

Kimball County, Nebraska

Kimball Area Tourism

Volume 25

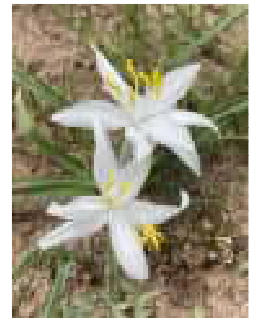
Photos by Jessica Rocha

SPRING HAS SPRUNG

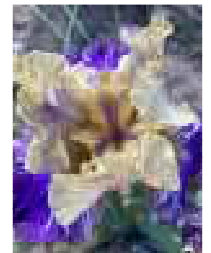
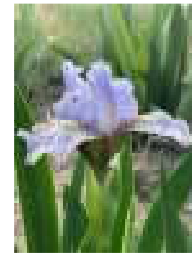


Spring rain storms have definitely helped color come back into Western Nebraska. The rolling plains are green again, leaves are filling the trees, and beautiful flowers are blooming! We have also delighted in seeing a baby killdeer at the Visitor Center. Such long legs on a precious little fluff ball with mom and dad scurrying around trying to keep danger away.

I highly suggest taking a back road drive and see some of the beauty that abounds!!



We also have some of our hybridized iris blooming at the Visitor Center. Thank you to Le Roy Meininger and Jo Wells for these beautiful flowers to remind us of how lucky we are to have friends with incredible talents and a hope for colorful tomorrows!



BROCHURE SWAP

This year's Brochure Swap was held in Grand Island, NE. During the swap, different tourism venues from all over Nebraska bring brochures and visitor guides to one place so that we can share new items more easily across the state. The major rest areas along Interstate 80 receive their new brochures for the year and are then prepped to assist travelers find fun things to see and do across Nebraska.

We also had a Western Nebraska Tourism Coalition meeting in North Platte at Peg Leg Brewery and a Nebraska Travel Association meeting at Kinkaidier Brewery in Grand Island. Great food and fun atmosphere at both locations!! The best part of the swap was seeing people in the tourism industry that we haven't been able to see in person for some time now.

And if you haven't been to Grand Island, stop by! The downtown area of Railside is super cute, and close to Fonner Park, where the Nebraska State Fair takes place. The Stuhr Museum, an immersive prairie pioneer museum, and the Crane Trust Nature and Visitor Center are also in Grand Island. We were able to see a herd of buffalo at the Crane Trust, and in March and April, that area is filled with Sandhill Cranes during their yearly migration.



AMERICORPS 2021

Updates on our AmeriCorps NCCC team: It ended up that Oak 1 was not able to come to Nebraska, but Maple 8 was able to fit Nebraska into their plans and have been rocking their work at the Plains Historical Society!

They have been taking inventory of artifacts that had been in storage, and are now creating displays with these pieces in the former high school building. They will have an open house at that location, 816 E 3rd St, June 4th from 3-5:30 pm if you would like to stop by and see all the progress they made.

The team also worked to get multiple rooms cleaned to make space for the new displays, did spring cleaning at the Fraternal Hall for it to be ready for summer visitors, and also worked prepping the Fraternal Hall for the Smithsonian Exhibit coming in September.



June 1st they will have the honor of meeting Nebraska Congressman Adrian Smith and giving him a personal tour of the Plains Historical Society museum and telling him about the amazing program that AmeriCorps NCCC is and all the benefits of being a part of something that helps so many places across the country.

the 7th helping plant, water, and mulch trees, as well as working on a donor wall plaque, memorial benches, building a bench shelter, and helping build a picnic table to be placed at the trail.



The team will work with the Kimball Community Walking Trail starting



From the 14th-25th, Maple 8 will work at the Visitor Center assisting with promotional materials, such as digital stories of area, as well as building at grain bin shelter and a picnic table. I am excited to take them around to different places that are unique to the area as well as letting them experience some of the incredible tours that are offered here, such as feeding buffalo at the Rocky Hollow Buffalo Ranch, and viewing birds, wildflowers, and the short grass prairie at the historic EJE Ranch.

We are thankful for all the volunteers who are taking time to work with the team, as well as local businesses who are assisting with projects and making the team feel right at home! We couldn't make everything happen if it wasn't for the great community we are a part of!!!



