

Kimball County, Nebraska

Kimball Area Tourism

Volume 10

PLAINS HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING



The Plains Historical Society held their annual meeting at the Fraternal Hall downtown Kimball on February 20, 2020. After the meeting, they introduced Lyn Messersmith and Deb Carpenter-Nolting as entertainment for the evening. Lyn and Deb recited poems and songs about the “Leaders and Legends of the West”. The performance was filled with history, just like the Fraternal Hall.



The Fraternal Hall was built in 1904 as a hall for social gatherings in the community. It later became the lodge for The Order Knights of Pythias then was sold by the Knights to the Museum board. The building is currently on the National Historic Register.



The Plains Historical Society was started in 1957. Their name was chosen because the originators wished to take in the trade territory adjacent to Kimball County; namely northern Colorado, Banner County, and eastern Wyoming. The Fraternal Hall has a variety of displays, including the vast collections of O.E. Forsling’s Indian artifacts, one of the finest in existence, that was the museum’s first major acquisition. The Plains Historical Society is also working to renovate the former Kimball High School Building to house displays. The board and other volunteers have been acquiring historical items to be placed on the acreage at the old school as well.

AGRITOURISM & ADVENTURE TRAVEL WORKSHOP

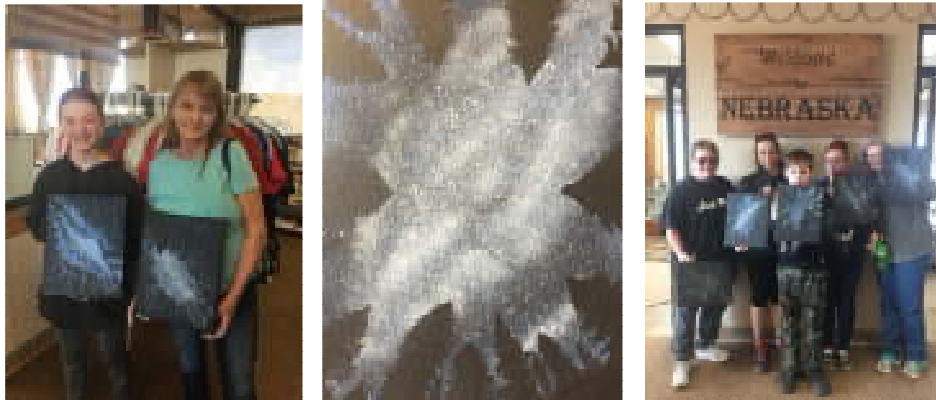
The last week of February I had planned to attend the AgriTourism & Adventure Travel Workshop in Nebraska City. Unfortunately, the weather prevented me from attending the conference. I did, however, read up on some other options for tourism opportunities in rural areas.

I am excited to try implementing Astrotourism, Heritage Tourism, and Authentic Tourism along with AgriTourism and Ecotourism, which we currently promote. Showcasing our gorgeous starry night skies, Kimball’s Walking Tour of historic buildings, and how rural America lives day to day will compliment our farm and ranch experiences already offered. So keep posted for new events and upcoming options for tourism in Kimball and Banner County!

And hopefully when the weather warms up I will be able to check out everything in Nebraska City!

PAINTING CLASSES & CHALK N CHAT CLASS

In February, Stacey Bolin instructed two painting classes at the Visitor Center. She started the month out with a starry night sky and ended with an African Sunset painting. Everyone did a wonderful job yet again!! March will feature a spring-themed painting.



The Chalk N Chat that was scheduled for February 19th was postponed due to inclement weather. The next Chalk N Chat with Lou Ann Frei will be March 18th.

WESTERN NEBRASKA CREATIVE ARTS GUILD

Recently, a group in the community has come together to begin an arts guild in our area. Western Nebraska Creative Arts Guild (WNCAG) officially began in February of this year. The vision and mission statement for the guild is to “promote the spectrum of art, showcase artists’ work, advance creativity, and provide an environment for the expansion of creative arts throughout Western Nebraska”.

The WNCAG is currently looking for a logo and has begun a contest for that logo. Please see the attached contest rules (on the right) if you are interested! Also, if you would like to be part of the WNCAG or to learn more about it, please email wncaglist@wncag.org. The next meeting will be at 1:00 PM MST March 14, 2020 at Laughing Lamb Fibers, located at 925 Illinois St., Sidney, Nebraska.

Western Nebraska Creative Arts Guild Logo Contest

You are invited to create a logo for the Western Nebraska Creative Arts Guild

Logo Design Guidelines and Parameters:

- **Professional:** The logo will be featured on our website, social media platforms, and other mediums (printed, banners, etc.). As a result, the logo should be eye catching and legible.
- **Theme:** Logo must promote the mission and vision of WNCAG. "The Western Nebraska Creative Arts Guild (WNCAG) promotes the spectrum of art, showcases artists' work, advances creativity, and provides an environment for the expansion of creative arts throughout Western Nebraska".
- **Color:** There are no color limitations. However, the logo must look good in both color and in black and white.
- **Integrity:** Logos must be original work. Logos may not include images or likeness images that have been previously published. Logos may not violate intellectual property rights. Must be easily reproducible and suitable for large and small formatting.

