

# City Happenings

#117



February 2026



## A View From the New East Viaduct



Looking west from the deck of the new viaduct



View from the south (looking north)

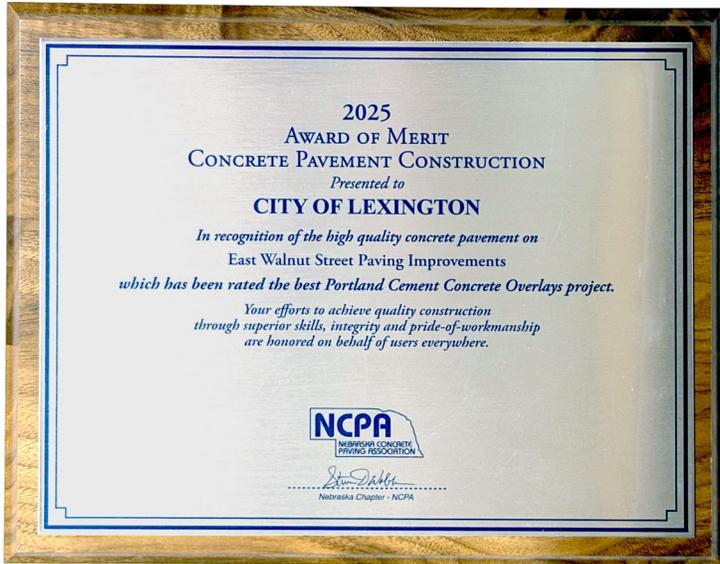


View from the north (looking south)

We celebrate the completion of the East Viaduct project at Highway 30 and Road 435, noting that the Nebraska Department of Transportation gave the official go-ahead for construction on Sept. 20, 2012. In fact that date was preceded by several years of studies, public information meetings, preliminary drawings and environmental assessments. Most of the project's funding came from the Federal Highway Administration, plus some from Union Pacific Railroad. Thanks to everyone for your patience. The new roadway is already enjoying significant use!



## Lexington Receives Award for Paving Excellence



Lexington received a prestigious Award of Merit at the 46th annual Nebraska Concrete Paving Association Workshop held in Lincoln January 27-28. The award, shared with the paving contractors, was for work done on East Walnut street in conjunction with the East Viaduct project., in the category of Portland Cement Concrete Overlays. In recent years Lexington received similar NCPA awards: in 2021 for East Addition Phase 1 Improvements, and in 2011 for the hike-bike trail paving done as part of the West 13th Street reconstruction.



### Follow 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>



### 115 YEARS!

**International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. International Women's Day has been held every March 8 since 1911.**





## Library News



907 N Washington  
(308) 324-2151



by Jennifer Norton  
Library Director

*"Books are the quietest and most constant of friends; they are the most accessible and wisest of counselors, and the most patient of teachers." - Charles William Eliot, Harvard College President 1869-1909*



Hey Teens! You are invited to a **teens-only event** on February 13 from 5:30-7:00 after

the Library closes at 5 p.m. Come have a great time playing **hide & seek** in the library, playing games, and sharing in some shenanigans that can only happen after all the other librarians go home. Food and beverages, snacks and surprises are all in store for the library's first teens-only after-hours event. Open to 6th-8th graders, registration is NOT required.

"P.S. We Love You" is February's **Family Fun Night** theme. Join us for an



evening of all things LOVE on February 19 at 5:30. Have some heart-healthy snacks, be kind to your heart by giving it a workout and take part in other fun-loving activities. The Library loves its patrons of every age, so bring

your family and feel the LOVE! March's Family Fun Night is slated for March 19 at 5:30.



**Lunch and Learn** is February 26 from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Join us for lunch and stay to learn from **Sandy Mittelstaedt** about the naturalization process for immigrants to the United States. A member of the Lexington **Daughters of the American Revolution**, Sandy will share her knowledge of the citizenship test and through a question-and-answer session, you'll have a chance to find out how much you know. Please register by calling 308-324-2151. Space is limited to 20. Another Lunch & Learn is scheduled for March 26 with the topic to be determined.



Don't forget . . . **Story Time** is every Wednesday at 10:30 for preschool aged children and their caregivers. No need to register, just come when you can.



On February 18 the library will host special guests **Teri Edeal** and her miniature pony, **Jet**. Come interact with the smartest pony we know-he plays the piano! February 25 will be a celebration of grandparents so bring your Nana, Papa, Mimi, or Abuela and Abuelo to have some fun with a story and activity.