TRI-STATE MARKER

The work to create a walking trail to the Tri-State Marker is underway! Kimball (NE), Laramie (WY), and Weld (CO) Counties have been working together with the land owner to plan how to allow visitors onto the property to see the marker without continuing to damage the pasture with vehicle traffic.

A walking trail will allow people to get some fresh air and see the beauty of the high plains firsthand. There will be a new parking area as well as increased signage from Pine Bluffs, WY and from Bushnell, NE.



CITIZENS' INSTITUTE ON RURAL DESIGN

In its ongoing support of rural communities, the National Endowment for the Arts, in partnership with the Housing Assistance Council, announces the 2021 communities taking part in its national initiative, the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design. Kimball County is one of 15 communities selected for the Design Learning Cohort in which leaders participate in peer learning. This includes training in design, planning, community engagement, and facilitation techniques; one-on-one technical assistance on their community design challenge; and support in navigating funding opportunities.

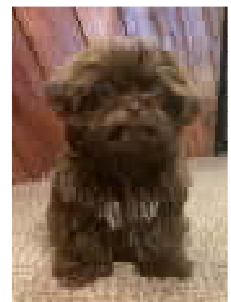
“Design is a powerful tool to leverage local assets and celebrate culture, ultimately fostering a strong sense of place,” said Arts Endowment Director of Design and Creative Placemaking Jen Hughes. “As rural America recovers from the global pandemic, the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design stands ready to support the bold visions that communities like Kimball County have put forth to guide their future development.”

Since 1991, the Citizens' Institute on Rural Design has worked in communities with populations of 50,000 or less to enhance quality of life and economic vitality through planning, design, and creative placemaking. To date, the Arts Endowment has engaged more than 100 communities in all regions of the country.

We couldn't be more excited to be a part of this Design Learning Cohort! We are looking to create community spaces, rethink our 'main street', work on community engagement, and find ways to fund all the projects we are planning for Bushnell, Kimball, and Dix. This project will run through December 2022, so we will update everyone as the process continues. For more information on this program announcement, visit arts.gov/news or rural-design.org

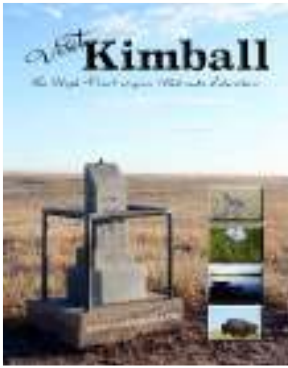
WONDERFUL VISITORS!

May brought our largest number of visitors so far this year, and we think the rest of the summer is going to be phenomenal. We have visited with travelers from all across the country, including people on short day trips up from Colorado, to a brother and sister from Hawaii, to families going to see relatives they haven't seen in months, to people who are now professional RVers who are traveling throughout the states!



We also have had the pleasure of meeting many more four-legged travelers, such as our newest newspaper delivery puppy. He is just a couple of months old and the cutest little chocolate Shitzu I have ever seen!!! Even though his brother is a little jealous of the extra attention he gets, Chompy still gets his cuddle time.

How lucky are we that we get to chat with so many wonderful people AND get puppy snuggles?!



NEW TRAVEL GUIDE!

The new Visit Kimball travel guide is here!! You can get your copy at the Visitor Center or at multiple locations around Kimball and west-bound rest areas along Interstate 80.

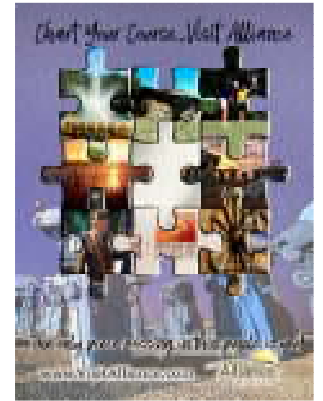
A huge thank you to Country Printer out of Dix, NE for working with me and getting this printed so beautifully. If you have any printing jobs you are looking to do, I definitely recommend them! High quality work and a fantastic family who are celebrating 50 years of being in business!