How to Enter the Contest:

- The contest begins on Friday, February 21, 2020. Electronic submissions will be accepted through Thursday, March 12, 2020.
- Electronic submissions should be in .jpg or .pdf format. If you are chosen as the winner you will need to be able to provide a high-resolution vector file (Adobe Illustrator, Photoshop, InDesign).
- Submit your design to the email link at wncaglist@wncag.org
- When submitting your entry include your name, email address, and please describe the symbolism behind your logo design.

Winner:

The winning entry will be selected by those who attend the March 20th Western Nebraska Creative Arts Guild meeting. Their decision will be final.

Prize:

The winner receives bragging rights and recognition on the WNCAG website.

POTTER SUNDRY SEEKING STATE RECOGNITION



The Potter Sundry in Potter, Nebraska, is hoping that the state will soon name the famous Tin Roof Sundae the official sundae of Nebraska.

The Potter Sundry was originally opened in 1914. James Earl Thayer, the pharmacist at the time, had a son named Harold Dean “Pinky” Thayer, who worked behind the soda fountain and was well known for creating crazy concoctions to delight the customers. Pinky’s biggest hit was the Tin Roof Sundae. He named the sundae for the tin ceiling which still exists at the Potter Sundry.

The Tin Roof Sundae is vanilla ice cream almost to the top of the glass, then a generous amount of chocolate syrup, then chocolate ice cream, and smothered with marshmallow crème until over-flowing and then sprinkled with Spanish peanuts.

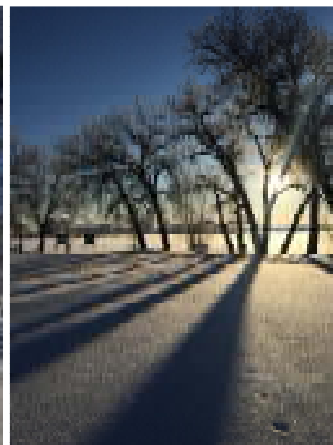
If you haven’t been to the Potter Sundry to try a Tin Roof Sundae, I highly recommend that you do, especially with it possibly being named the official sundae of Nebraska!

RECENT STOPS AROUND THE STATE & SURROUNDING AREA

The Kimball County Tourism Director, Jessica Rocha, has been able to visit some of the area attractions this past month. Here are photos from a few of them!



Downtown Sidney, Nebraska – unique shopping experiences along Illinois Street!!



A beautiful snowy February morning at Oliver Reservoir in Kimball County

WE LOVE OUR VISITORS!

We enjoyed visitors from all over the world in February! There were two couples from Spain and a family from Korea who were visiting some of their family in Denver. It is wonderful to be the first place that people have been in Nebraska! And of course we enjoy the four-legged visitors, too!!



THE GOODHAND THEATER PRESENTS:

GOODHAND Theatre

Friends of the Goodhand Theatre presents:



PLAYING with FIRE

PG

Showing at 7 PM
March 6 & 7
Sunday Matinee
March 8
2 PM

Free Admission!

Movie Sponsored By KVFD Lady Auxiliary

When straight-laced fire superintendent Jake Carson and his elite team of firefighters come to the rescue of three siblings, they quickly realize that no amount of training could prepare them for their most challenging job yet – babysitting. As their lives, jobs and depot get turned upside down, the three men soon learn that children – much like fires – are wild and unpredictable.

GOODHAND Theatre

Friends of the Goodhand Theatre presents:



A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

PG

Showing at 7 PM
March 20 & 21
Sunday Matinee
at 2 PM
March 22
Free Admission!

**Movie Sponsored By
AW Laser Art Amber and Krystal Wilke**

Two-time Oscar®-winner Tom Hanks portrays Mister Rogers in *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*, a timely story of kindness triumphing over cynicism, based on the true story of a real-life friendship between Fred Rogers and journalist Tom Junod. After a jaded magazine writer (Emmy winner Matthew Rhys) is assigned a profile of Fred Rogers, he overcomes his skepticism, learning about empathy, kindness, and decency from America's most beloved neighbor.