*(Library News continues on next page)*



Follow us on Facebook



**Library News**

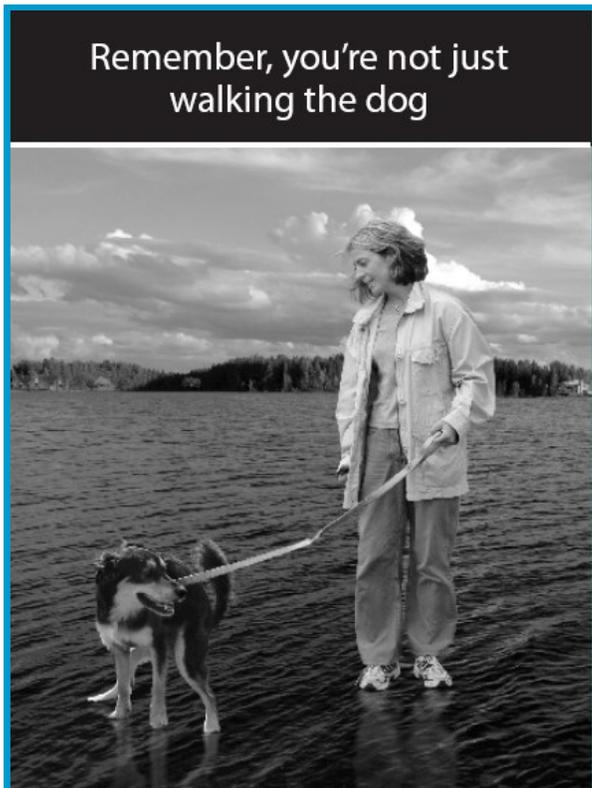
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**PRIME TIME**  
PRESCHOOL READING

**Prime Time Family Reading** programs begin on

Friday February 20. Intended for preschoolers and their parents or guardians, registration is limited to 15 families. Take part in interactive stories, activities and a meal

starting at 5:30 every Friday, February 20 - March 27. Sponsored by **Humanities Nebraska**, this family engagement program is bilingual and combines fun with literacy and learning. Please call the library to register.



Remember, you're not just walking the dog

**Clean up after your pet**

**Did you know . . .**

. . . that pet waste has bacteria that makes our lakes and rivers unsafe for swimming and other recreational activities?

Most of us pick up after our pets to be a good neighbor and keep our yards clean. But there's another important reason to clean up after our pets.

Pet waste contains bacteria that is harmful to our water. Leaving it on the sidewalk or in the yards means that harmful bacteria can get washed into storm drains and roadside ditches that flow directly into our lakes and rivers untreated.

**So what can you do? Simple.**

Whether you are in your yard or on a walk, dispose of your pet's waste promptly in the trash or toilet to prevent it from entering storm drains and roadside ditches.

Pick up after your pet — and help keep our water clean!

Support provided by



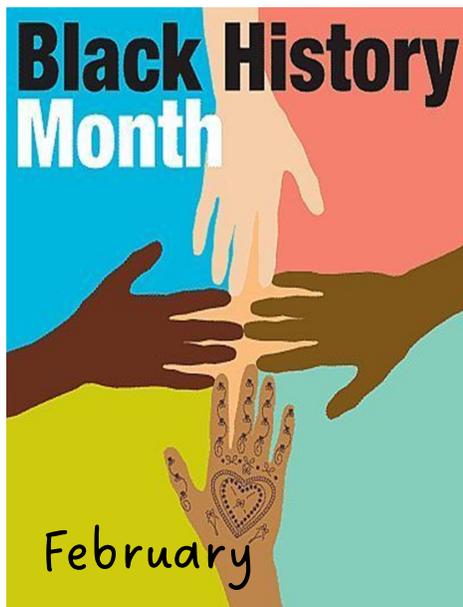
**P.S. We Love You!**  
**@ the Library**  
**Family Fun Night**  
Thursday, February 19  
5:30 pm

- Meal @ 5:30
- Love your Body Activity
- Love your Tummy Activity
- Love your Creativity Activity
- Love your Library Activity

*Lexington*  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
907 N. Washington St.  
Lexington, NE 68850  
308.324.2151





LEXINGTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
*Key 2026*  
SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026  
THE WELL EVENT CENTER (402 N. GRANT ST., LEXINGTON)  
PREPAID RESERVATIONS ACCEPTED  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2025  
RESERVED, LIMITED SEATING ONLY  
INDIVIDUAL SEATS \$150 | TABLES SEAT EIGHT  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED  
FORMAL ATTIRE

**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](http://www.cityoflex.com/departments/utilities)

**DAWSON AREA College and Career fair**  
FEBRUARY 11 2026  
at Lexington High School  
9:00am-11am

**Over 700+ Students are Invited!**

**COLLEGES:** Meet perspective students  
**EMPLOYER:** Show off your business to future employees  
**STUDENTS:** Learn what is out there for you.

