



April 2018

City Happenings

New Apartments Already Mostly Full

The City has been working with developers to build more housing options in Lexington. One of the most visible is the three-story Prairie Heights Apartments at 605 South Adams Street.

The building has 36 apartments and 26 are already rented, according to Apartment Manager Esmerelda Castorena. All the one-bedroom apartments are taken, but 10 two-bedroom apartments are still available.

Although minor construction remains, individual apartments have been rented out as they were completed.

As the weather warms up, grass and landscaping will be added, then a row of garages. There are plans for three more buildings like this, pending demand.



In the meantime the developer will concentrate on building a mix of other housing options in the Prairie Heights Estates, including single family, duplexes and townhomes. One model home (shown) at Truman & West Cedar, is already done, showcasing the quality that can be ordered in other new homes.

Another developer is currently building a row of duplexes to the west of the Prairie Heights Apartment. See the story on page two.

To inquire about renting an apartment or building a home, contact Esmerelda at 308-380-2591, or prairieheightsapartments@gmail.com.



New Duplexes Spring Forth in Southwest Lexington



You may have noticed a row of duplexes being built west of the housing development described on page one. The project, The Row Lexington, consists of 10 townhome buildings (20 dwelling units). Each unit is about 1,900 SF with four bedrooms, two baths, and two-stall garage off the alley. These for-rent duplexes are the first phase being developed by Hoppe Homes of Lincoln. The new street shown is Eisenhower Drive; there is also Roosevelt Drive just west. Future phases will include more townhomes of varied size and style along Roosevelt Drive. Tours will be happening soon and completion of the first few units is expected in the next few weeks.

The leasing agency is Perry Reid Properties and their number is 402-488-1666 .



801 West Vine Street - 308-324-5995
Mon. - Fri. - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



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

MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS TO ATTEND

KEY 2018 DINNER & AUCTION

LEXINGTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
KEY 2018

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018

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
TABLES SEAT EIGHT ♦ CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

LEXINGTON COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
PO Box 422 | 607 N. Washington
Lexington, NE | 308-324-6704
lexfoundations@windstream.net

National Police Week
May 13-19, 2018



President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15 to be **National Peace Officers Memorial Day**.

To celebrate Police Week, Tuesday, May 15, is "National Wear Purple for Peace" Day.

Thursday is "Turn Lex Blue Day," a day to wear blue in honor of all law enforcement officers.



Lexington Named a Tree City USA for 21st Consecutive Year



Lexington has been named a Tree City USA City for the 21st year in a row. The designation honors Lexington's commitment to nurturing a diverse urban forest. Tree Board member

Dave Stenberg will represent Lexington at an award ceremony in North Platte April 17.

Arbor Day 2018 is April 27. The Tree Board and the City are planning tree-planting and awareness activities. Let us know if you plan

something. Citizens are encouraged to participate by planting trees too. The Tree Board recommends the following trees to be good fits for Lexington's needs, climate, and soils:

Manchurian Ash, Japanese Elm, Coffeetree, Accolade Elm, Triumph Elm, Gingko, Hackberry, American Linden, American Elm ("Valley Forge" cultivar), Miyabe Maple, Orange Osage, London Planetree (Sycamore), Lacebark Elm, Discovery Elm, Goldenraintree, Honeylocust, Littleleaf Linden, Sugar Maple, Chinkapin Oak, Japanese Pagodatree, and Walnut.

Pre-restoration Project Begins at Kirkpatrick Memorial Park Lake



City crews have been clearing and grubbing around the banks of the lake near Kirkpatrick Memorial Park, near 7th & Grant Streets. This work gets a jump on the larger landscaping project that will involve dredging, bank stabilization and ADA-accessible fishing pads.

Stay tuned for more information as the project progresses.



Please call (308) 865-5677 to schedule your RYDE today!





EnergyWise Tip: **Cold Showers**

If you have or have had teenagers in your household, you probably can relate to hopping into the shower at some point for a quick wash only to discover cold water pouring out regardless of where you adjust the faucet. Yes, that last person who doused themselves in a luxurious, steamy soaking for 30 minutes used up all the hot water! While you are standing there trying to towel the icicles off your shivering body, here are a couple of things that might get your blood boiling. First, it may take two hours or more for your 50-gallon electric hot water heater to fully recover. Second, that hot water recovery probably costs about one dollar each time it occurs. If this happens frequently in your home, it could be costing you some cash!

According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, about 18 percent of all energy used in American homes goes toward heating water. It is second only to energy used to heat and cool your home. Fortunately, there are a few things you can do to take control of your water heating costs.

First, you might attempt to change the perception of certain "shower hogs" of what is a reasonable length of time for a shower. Through surveys, the U.S. Department of Energy has determined the average shower is eight minutes and consumes 10 gallons of hot water. Try setting a count-down timer to eight or less minutes to remind any "shower

loiterers" how long they have been dawdling.

Another source of unnecessary hot water use relates to shower "warm-up" time. Nobody wants to stand under the cold stream of water initially spouting from the shower head. Rather, the shower is turned



on and unoccupied until heated water arrives. Sadly, many lose track of how long this waiting period is and allow hot water to flow long after the water is warmed and long before they get wet. To call attention to this common oversight, time how long it takes warm water to arrive at your showerhead after turning the hot water on. Then, use that same count-down timer described above to remind your household's violator when the shower is ready to go!