CHECK OUT ALLIANCE

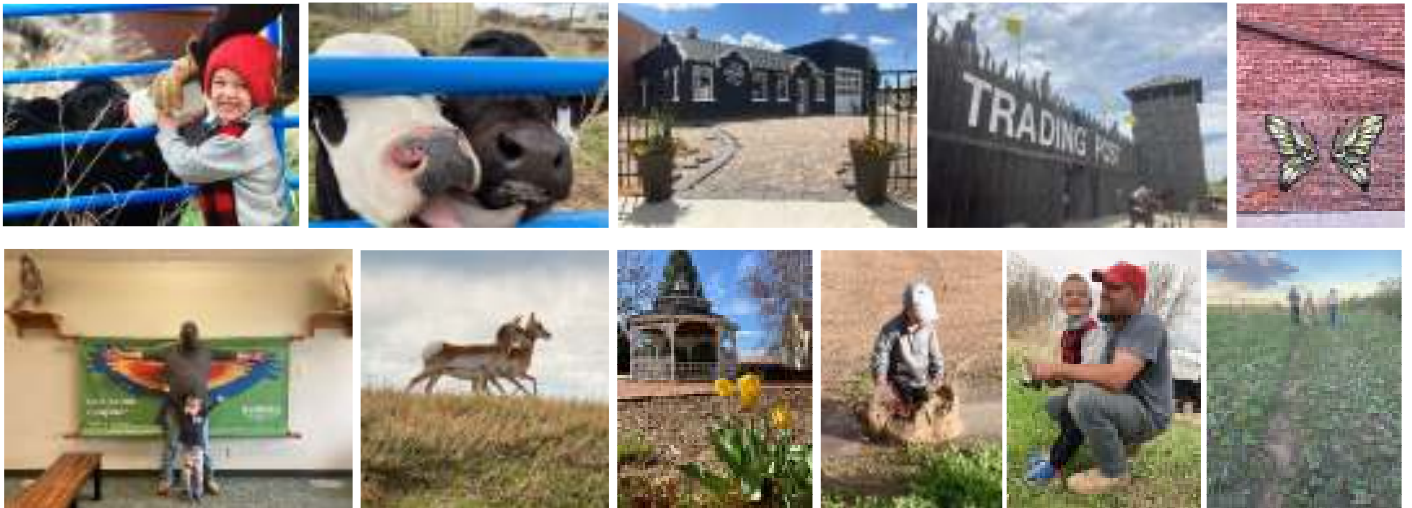
We have another new window screen! Even though Alliance, NE has had a screen in this window before, this is a new one that shows a few more of the fun things to see and do in Box Butte County.

The ever-popular Carhenge will always be a favorite of mine, but don't forget to stop at Dobby's Frontier Town to see an adorable storefront town filled with history, the Knight Museum and Sandhills Center, Sallows Military Museum, Carnegie Arts Center, the downtown park and fountain, and there is always plenty to do 'on the bricks' along Box Butte Avenue!

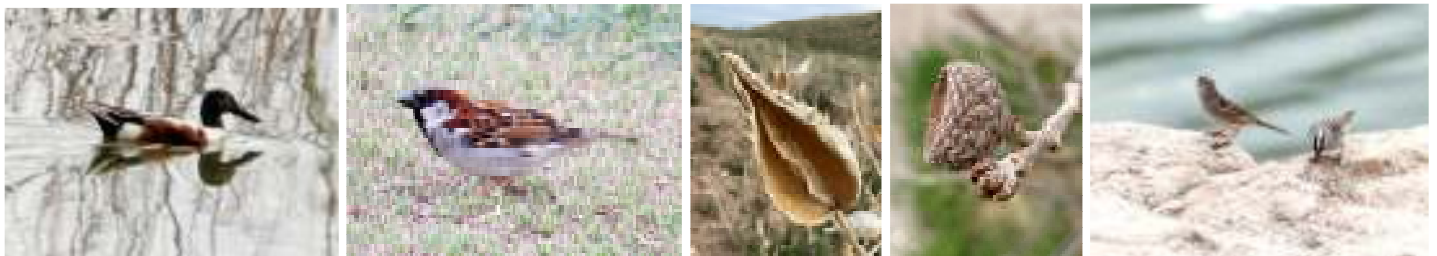
To see all that they have to offer, go to www.visitalliance.com.