For more information please contact Cyndi Hoyt [cyndi.hoyt@lexschools.org](mailto:cyndi.hoyt@lexschools.org)  
To Register:





## EnergyWise Tip: **Blown Away**



by NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

Is this the winter you finally have had enough of shoveling now? Data analyzed by the Center for Injury Research and Policy found that annually, snow shoveling leads to about 100 deaths and 11,500 emergency room visits in the U.S. Of those treated for injuries, about 15% resulted from the shovel itself.

Maybe it's time to consider an electric snowblower? Cordless, battery-electric blowers can clear paths up to 24 inches wide through as much as 20 inches of snow. Unlike their gas-powered counterparts, they require very little maintenance, run relatively quietly, are usually lighter and start with just a push of a button. When it comes to one of the quickest, least labor-intensive ways to dig out after a big snowstorm, they are hard to beat. Also, consider the following additional advantages:

**Single-Stage and Two-Stage**  
Electric snowblowers are available in both single-stage and two-stage models. Single-stage units are lighter and easy to maneuver. They use a

single auger to both scoop and discharge snow and are best suited for light to moderate snowfalls. Two-stage snowblowers have an additional impeller, which helps throw the snow further while handling heavier snow more effectively.

**Power Source**  
Unlike their under-powered, corded predecessors, most



electric snowblowers today run off rechargeable batteries for about 30 to 45 minutes on a single charge, which is about how long a tank of gasoline powers a gas snowblower. Operating time can be extended with multiple batteries.

**Compact and Easy to Store**  
Electric snowblowers take up significantly less space, making them ideal for garages with limited storage space.

### Maintenance

Unlike gas-powered units that require oil changes, tune-ups and gasoline stabilization or draining for extended periods of storage, electric units require almost no maintenance. To keep an electric snowblower running season after season, simply store the charger and batteries indoors when they aren't being charged or used. Since batteries do not hold the same amount of charge when the temperature drops below freezing, storing and charging them indoors ensures the greatest run time. Both electric and gas snowblowers last around 10 years with proper care and maintenance. However, electric snowblowers require much less effort to maintain.

### Cost

Gasoline-powered snowblowers usually have a higher purchase price, as well as fuel and maintenance costs when compared to electric snowblowers. This is especially true when evaluating smaller or single-stage units.

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## Blown Away

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Lexington Utilities System, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, also offers Energy-Wise<sup>SM</sup> incentives to their customers who purchase an electric snow-blower. Contact Lexington Utilities System or visit [www.energywise-nebraska.com](http://www.energywise-nebraska.com) for more details.



**Lexington Volunteer Fire Department**  
**P.O.Box 721**  
**Lexington, NE 68850**

### NOTICE TO ALL BURN PERMIT APPLICANTS

Beginning January 1, 2026, the Lexington Volunteer Fire Department will transition all Burn Permit Applications to an online format. Permits will no longer be issued in person at City Hall.

Applicants will now complete and submit their Burn Permit using a Google Docs form, which can be emailed directly to the Fire Department for approval. This change allows faster processing and ensures permits can be issued even when staff availability at City Hall is limited. The \$10 processing fee will be eliminated with this change.

The link to the online [Burn Permit form](#) will be provided on the City's website and can also be obtained using your phone's camera and the QR Code below.



If you have any questions or need assistance with the new process, please contact us at (308) 325-1469 or email [burnpermits@cityoflex.com](mailto:burnpermits@cityoflex.com)

Thank you for your cooperation as we work to streamline our services.

## 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





**VALENTINE'S DAY GGC**  
**Valentine's Day Dinner**  
February 16, 2026  
11:30 - 12:45



407 E. 6th

**MENU**

- ♥ Baked Chicken
- ♥ Scalloped Potatoes
- ♥ Peas
- ♥ Pineapple
- ♥ Dinner Roll
- ♥ Dessert

**COST:** \$6.50  
(under age 60)  
\$4.00 (60+)

Call by Thursday,  
Feb. 12 to place a  
to-go order.  
(308) 324-2498

## 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



## Smart Thermostat Rebate

Earn up to a  
**\$100**

Incentive when installing a qualifying smart thermostat.



