

City Happenings



April 2023

#100

Earth Day, April 22



Veterans Pavilion Project Nears Completion



Winter weather was not as cooperative as hoped, but there has been progress on the new Veterans Memorial Pavilion and Amphitheater. Much of the finishing touches were always expected to take place after spring weather returned for good.

Located at the south end of Kirkpatrick Memorial Park, the project is still on track for a dedication to take place on Memorial Day weekend, although it will probably take the summer for grass and other landscaping to grow and make the site widely usable for staged events.



Top Photo: Lexington Veterans Memorial and Amphitheater view from the south.

Bottom Photo: View from the north shows the stage area. The foreground shows a future fixed seating area.



Major Milestone for Lexington City Happenings



This April/May edition of Lexington City Happenings is the 100th issue of the City's eNewsletter. It has been published every two months since August 2006. At that time its contents would fit on one side of a sheet of legal size paper, if it were indeed published in paper form. Actually one issue was skipped in April 2020 when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Every issue has been edited and designed by Assistant City Manager Dennis Burnside, who had been with the City less than two months before releasing the first one. We'd like to thank all our loyal readers and hope you enjoyed reading the first 100 as much as we enjoyed bringing them to you!



Dennis Burnside

www.cityoflex.com

Lexington City Happenings
August 2006
An eNewsletter from the City of Lexington, Nebraska

Community improvements

Before

Optimist Hitting Complex (1601 West 13th Street)
After a well-attended dedication in March, the new indoor Hitting Facility at the Optimist Complex has enjoyed a healthy breaking-in season. Very much a community effort, the project was spearheaded by the Optimist Club with assistance from the Lexington Community Foundation. The project was funded entirely by private donations. Lexington hosted numerous softball tournaments this summer, where athletes from all over the state took advantage of the facility for their practice and warm-ups.

The Hitting Complex is open most evenings and weekend mid-days by appointment, closed Fridays. For more information or to schedule please contact City Recreation Director Ann Luther, 325-5277.

Skateboard Park
Construction has begun on a new concrete surface at the southeast corner of Arbor Park (near Maple & Plum Creek Pkwy). Skateboard equipment will be moved from its current location in Oak Park. The Oak Park location will be returned to its former use as basketball courts. The new skateboard park is scheduled to be open by the end of August 2006. The Lexington Community Foundation contributed funds toward the hardware fixtures. Local skateboard enthusiasts helped design the layout of the park.

Downtown Historic Street Lights Phase 2
Plans are well under way to add 22 more historic street lights downtown on 5th, 6th & 7th Streets. The new lights would continue the theme started with the historic street lights that were installed on Washington Street last year. This Transportation Enhancement project is approved for funding by the Nebraska Department of Roads, with 80% of the funds provided by the Federal Highway Administration. Watch for construction this fall.

Ramping up
Working with the Nebraska Department of Roads, the City has identified a number of locations where curbs will be reconstructed with ramps of sidewalk intersections. The project will improve safety and access for pedestrians. This is the first phase of the project. Initial improvement will target priority areas around schools and parks, approximately 39 intersections. Federal funds will pay for 80% of this project. Watch for construction to begin this fall.

Youth Soccer leagues forming
Lexington's Youth Soccer Leagues are now forming. A \$20 fee covers registration, instruction, league play and a T-shirt. Instruction will take place the evenings of August 28, 29 and 31. There will be three league age groups: grades 1 & 2, grades 3, 4 & 5, and grades 6, 7 & 8. League play starts September 10 and continues Sunday through October 8. All instruction and games will be held at the Optimist Recreation Complex, 1601 West 13th Street. For more information contact City Recreation Director Ann Luther, 325-5277. Registration forms with more detail are available at the Grand Generation Center, 407 East 6th Street, or email aluther@cityoflex.com.

Subscribe
To subscribe to Lexington City Happenings, fill out the form at www.cityoflex.com/about-us/about-us.asp. If you have comments or suggestions, contact Dennis Burnside, 324-2341, dburnside@cityoflex.com.

City Offices: 406 E 7th Street, Lexington, NE 68850, 308-324-2341

www.cityoflex.com

Lexington City Happenings
August 2022
#96

After

New Splash Pad at Oak Park

LEXINGTON community foundation

The City of Lexington and Lexington

YOUR 2006 CITY
Lexington City Happenings
2022
PROGRESS!