Do you have a drippy showerhead that never quite shuts off because of the hot water valve? At one drip per second, you are losing more than five gallons of hot water each day. Over the course of one year, that equates to nearly 2,100 gallons. At a cost of 11 cents per kilowatt-hour, your electric hot water heater is adding an extra \$43 a year to your power bill. Fix that drip!

Now, consider your shower head. Since 1992, it has been federally mandated that shower heads sold in the U.S. have a maximum flow rate of 2.5 gallons-per-minute (GPM). Note, there is no minimum! Installing one that restricts flow to 2 GPM or less can provide savings of 20 percent or more!

Finally, investigate where your water heater is set. Most hot water heaters do not have calibrated thermostats that can be precisely set to produce a particular temperature. Rather, you will want to use a thermometer directly under the shower head to measure output after the water has ran long enough to reach its maximum temperature. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recommends a setting that produces water no hotter than 120°F. This not only saves energy, it greatly reduces scalding risks.

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EnergyWise Tip: **Cold Showers**

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To reduce the temperature, turn the thermostat to "cooler," "lower" or a lower temperature reading. Wait at least four hours to allow the whole tank to be affected by the change. Then, measure the temperature again as described above. Remember that most electric water heaters have two thermostats! It may take several tries to get the temperature setting you desire. Regardless of where your current temperature is, for every 10°F reduction, you can save from 3 to 5 percent on your water heating costs.



For additional ideas on how you can reduce your hot water costs, as well as where you might save additional energy in your home or business, contact Lexington Utilities System or visit www.nppd.com. You may even find you are eligible for EnergyWiseSM efficiency incentives that help reduce the initial cost of other energy-saving home improvements.



Your City Progress: Before & After





Library News

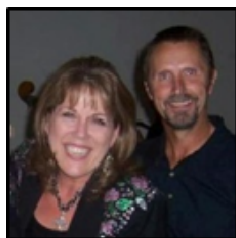
by Kathy Thomsen
Library Director



907
North
Washington
Street
(308) 324-2151

The Lexington Library will be celebrating **National Library Week** from April 8 through April 16. The theme for 2018 is "Libraries Lead." Events planned during the week include:

- Coffee and cookies will be served at the Library from 9:00a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 16.
- A **Food for Fines** opportunity. The library will take \$1.00 off any fines, except for lost item charges, for each non-perishable item donated. The donated items will be distributed to the Lexington Food Pantry and Micah's House.
- Stop by the Library and check out our "Match the Selfie to the Shelfie" board. Guess which bookshelf belongs to which librarian. Prizes will be awarded.
- Other library trivia contests will be held throughout the Library during the week.
- A program, featuring the music duo, **Julie and Mike Couch** and funded by the Library Initiative Grant, will be held on Sunday, April 15 at 2:00 p.m. The Julie and Mike program includes Classic Country Music and Country Gospel along with a little nonsense. As Mike says, "Country music done with class and sass."



- The **Legos Club** will meet on Thursday, April 12, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. The theme for April is **Super Heroes**. A huge selection of Legos will be available for all ages to build, construct and create.
- A program to celebrate **Super Heroes** will be held on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. during the month of April. Lots of great super hero activities are planned for each afternoon so don't miss any of these fun sessions.



The Theme for **Summer Reading 2018** is **Libraries Rock!** Children may begin registering for summer reading on Thursday, May 25. The summer reading program for Young

Adults and Adults will run from the May 29 to September 4. Be sure to stop by the Library to register for summer reading. Registrants will receive activity sheets, book reading logs, bookmarks, a book bag and other prizes.

The May "Booked for Lunch" will be held on Tuesday, May 1, Librarian **Karen**



Thompson will present a program about the country of **China**. Learn facts about China's past and present with this unique presentation. Serving for the 'Booked for Lunch' programs starts at 11:30 and the programs begin at noon.





**GGC
Happenings**

407 East 6th Street



**LEXINGTON GGC
SPRING EVENING MEAL
April 24, 2018**

Tuesday, April 24
5:00-6:30 PM
COST: \$6.50 (under age 60)
\$5.00 (60+)

No reservations required.
Dine-in only.
308-324-2498

Entertainment!
provided by Beth Delp's piano
students from B# Studio.



MENU

- Roast Beef - Peas & Carrots
- Mashed Potatoes
- Jell-O Salad - Pumpkin Bars

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

April 29 - May 5, 2018



SHOP SMALL - SHOP LOCAL!

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

CITY OF
Lexington
NEBRASKA
www.cityoflex.com



**ATTENTION
DOG OWNERS**



As you and your dog are out walking in your neighborhoods, in the City's parks or on the trails, please remember to clean up after your dog. A simple plastic bag slipped over your hand like a glove makes an efficient and clean pick-up tool. Picking up is just part of having a dog. It may seem silly at first, but people who see you do it will know any mess left behind is NOT from your dog. Picking up shows pride in your community, in yourself, and in your dog. You'll set a great example for others, and will help create a positive image for dogs and their owners.

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 Start with "TIP707"



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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>

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.



CLIP AND 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 the local radio or TV station for information on 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 area are urged to notify the Dawson County Emergency Center at 911.

ALL-CLEAR

An 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 the Local Radio or TV Stations 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 safer 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.

CLIP AND SAVE