Nebraska Public Power District

Find the application form at [www.EnergyWiseNebraska.com](http://www.EnergyWiseNebraska.com)  
Return paperwork to LEXUS, 406 E 7th, PO Box 70, Lexington, NE 68850



## Tips to Prevent Frozen Pipes

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



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

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



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

Learn where your main water shutoff valve is. If pipes burst, it could prevent a lot of damage.



### 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.



## More Ways to Pay Equals Greater Convenience



Did you know you have several options for paying your utility bill without having to leave home? This may become more important to you in the near future when LEXUS's lobby hours will be reduced to 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The most popular option is the Lexington Utilities System online portal: <https://lexingtonne.municipalonlinepayments.com/lexingtonne/utilities>. You can also get there from the City's website at [www.cityoflex.com/departments/utilities](http://www.cityoflex.com/departments/utilities). Follow the instructions to sign up and pay your bill online.



One reason this option is the most popular is that you can view your account history online including payment history and consumption history. You will find an option to have your monthly payment automatically withdrawn from your bank account. The forms for this arrangement can also be found online or by contacting Lexington Utilities System, (308) 324-2343.



You can also opt-in to receive your statement via email. Lexington Utilities System is planning to phase out invoices sent via regular mail. To avoid the possible additional cost of \$5.00 per month assessed to the accounts receiving regular mail invoices please, save money by signing up for email statements online (at the link above) or by contacting Lexington Utilities System, (308) 324-2343.

But wait, there's more! You have one more option and that is to pay by phone, which you can do 24/7. Simply call the automated number 866-279-3203. You'll need your account number, street address and credit/debit card number to make a payment.



## APPLY NOW!

### Summer-Temporary Seasonal Positions Available: 2026

Lex Family Aquatic Center	Parks & Rec / Street Dept.
Pool Manager (age 18+)	Lawn Mower (age 18+)
Lifeguard (age 15+)	Park Maintenance (age 16+)
Concessions (age 14+)	Street Maintenance (age 16+)
	Concessions Manager (age 18+)
	Concessions Worker (Rec & LFAC) (age 14+)

Contact: Jake Saulsbury: [jsaulsbury@cityoflex.com](mailto:jsaulsbury@cityoflex.com)

Apply online here:

The City of Lexington is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Download an application from the city website or stop by the City Office to apply within. <https://cityoflex.com/human-resources/>

## CITY OF LEXINGTON BEGINNER PICKLEBALL LESSONS!

### LEARN TO PLAY PICKLEBALL!

Fun & Friendly Classes for New Players!

**What You'll Learn:**

- ✓ Rules of the Game
- ✓ Basic Pickleball Skills
- ✓ Non-Competitive, Social Environment

**LEXINGTON RACQUET CENTER**

FEBRUARY 16TH & 23RD  
AND MARCH 2ND  
FROM 6PM TO 7PM

**SIGN UP TODAY!**

Cost: \$15 per Person  
Please Register by Thursday, February 12th

Contact Zack Follmer with questions:  
[zfollmer@cityoflex.org](mailto:zfollmer@cityoflex.org) | 308-293-2398



## HONOR TWO VETS FOR THE PRICE OF ONE

*Announcing*



To encourage our mission of completing the Veterans Pavilion Memorial Brick Wall, the City of Lexington is offering a new promotion. The City has gone through records of three Lexington area cemeteries, and found hundreds of veterans who do not already have bricks in their honor. In this promotion, buy a brick for someone you know at the regular price of \$100, and the City will buy a brick in the name of one of these deceased heroes. **If you have already purchased a brick, don't worry, we are already adding another brick – doubling your gift!**

Call or email  
Assistant City Manager  
Dennis Burnside  
308-324-2341 x 1113  
dburnside@cityoflex.cm

JOHN Q. VETERAN  
Staff Sergeant  
USMC 11/1942-12/1945







**Pay your utility bill using your computer, smart phone or tablet!**  
Go to [www.cityoflex.com](http://www.cityoflex.com) to sign up and pay.

**Safe, Secure & Free!**



Optimized for mobile devices

- ★ Convenient: 24/7/365
- ★ Save time, postage and fuel
- ★ Pay by credit or debit card
- ★ View updated billing and consumption history
- ★ Account balances are automatically updated





## Lexington snow and ice removal

**W**inter weather isn't over yet, and the City would like to remind citizens of the following points related to snow removal. There is also the Emergency Snow Route map on the next page.

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 listen to local radio stations or read the local newspaper (including online) 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).

Citizens living along these routes are encouraged to comply with the prohibition and move their vehicles from the street.

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.



