

City Happenings



April 2019



Lexington Ambulance Now Has Backup Service



by Doug Glaze, LFVD Rescue Chief

The **Lexington Volunteer Fire Department (LVFD)** has proudly served the emergency medical needs of Lexington and the Lexington Rural Fire District for more than 125 years with volunteer staffing. LVFD takes great pride in this service and our continued goal is to provide the best quality emergency medical services possible. As Lexington continues to grow and add population, the need for emergency services increases as well.

Over the past several years we have experienced a steady increase in calls for medical service, resulting in an increased commitment for our volunteers, their families and their employers. In the interests of maintaining quality and timely services, as well as maintaining our volunteer base, we have launched a pilot program to assist our volunteers in providing medical services.

Beginning March 1, 2019, **Priority Medical Transport** began assisting LVFD in answering

911 medical service calls as their professional staff is available. Priority Medical has been actively providing inter-facility medical transport services in our area for several years, and are stationed out of Lexington Regional Health Center. This means that when you call 911 for medical assistance you may see the LVFD respond or you may see Priority Medical respond, and in some cases both entities will respond. Our intent with this agreement is to provide the public with the best and most timely emergency care available, while easing the increasing demands on our volunteer staff. Rates for service will be equal regardless of which entity provides service. All calls for emergency fire services will continue to be the responsibility of the LVFD.

LVFD exists to serve our community in times of emergency. LVFD will continue to provide the community with emergency services well into the future. Thank you for your continued support. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Doug Glaze at (308)746-6253.





Library News

by Kathy Thomsen
Library Director



907
North
Washington
Street
(308) 324-2151



The Lexington Library is hosting four Library Initiative Grant

programs in April and May. American roots and folk duo, **Dana and Sue Robinson**, will be performing on Thursday, April 4, at 7:00 p.m. Dana and Sue combine vivid songwriting and storytelling with fiddle tunes, banjo grooves, elegant melodies and rich harmony singing.

Chuck Salestrom, former bass player for the **Peter, Chuck and Job** trio, will present the program **Keith Blackledge, Lessons from a Community**. This presentation, which is scheduled to begin at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 13, is filled with stories, a video interview and photography. This program is also sponsored by Humanities Nebraska.



The "Booked for Lunch" program scheduled to begin at noon on April 30 will feature

Bob Ferguson, who will be discussing **Controversial U.S. Stamps**. The presentation will include stamp designs that created waves and stamp subjects that became controversial.



The May "Booked for Lunch" program is scheduled for Thursday, May 30, at noon. **Miss V, the "Gypsy Cowbelle"** is known for her classic and folk songs.

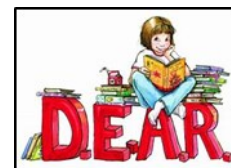
V's Cowbilly music takes the listener on a cross-sectional tour of eras, emotions, lifestyles and genres. Serving for the "Booked for Lunch" programs begins at 11:30 a.m.

National Library Week 2019 runs from April 7 to April 13. The theme for National Library Week 2019 is



Libraries=Strong Communities. Special activities at the Library to celebrate National Library Week include Library Trivia, Get Caught Reading at the Library, DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) Day on Friday, April 12, and A Guess the Number Contest. The **Friends of the Library** will be selling

brownies and other pastries that week. Information about the



Friends of the Library will be available. Coffee and cookies will be served to those visiting the Library on Friday, April 12.



Registration for children preschool age through fifth grade for **Summer**

Reading 2019 will begin on Thursday, May 23. The theme for summer reading 2019 for all ages is **A Universe of Stories**. Summer reading programming for children will begin in June, with the kick-off scheduled for June 3.

The Library will be **closed** on Sunday, April 21, for the **Easter holiday**. The Library will be closed for the Memorial Day holiday on Sunday, May 26, and Monday, May 27.



U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Fair Housing Month
FAIR HOUSING
IS YOUR RIGHT: USE IT!




EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY




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, it's not just toxic to you



Find out more at www.cityoflex.com

Remember, it's not just toxic to you

Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals and oil

Did you know that many household products are dangerous to our kids, pets, and the environment? These materials pollute our waterways if washed or dumped into storm drains or roadside ditches that lead directly to our lakes and rivers. Household cleaners, pesticides, gasoline, antifreeze, used motor oil, and other hazardous products need to be labeled, stored, and disposed of properly.

What can you do? Simple:

- Be aware of household products that can harm children, pets and the environment. Pay attention to words such as "warning" or "caution" on product labels.
- Reduce waste & save money by purchasing only materials you need.
- Keep unused products in their original containers with labels.
- Never dump hazardous products down storm drains, roadside ditches, sinks, or on the ground - take them to your local community's hazardous waste collection day.

Help keep our homes and the environment safe!



Support provided by NDEQ



www.cityoflex.com







EnergyWise Tip: Heat Pump Water Heaters

by NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

When has being in “hot water” ever been a good thing? If you have a heat pump water heater, it is a great thing!

According to the 2015 Customer Appliance Saturation Survey of Nebraska’s residential customers, more than half of Nebraska homes use electricity to heat domestic hot water. When it comes to energy use in homes, after space conditioning, water heating is the second biggest consumer of energy and accounts for about 13 to 18 percent of total energy used in homes. By using heat pump technology, energy for water heating can be cut by 50 to 80 percent. That is because heat pump water heaters use electricity to move heat into their storage tank instead of generating heat directly.

