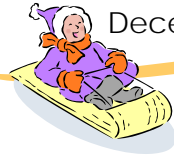


# Lexington

December 2007



# City Happenings

www.cityoflex.com

An eNewsletter from the City of Lexington, Nebraska



## What's going on at . . . ?

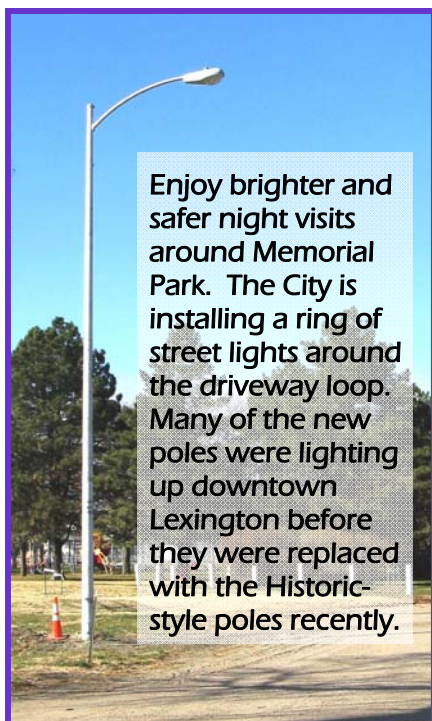


Mostly interior work is all that remains for new Fire & Rescue garage.

### 7th & Tyler

Work has progressed swiftly on the new Fire Department garage. The new structure will more than double the Department's ability to house emergency vehicles and other equipment. The project planning and costs are being shared between the City and Lexington Rural Fire District.

### Memorial Park (10th & Taft)



Enjoy brighter and safer night visits around Memorial Park. The City is installing a ring of street lights around the driveway loop. Many of the new poles were lighting up downtown Lexington before they were replaced with the Historic-style poles recently.

### Pioneer Park (15th & Madison)



City Parks Crews have removed outdated playground equipment and installed a sidewalk loop that will enclose new playground equipment that will be installed as weather permits.

The inset photo is from the manufacturer, showing equipment very similar to what will go in Pioneer Park.





**Long-awaited trail project to start this month**



The red line shows Phase 1 of Lexington's Pedestrian / Bike Trail, which should begin construction this month, weather permitting.

On October 23, 2007, four sealed bids were publicly opened and read aloud, from contractors vying for the chance to build Phase I of the Lexington Pedestrian / Bike Trail. Cement Products Inc., of North Platte, won the contract with a low bid of \$630,410.

The 2.4 mile trail will be 10 feet wide and be built mostly on the west side of U.S. Highway 283 (Plum Creek Parkway). At Cattlemen Drive it will cut west about a block, then north across a drainage ditch to connect with Washington Street, and eventually connect with the Madison Street pedestrian overpass.

Weather permitting, the contractor wants to begin work on a box culvert that will span the drainage ditch this month. The box culvert doubles as a bridge where pedestrians have already been crossing.

Most of the cost will be reimbursed by federal Transportation Enhancement funds. The TE Grant process began in 2005. This project is expected to be completed in September of 2008.



This makeshift bridge of stepping stones will soon be replaced by a concrete box culvert bridge across the drainage ditch just north of Cattlemen Drive.



**Our Water . . . Our Responsibility**

Lexington has joined 9 other Nebraska Cities in a coalition of communities working to reduce water pollution caused by toxic chemical runoff into storm sewers. This runoff eventually ends up in our water supply.

**NEBRASKA H<sub>2</sub>O**

To find our more and discover ways you can help preserve our precious clean water, visit Nebraska H<sub>2</sub>O online at [www.NebraskaH2O.org](http://www.NebraskaH2O.org).





## December/January Library News

### 907 North Washington Street

by Kathy Thomsen  
Library Director

The First Tuesday Book Club will be discussing *The Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson at their December 4 meeting. The January selection is *Thurston House* by Danielle Steel. Anyone interested in joining this group is encouraged to call (324-2151) or stop by the library. A Thursday afternoon group will be forming in January. If you are interested in this afternoon time, please contact the library.