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS:

March:

- 4th – Kimball, NE – Lenten Luncheon at the Presbyterian Church of Kimball
- 4th – Scottsbluff, NE – Lil Explorers at the Riverside Discovery Center
- 6th-7th – Scottsbluff, NE – “The Gentlemen” at the Midwest Theater
- 7th – Kimball, NE – Painting Class at the Kimball County Visitor Center
- 7th – Bushnell, NE – Annual Chili & Oyster Soup Feed – Bushnell Fire Hall
- 7th – Alliance, NE – The Greendales Live at the Brewery – Brewery 719
- 8th – Kimball, NE – Painting like Bob Ross at Beer & Loathing
- 8th – Potter, NE – Fun Day with Cre8tive Chalk at the Potter Fire Hall
- 11th - Kimball, NE – Lenten Luncheon at the Presbyterian Church of Kimball
- 11th - Scottsbluff, NE – Lil Explorers at the Riverside Discovery Center
- 12th – Kimball, NE – Western Nebraska Tourism Coalition meeting – Kimball Public Library
- 12th – Scottsbluff, NE – Coffee with a Cop at Cappuccino & Company
- 13th – Kimball, NE – Kimball FFA Alumni Dinner & Auction – Kimball High School
- 13th – Kimball, NE – Southern Fried Acoustic at Chute #7
- 14th – Kimball, NE – Pinewood Derby Race & Chili Feed – Trinity United Methodist Church
- 14th – Gering, NE – Hello Nebraska! At Oregon Trail Roadhouse
- 14th – Scottsbluff, NE – TCD Hemp Forum – Nebraska Extension Panhandle
- 18th – Kimball, NE – Chalk N Chat at the Kimball County Visitor Center
- 18th - Kimball, NE – Lenten Luncheon at the Presbyterian Church of Kimball
- 18th - Scottsbluff, NE – Lil Explorers at the Riverside Discovery Center
- 20th – Gering, NE – 2020 Hoops 4 Heroes – Gering Civic Center
- 21st – Bayard, NE – Nite On The Town 2020 at the American Legion
- 21st – Sidney, NE – French Door Antique Mall Spring Open House
- 21st – Pine Bluffs, WY – Ready for Spring painting – Pine Bluffs Distilling
- 25th - Kimball, NE – Lenten Luncheon at the Presbyterian Church of Kimball
- 25th - Scottsbluff, NE – Lil Explorers at the Riverside Discovery Center
- 26th – Gering, NE – Pick & Paint at Prairie Floral Design Studio
- 27th-28th – Scottsbluff, NE – Spring Craft & Vendor Show at Discount Fireworks Building
- 28th – Kimball, NE – Spring Open House at the Kimball County Visitor Center
- Sandhill Crane migration has begun!! Check out brochures at the Visitor Center!

April:

- 1st - Kimball, NE – Lenten Luncheon at the Presbyterian Church of Kimball
- 2nd – Pine Bluffs, WY – Fluid Art At the Distillery – Pine Bluffs Distilling
- 4th – Scottsbluff, NE – Hop n’ Shop at the Monument Mall in Scottsbluff
- 11th – Sidney, NE – Night of Tomfoolery with Way Out West Community Theatre
- 11th-12th – Scottsbluff, NE – Easter Egg Hunt at the Zoo – Riverside Discovery Center
- 18th – Kimball, NE – Local Author Reading & Book Signing – Kimball County Visitor Center
- 18th – Scottsbluff, NE – Margarita Crawl at 16th Empire in Scottsbluff
- 22nd – Scottsbluff, NE – Earth Day’s 50th Birthday Open House – North Platte NRD
- 24th-25th – Gering, NE – How the West was Photographed – Scotts Bluff National Monument
- 25th – Gering, NE – Centennial & Visitor Center Grand Re-Opening at Scotts Bluff National Monument

KIMBALL COUNTY VISITOR CENTER GIFT SHOP:



Don't forget to stop by the Visitor Center gift shop to find that perfect gift or Nebraska souvenir!

We keep updating our gift shop as well! Come check out some of our new items as well as our favorite souvenirs and continue coming back often to see more Nebraska made products by local and area vendors!

We are happy to be able to now sell books by Nebraska's State Poet Matt Mason! He has two books available for purchase in our gift shop: "The Baby That Ate Cincinnati" and "Things We Don't Know We Don't Know". Check them out!!

We are also proudly serving UNL Dairy Store Ice Cream! We currently are serving Chocolate, Vanilla, Butter Brickle, and Cookies & Cream flavors.

~~~~~

## **Make your mark on Kimball!**

*Show your support by  
making a donation to the  
Kimball County Visitor Center.*



Your name will appear on your own, individual wooden Nebraska plaque that will be placed prominently on a wall in the Visitor Center.

Your donation will go towards keeping the Visitor Center open and assist the staff in being able to promote Kimball County, the Panhandle, and the entire state of Nebraska to travelers from across the world.

We know how important Kimball County is and we want to be able to continue welcoming people to our community.

Please consider a donation to the Kimball County Visitor Center to help keep tourism alive!

*Minimum donations of \$50 to receive a Nebraska plaque inscribed with your name/business.*

~~~~~

Please check out our Facebook page to see more events. www.facebook.com/KimballCountyVisitorCenter

You can also look at our website to get more information about Kimball County: www.visitkimball.com

Come visit us!! 204 S Kimball Blvd, Kimball, NE 69145 ~ Exit 20 off of I-80

Give us a call at 308-241-0573 if you have any questions.

#highpointofnebraska #highpointwelcomecenter #kimballcountyvisitorcenter