City Offices: 406 E 7th Street, Lexington, NE 68850, 308-324-2341



National Police Week May 14-20, 2023

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

Thursday, May 18, is "Turn Lex Blue Day," a day to wear blue in honor of all law enforcement officers.



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



SUMMER JOBS - Temporary Seasonal Workers, Part-time

APPLY NOW!

Positions available include:

- Concession Workers (age 14+)
- Lifeguards (age 15+)
- City Park and Cemetery Maintenance (age 16+)



The City of Lexington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Download an application from the city website,
www.cityoflex.com/human-resources/.





Library News



907 N Washington
(308) 324-2151



by Jennifer Norton
Library Director

"Books may well be the only true magic."
- Alice Hoffman (novelist)



The Lexington Public Library hosts four book discussion groups that are open to the public. **Monday Afternoon Book Club** is looking for new members to join. This group meets the second Monday of each month at 3 p.m. at the library. This group reads a wide range of books ranging from fun and thought-provoking fiction to memoirs and nonfiction on topics of historical significance. **The Literary Guild** meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month and is also looking for new members. This group enjoys books of all types from classic literature, historical fiction and nonfiction. Contact the library to get a copy of the month's current selection. All are welcome.



Other groups are the **Spanish Book Club** and the **Young Enough Women's Book Club**. Both groups meet on the fourth Monday of the month at 6 pm at the library.

Summer is quickly approaching so gear up to join in the fun with Summer Reading Programs and Events. The theme is "All Together Now," celebrating unity, kindness, and community. Be watching for June and July special programs.

THERE'S
M
TO THE
S **R**

Hay mucho
M
que
C **a** **R**

NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK April 23-29, 2023

ALA **LA SEMANA NACIONAL DE LAS BIBLIOTECAS** 23-29 de Abril de 2023

Lexington PUBLIC LIBRARY 907 North Washington Street



Lexington Named a Tree City USA for 26th Consecutive Year



The Arbor Day Foundation has named Lexington a Tree City USA City community for the 26th year in a row. The designation recognizes

Lexington's commitment to nurturing a diverse urban forest in 2022. Lexington was also honored with a "Growth Award," for the Lexington Tree Board's 2022 tree planting projects, Arbor Day events, and continuing education.

Arbor Day 2023 is April 28. 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 Lexington Tree Board recommends the following trees to

be good fits for Lexington's needs, climate, and soils: Mountain Ash, Coffeetree, Gingko (male only!), Hackberry, American Linden, Elm (Princeton, Discovery, Accolade, Frontier, Triumph, Japanese, Jefferson, New Horizons or Lacebark), Maple (Norway, Sugar or Miyabe), Orange Osage, Goldenrain tree, Honeylocust (Shademaster), Linden (American or Littleleaf), Oak (Bur or Chinkapin), Japanese Pagodatree, and Walnut.



DRIVING RANGE NOW OPEN

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



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>



Free COVID Booster Clinic

On Thursday, April 13, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Community Action from Kearney will come to the Center to administer COVID booster shots and flu shots.

No pre-registration, payment, or health insurance information is required. All you need to bring is a record of your previous COVID vaccinations if you are getting that shot. The flu season has been quite bad this year, so we strongly recommend you get your flu shot if you haven't already!

- Offering Bivalent Pfizer 12+ & Bivalent Moderna 18+
- Bivalent to be given only to those who have completed their PRIMARY COVID vaccine series with an approved or authorized vaccine
- Monovalent COVID vaccines can also be given
- Bivalent single booster may be given at least 2 months after completion of primary vaccination with any authorized or approved Monovalent COVID-19 vaccine **OR** receipt of the most recent booster dose with any authorized or approved Monovalent COVID-19 vaccine
- Bivalent dose does not need to be the same brand as primary doses
- Wait 3 months after having had the COVID-19 disease to get a bivalent dose.



The Grand Generation Center is having our annual Tea Party for Mothers Day on Thursday, May 10, from 2-4 p.m. In June we will be having a Coffee and Rolls for the men for Fathers day on Wednesday, June 15, from 9 a.m. until 10 a.m.

