOOD TRUCKS &
FIREWORKS SHOW

Fireworks provided by
City of Lexington & Shotkoski Fireworks
Show will begin at sun down (10 pm)

Food Vendors
TBD

Popcorn at LFAC Concessions

ENERGYWISE™
Use less. Spend less. Do more.

A \$30 incentive
is available to qualified customers who have their current cooling system inspected and tuned-up by an HVAC contractor.

Contact us for more information.

**LEXINGTON
LEXUS
UTILITIES SYSTEM**

308.324-2343

In partnership with our supplier, Nebraska Public Power District, we deliver energy to you.



Lexington Family Aquatic Center

10th & Monroe
Lexington, Nebraska



Adult Daily \$4.00
Youth/Senior Daily \$3.00
Family Daily \$12.00
Individual Season Pass \$50.00
Family Season Pass \$120.00
No punch passes in 2025

Hours:
1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Daily
(weather permitting)



TUESDAYS AND THURSDAYS
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM
STARTING JUNE 3RD
FREE TO PUBLIC: AGES 16+

NOTE: ADMISSION TO LFAC WHEN FACILITY OPENS
AT 1PM NOT INCLUDED

JOIN US FOR A FUN, LOW-IMPACT WORKOUT THAT
BUILDS STRENGTH, IMPROVES FLEXIBILITY, AND
BOOSTS CARDIOVASCULAR HEALTH – ALL WITHOUT
STRESSING YOUR JOINTS. PERFECT FOR ALL FITNESS
LEVELS! LED BY LIAH HAINES.



REGISTRATION BEGINS
TUESDAY, MAY 27TH @ LFAC

\$10 PER SESSION
15 STUDENTS PER
GROUP

Contact LFAC front
desk with
questions or to
register.
308-324-6288

SESSIONS:

LEVELS PRE-K, 1, 2
11:30 AM TO 12:00 PM
JUNE 2-6
JUNE 16-20
JULY 7-11

LEVELS 3, 4, 5
11:30 AM TO 12:15 PM
JUNE 9-13
JUNE 23-27
JULY 14-18



Lexington Tree Board Annual 3rd Grade Arbor Day Poster Contest 2025 Winners

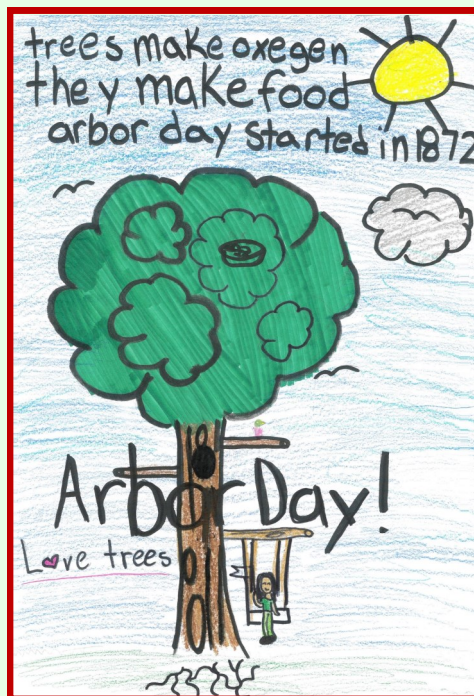


Above: Poster from Sandoz Elementary's Ethan Merida.

Below: Ethan holding his framed poster along with Tree Board members Mary Smith and Dave Stenberg.



For their annual 3rd grade Arbor Day poster contest, the Lexington Tree Board named two winners shown above. The Tree Board judged 234 poster entries from third grade pupils. The purpose of the contest is to build appreciation at an early age for trees and the many benefits they give us. Arbor Day is always the last



Above: Poster from Bryan Elementary's Harlow Rickertsen.

Below: Harlow with her framed poster along with Tree Board members Mary Smith, Dave Stenberg & Jake Saulsbury.



Friday in April. This year it was April 25, and marks the 153rd year of Arbor Day, and the 53rd anniversary of the Arbor Day Foundation, headquartered in Nebraska City. Lexington Tree Board members are: Tom Nelson, Marty Smith Kevin Zelaya. Dave Stenberg and Jake Saulsbury.