January will bring the return of programming sponsored by the Lexington Community Foundation. On January 17, 2008,

#### Margaret Read MacDonald

will present a storytelling program at 7:00 p.m.

She is a nationally known storyteller, who is one of the featured tellers at the 2008 Kearney Area Storytelling Festival - Winter Tales. Dr. MacDonald, who has been called "a grand dame of storytelling" by the *School Library Journal*, is known for her audience-participation folktales. She is a folklorist, children's librarian, and the author of more than 45 books on folklore and storytelling. Margaret Read MacDonald loves sharing her stories

with audiences engaging them

with singing, chanting and moving in what she calls "story play." We are able to bring her to Lexington through a collaborative effort with the Kearney Public Library.

Judy Coder of Topeka, Kansas will present a historical program, *Patsy Montana, the Cowboy's Sweetheart* on January 31, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. Judy takes



on the role of Miss Patsy in a biographical journey with songs and stories detailing the life of Patsy Montana, the first female country/western recording artist to have a million selling record. Enjoy the music of singing cowgirls and cowboys and be ready to try a little yodeling on your own.

If you would like to spend part of your holiday season getting away from all the hustle and bustle, the library has a wonderful selection of new holiday titles for you. Read, relax and enjoy the season. Stop by and check out our new book display!

Look for these new Holiday titles!

*Kissing Christmas Goodbye* by M.C. Beaton

*The New Year's Quilt* by Jennifer Chiaverini

*Unwrapping Christmas* by Lori Copeland

*Mistletoe and Molly* by Janet Dailey

*The Gift* by Paul Evans

*The Last Noel* by Heather Graham

*A Christmas Visitor* by Thomas Kinkade

*Where Angels Go* by Debbie Macomber

*Comfort and Joy* by Fern Michaels

*Cat Deck the Halls* by Shirley Rousseau Murphy

*Christmas with Paula Deen: Recipes and Stories*





## Street Vendors to be Regulated



On November 13, 2007, the City Council passed on final reading an ordinance to regulate street vendors. The council's intent included:

- to serve and protect the health, safety and welfare of the general public;
- to establish a uniform set of rules and regulations that are fair and equitable;
- to develop a vending system that will enhance the overall appearance and environment along public streets, pedestrian ways, and other public properties;
- to promote stable vendors who will enrich the city's ambiance & be assets to public security.

"Vendor" means any person, traveling by foot, wagon, vehicle or any other type of conveyance from street to street carrying, conveying, or transporting goods, wares, or merchandise and offering and exposing them for sale, or making sales and delivering articles to purchasers; or who, without traveling from place to place, exhibits, displays, sells or offers for sale such products from a wagon, handcart, pushcart, motor vehicle, conveyance or from his person. A "Vendor" also includes any street vendor, hawker,

huckster, itinerant merchant, transient vendor, or door-to-door salesperson.

Effective January 1, 2008, any street vendor will be required to obtain a license from the City of Lexington, and a state sales tax permit. Any food vendor will also be required to obtain an inspection and permit from the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, just like restaurants do.

The provisions of this article do not apply to:

- coin-operated devices for sale of newspapers or magazines;
- the distribution of free samples of goods, wares and merchandise by any individual from his person;
- produce grown in Dawson County;
- recognized, established charitable organizations which have a business location in Dawson County; or
- vendors participating in special events (such as the County Fair).



## Subscribe

To subscribe to Lexington City Happenings, fill out the form at [www.ci.lexington.ne.us/aboutus.asp](http://www.ci.lexington.ne.us/aboutus.asp). If you have comments or suggestions, contact Dennis Burnside, [dburnside@cityoflex.com](mailto:dburnside@cityoflex.com), 308-324-2341. You are encouraged to forward this to others you think may be interested. Archives available online.

## Dates to Remember:

- 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 5:30 PM - City Council Meetings, City Office, 406 E. 7th Street
- Dec 4, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. - annual Chamber of Commerce downtown lighted Christmas parade (Washington Street)
- Dec 25 & Jan 1 - Holidays, City offices closed.
- February 1 - Annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet (time & location TBA).