**LEXINGTON GGC
Easter
Dinner
April 7, 2023
11:30 - 12:45**

407 E. 6th

MENU

- Ham or Fish
- Hash Brown Casserole
- Cali Blend Veggie
- Plums
- Dinner Roll
- Dessert

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

(308) 324-2498

Free Paper Shredding Event

April 14, 2023 - 3:00 - 5:00 PM
617 North Grant Street

Please remember no binder clips, metal binders or hanging folders.
(Paper clips, staples and rubber bands are okay)

All of the shredded paper is baled and recycled. One ton of paper saves 17 trees and 3 cubic yards of landfill space.



Jennie Fitch Hicks: Paintings & Poetry



Elk in the Glade

Paintings of Jennie Fitch Hicks
1879-1977

Collected from family members
throughout the United States

Book Reading & Signing – April 13
Bruce Whitacre 7pm
Jennie's Great-Grandson

Fitch/Hicks Family Reunion
April 13-14

DCHS Art Gallery 2023
February thru August

Remember, you're not just
washing your car



Practice good car care _____

Did you know . . . 4 quarts of oil can form an 8 acre oil slick
if dumped or spilled down a storm drain?

That's because storm drains found in our streets and yards lead
directly to our lakes and streams. So, oil and dirty water from
washing our car that goes into storm drains pollutes our water.

What can you do? Simple.

- Take your car to the carwash where the dirty water is treated
before it gets to our water.
- Wash your car on your lawn or direct the dirty water towards
the lawn and away from the storm drain.
- Keep your car properly tuned.
- Recycle used fluids and never dump them down the storm drain.

Help keep the oil where it belongs . . . in your car.



Support
provided by
Nebr. Dept. of
Environment
& Energy





EnergyWise Tip: Spring Cleaning



by NPPD Energy Efficiency Program Manager Cory Fuehrer

As the last snow melts, days become longer and temperatures rise, many start checking off items from their annual deep-cleaning list. Scrub buckets, mops, brooms, sponges and cleaning supplies are pulled from shelves to tackle jobs that may only be considered once a year. This year, consider a few others to improve your home's energy efficiency and save money. It's all about keeping cool!

Refrigerators -

After a year of storing your leftovers and condiments at 40° F or below, it's time to remove unneeded and expired food from refrigerators and freezers. If you haven't noticed, the baking soda you put in there two years ago to help manage odors has long since expired. Going through all of your "fridge's" nooks to pitch and re-position items will help

chilled air circulate efficiently. Finish the interior by checking and cleaning the seals to assure a tight fit.

Don't stop there! As their name implies, your unit transfers heat through a refrigeration cycle using coils. When the exterior

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.

It PAYS to tune up your heating & cooling system
COOLING SYSTEM TUNE-UP PROGRAM

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.

coils become covered with whatever is in the air, heat transfer takes longer. Thus, the refrigerator runs longer and adds to your power bill. Where can you find these coils? Look underneath or at the back of your unit. If it's been a while, use a dryer lint brush and

vacuum cleaner to tackle what you find. The Humane Society doesn't offer a reward for freeing "dust bunnies," but your electric bill will.

Ceiling Fans - When you switch from heating to cooling, don't forget to change your ceiling fan's rotation.

Counterclockwise will push air directly down and help balance temperature through the room. Most fans have a reversing switch close to where the blades connect. If you need a stepstool to reach it, bring a cleaning rag to eliminate other dust perched on the top sides of fan blades.

Air Conditioning Systems -

Was the last time you changed the air filter in your HVAC system before Christmas? If it's been more than 90 days, check to see if replacement is needed. Don't waste your time and money with cheap fiberglass filters. Instead, spend a little extra on a pleated paper filter that

(continues on next page)



Spring Cleaning

(continued from previous page)

stops smaller particles from passing through.

Does your HVAC system have an outdoor condensing unit setting next to the house? Whether it's a heat pump or an air conditioner, these units are exposed to the environment all year. Leaves, dirt and other debris lodge between the coils and diminish your HVAC system's efficiency. Lexington Utilities System is a partner in supporting EnergyWiseSM energy efficiency programs. As a LEXUS customer you are eligible for a \$30 incentive to have a certified HVAC technician provide a full system cooling tune-up (see ad previous page).

Lexington Utilities System, in partnership with Nebraska Public Power District, can help identify other ways you can save money while providing reliable, low cost and sustainable energy. For more ideas or information about EnergyWiseSM lighting incentives, contact them or visit www.nppd.com.