Heat pump water heaters come in a variety of configurations. Most often, they are a stand-alone unit that resides in a home’s utility room. However, other designs employ their own outdoor compressor/evaporator coil, integrate with an air-source or geothermal heat pump system or have their own geothermal system.

How do they work? The common stand-alone type operates like a refrigerator in reverse. While a refrigerator pulls heat from inside itself and

dumps it into the surrounding room, a stand-alone air-source heat pump water heater pulls heat from the surrounding air and moves it into a storage tank to heat water.



Stand-alone heat pump water heaters require installation in locations that remain between 40 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit and provide at least 1,000 cubic feet of air space around the unit. Cool exhaust air can be exhausted to the room or outdoors. Installation in spaces with excess heat, such as furnace rooms, works best. Heat pump water heaters will not operate efficiently in a cold space,

as they tend to cool areas they are in.

Heat pump water heater systems typically have higher initial costs than conventional storage water heaters. A stand-alone, 50-gallon heat pump water heater sells for more than \$1,000, with other configurations costing even more. By comparison, conventional electric hot water heaters start closer to \$400. However, according to the Energy Star® website, a heat pump water heater can save a household of four people around \$330 a year on their electric bill. That adds up to a net savings of more than \$3,300 over the 13-year life of a typical heat pump water heater.

Keep in mind that a stand-alone heat pump water heater is going to remove heat and lower the temperature of the room where it is installed. While it may seem counter-intuitive to locate it in a space you already pay to heat, there are many other sources of heat in the home to include solar gain through windows as well as heat from cooking equipment and other appliances. Often, a room with a clothes dryer or a utility room with a furnace is an ideal location. During the cooling season, heat pump water heaters help remove excess heat and humidity that an air-conditioning system

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Heat Pump Water Heaters

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would remove anyway. The cumulative effect is energy savings while heating and cooling your home, as well as creating hot water.

Another consideration is that heat pump water heaters have a slow recovery rate. This is why larger units and/or backup electric heating elements often make sense for homes with higher hot water consumption.

Finally, check with Lexington Utilities System to see if you are eligible for an EnergyWiseSM heat pump water heater incentive starting at \$425 per qualifying unit, up to \$625. They also have additional ideas on other energy-saving improvements that make getting into hot water a great thing!



REWARDS

UP TO \$1,000

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Local: 308.784.1234
www.DawsonGosperCrimeStoppers.com
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Start with "TIP707"



You won't want to miss...

THE HOTTEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR!

Save the Date

KEY '19

Dinner & Auction
Saturday April 27, 2019

RESERVATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

Reserved, Limited Seating Only

RESERVATIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE

Individual Seats: \$125
Tables Seat Eight
Credit Cards Accepted

PREVIEW NIGHT: Friday, April 26, 2019

Admission is Free and Open to the Public

Please contact the Foundation office to make reservations. If you would like to volunteer, become a Key donor or would just like further information about the Key, please contact the Lexington Community Foundation office at office@lexfoundation.org or 308-324-6704.



Lexington Named a Tree City USA for 22nd Consecutive Year



Lexington has been named a Tree City USA City for the 22nd year in a row. The designation honors Lexington's commitment to nurturing a diverse urban forest. Due to widespread

flooding in Nebraska recently, there won't be a formal presentation this year.

Arbor Day 2019 is April 26. 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, Ginkgo, 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.

City Employees Give to Nebraska Flood Relief

Fueled by donations from local business, City employees in March held a raffle and collected \$277 in donations. The money was given to the Lexington Community Foundation to add to other donations they have been accumulating from other local concerns such as Tyson, Lexington Regional Health Center, Plum Creek Market Place and Orthman Community YMCA.



#nebraskaSTRONG



844-278-8555



DRIVING RANGE NOW OPEN

May be closed if cold or rainy . . .
Notices posted on the City's Facebook Page
Just southeast of the Lexington Fieldhouse
Optimist Recreation Complex
13th & Airport Road

Small Bucket about 40 balls	Medium Bucket about 75 balls	Large Bucket about 105 balls
\$3	\$5	\$7



**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.

National Police Week

May 12-18, 2019



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.

"To leave the world better than you found it, sometimes you have to pick up other people's trash."



Utilities Scam Notice



From time to time utilities providers like Lexington Utilities System (LEXUS) and Dawson Public Power District hear about a phone scam going around. Most recently in March this cropped up again, with

scammers telling utility customers if they don't pay their bill they would be disconnected. It is common for scammers to make their calls appear to come from a local exchange, even if they are not. They may claim to represent your electric provider or even NPPD (Nebraska Public Power District). **The important thing to remember is that Nebraska utilities never use phone communication for disconnect notices.** Contact LEXUS for more information, 308-324-2343.



**Looking For
A Rewarding
Volunteer
Opportunity?**

Do you have
what it takes
to give back to
your community

IN A BIG WAY?

Lexington
Volunteer Fire &
Rescue is looking
for individuals
interested in joining
us.
Contact a current
member to obtain

<https://www.facebook.com/Lexington-Volunteer-Fire-Dept-135491239809198/>

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.**


Go NE Where
PUBLIC TRANSIT WEEK

**Public
Transit
Week
April 7-13, 2019**



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



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. Heat Pump Water Heaters 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. Life flat in a nearby ditch or depression and Heat Pump Water Heaters with

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.