DRIVING RANGE OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Self-Service



May be closed if cold or stormy . . .

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

Buy a New Electric Lawn & Garden Tool, Get a Rebate



20% incentive on any NEW battery powered or corded lawn mower, chain saw, tiller, edger, trimmer, pruner, or leaf blower

Must be new and purchased on or after Jan. 1, 2025

Costs NOT eligible: installation, taxes, shipping/delivery, and setup costs

Chargers and additional battery purchases are eligible for the incentive at the time of initial snow blower purchase.

Proof of purchase required.



Nebraska Public Power District

Find the application form at www.EnergyWiseNebraska.com

Return paperwork to LEXUS, 406 E 7th, PO Box 70, Lexington, NE 68850



JUNE 27, 2025

6 PM ★



Make Sparks! Run for the Parks!

City of Lexington 5K Run/Walk

Event: 6 PM, June 27

Individual Entry: \$25.00

Family Registration: \$20.00

*(\$20.00 each Family member)



Register by
Thursday, June 19
to Guarantee
Event Shirt

Post Race Celebration @

MAC'S



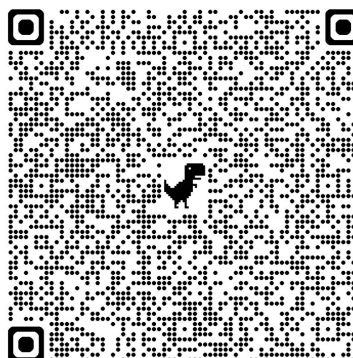
CREEK

WINERY & BREWERY

43315 Road 75I

Register Online by
scanning QR Code:

If Mailing or
dropping off entry
form, please fill out
the next page!



Free t-shirt
Complimentary drink at
Mac's Creek Winery & Brewery
Free admission to the
Lexington Family Aquatic
Center on Saturday, June 28

Start and Finish at Lexington Racquet Center
1110 Park St.

@CITYOFLEXPARKSANDREC

Contact Information: Ann Luther, 308-325-5277, aluther@cityoflex.com

Jake Saulsbury, 308-746-3543, jsaulsbury@cityoflex.com





JUNE 27, 2025
6 PM

City of Lexington
Make Sparks! Run for the Parks!
★5K Run/Walk★



REGISTRATION FORM

Mail Registration form to:

Lexington City Office

Attn: Jake Saulsbury

PO BOX 70, Lexington, NE 68850

Drop off at one of these locations: **Forms also available at locations**

● Lexington Grand Generation Center, 407 E. 6th St.

● Lexington Family Aquatic Center, 1002 N. Monroe

***MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CITY OF LEXINGTON**

☐ \$25.00 Individual ☐ \$20.00 for each immediate family member ☐ Total Enclosed: \$[]

Name

Phone #

Email Address

Birth Date

City

State

Zip

Emergency Contact Name

Emergency Contact Phone #

T-Shirt Size: Youth M Youth L Adult Sizes: Small Medium Large XL 2XL 3XL
(Circle One)

• Register by
Thursday, June 19
to Guarantee
Shirt

**Please fill out information below for immediate family members participating in event:
\$20.00 each family member participating in the event (please indicate youth or adult t-shirt size)**

Name Gender (M/F) Birth Date Tshirt Size

Name Gender (M/F) Birth Date Tshirt Size

Name Gender (M/F) Birth Date Tshirt Size

Name Gender (M/F) Birth Date

Start and Finish at Lexington Racquet Center 1110 Park St.

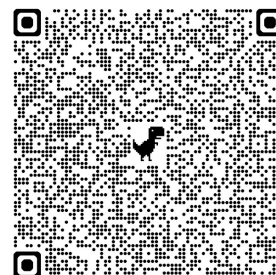


@CITYOFFLEXPARKSANDREC

Register Online by
scanning QR Code:

Contact Information:

Jake Saulsbury, 308-746-3543, jsaulsbury@cityoflex.com





CLIP & SAVE

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.