Electric Yard Tool Incentive

Electric lawnmower technology has improved. Now if you buy a new electric lawnmower, get a rebate of about 20% the purchase cost. Also electric chainsaws, tillers and snowblowers.

Maybe it's time to go electric



Gasless, but not gutless. Quiet, but not shy. This is not your grandfather's battery-powered mower. Advances in battery technology have come a long way in recent years. More power is now being packed into batteries so your mower can speedily deliver a knock-out punch to your lawn.

Maybe it is time to consider upgrading your conventional, gas-burning mower with a new electric or battery-powered option. Consider the following advantages:

- Lower energy costs – depending on how often you mow, electric-powered mowers will cost about \$15 per year in electricity. Gas mowers use approximately \$30 of gasoline.
- Less maintenance – no sparkplugs, air filters, fuel filters, or oil change.
- Quieter operation – electric mowers create up to 75 decibels of sound, which is similar to a washing machine. Gasoline mowers can exceed 95 decibels, which is comparable to a motorcycle on the highway.
- Eco-friendly – no toxic gas emissions from nitrogen oxides, airborne particulates, carbon monoxide, or carbon dioxide.

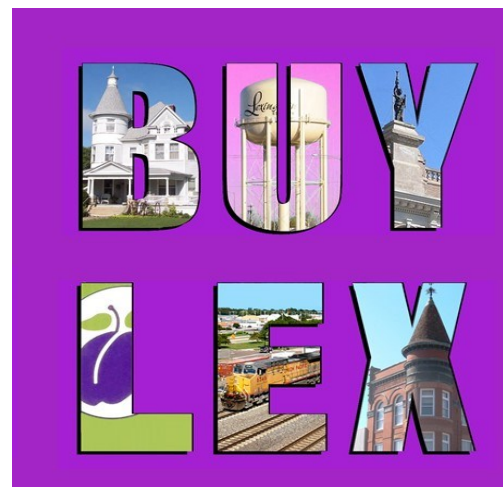
Follow these easy steps

- Obtain an EnergyWiseSM Lawn and Garden Program application form from Lexington Utilities System (also at www.cityoflex.com—under "Utilities" tab, scroll to bottom of page).
- Purchase your choice of a new (not used, previously owned or factory reconditioned) battery-powered or corded electric riding, walk-behind, or robotic mower on or after January 1, 2023. Chargers and additional battery purchases are available for the incentive at time of initial mower purchase. However, taxes, delivery/shipping and set-up costs are not.
- Complete the application and return it to Lexington Utilities System with a copy of proof of purchase identifying the selected mower, batteries, etc.
- Rebate also applies to electric chainsaws, tillers and snowblowers.






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



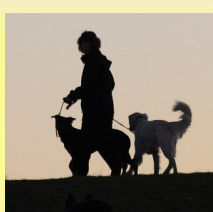
APRIL 18



NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

National Lineman Appreciation Day is a time to express our appreciation to the great men and women that work so hard for us every day. It's our honor to celebrate the hard work, innovation, and dedication of Electrical Lineworkers. #thankalineman

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.

Go NE Where
PUBLIC TRANSIT WEEK

Public Transit Week
April 9-15, 2023



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





Family Fun Night

April 24, 2023

5:30 pm

Lexington Public Library

- Somali culture, food & celebrations
- Everyone Welcome



Lexington
PUBLIC LIBRARY

907 N. Washington St.
Lexington, NE 68850
308.324.2151



Communities for Kids
nebraskachildren
Lexington



You + Fair Housing A Better Community



The solution to housing discrimination starts with you. If you have been trying to buy or rent a house or apartment and you believe your rights have been violated, contact HUD or your local fair housing center. The Fair Housing Act prohibits housing discrimination because of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, familial status or disability.

Fair Housing Is Your Right. Use It.

Visit www.hud.gov/fairhousing or call the HUD Hotline
1-800-669-9777 (English/Español) **1-800-927-9275** (TTY)



SCAN HERE FOR
MORE INFO



A public service message from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in partnership with the National Fair Housing Alliance. The federal Fair Housing Act prohibits discrimination because of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, familial status or disability. For more information, visit www.hud.gov/fairhousing.



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.