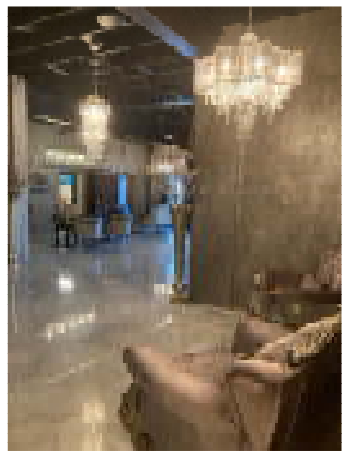
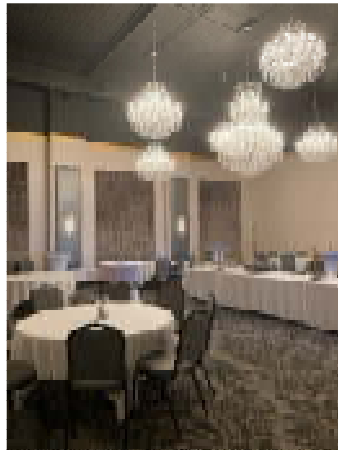
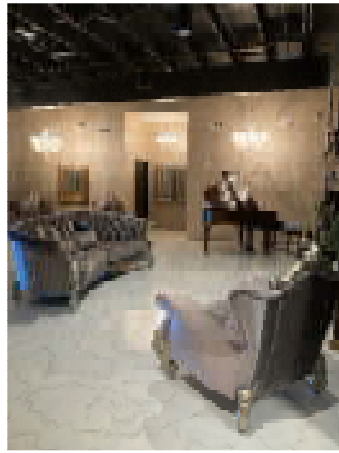
PHOTOS FROM THE SURROUNDING AREA



This spring has included lively calves and bottle feeding, puddle jumping, sunset walks, fishing, and visits around Western Nebraska. Nebraska really is the 'good life'.



I was also a part of a Panhandle Bioblitz, in which I was able to observe over 50 different specimens. The group totaled over 350 observations and 163 species identified over the two days. What a fun project!! Thank you to Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, the Nebraska Game and Parks, and Nebraska Wildlife Education for putting on this wonderful virtual event. What a great way to get people interested in wildlife and to observe all the nature around us!



The annual Salute to Tourism Luncheon was held at Hotel 21 in Gering during National Travel & Tourism Week. If you want a posh hotel experience, this place is incredible!

UPCOMING AREA EVENTS:

June: (due to COVID-19, some of the following events may be postponed or cancelled)

- 4th-5th – Chadron, NE – Chadron Home, Sports, & Travel Expo
- 5th – North Platte, NE – Buffalo Bill Rough Rider 2nd Annual Gravel Grinder Race
- 8th – Alliance, NE – Bridges Out of Poverty at the Alliance Performing Arts Center
- 10th – Potter, NE – Chucka-Brew at Chuckaboo Station
- 10th – Potter, NE – Night Out in Potter
- 10th – Chadron, NE – Star Party at Chadron State Park’s Black Hills Overlook
- 11th – Scottsbluff, NE – Buckcherry performs at the new 18th St. Plaza Downtown Scottsbluff
- 11th & 12th – Chadron, NE – Chadron State Park Centennial Birthday Bash
- 12th – Kimball, NE – 12th Annual Kimball Ranch Rodeo
- 12th & 13th – North Platte, NE – Heritage Festival at the Lincoln County Historical Museum
- 14th-15th – Chadron, NE – 2021 Writing Retreat at Chadron State Park
- 16th – 26th – Nebraska – National Pony Express Association Re-Ride
- 19th – Crawford, NE – Ride the Ridge at Fort Robinson State Park
- 19th – Scottsbluff, NE – 18th Street Farmers’ Market Summer Pop-Up Market on Broadway
- 20th – Father’s Day
- 19th-20th – Scottsbluff, NE – Robidoux Quick & Dirty Bike Race
- 24th – Scottsbluff, NE – Bands on Broadway
- 25th – North Platte, NE – NebraskaLand Days
- 25th-26th – Potter, NE – Potter Car Bowl
- 26th – Gering, NE – Scotts Bluff Celtic Gathering at Five Rocks Amphitheater

July: (due to COVID-19, some of the following events may be postponed or cancelled)

- 4th – Independence Day
- 4th – Kimball, NE – Fun on the Fourth with Connect Kimball
- 8th – Chadron, NE – Bands on Bordeaux Summer Concert Series – Bar Flies
- 8th-11th – Gering, NE – Oregon Trail Days
- 8th & 11th – Chadron, NE – Chadron Fur Trade Days Primitive Rendezvous
- 17th – Scottsbluff, NE – 18th Street Farmers’ Market Summer Pop-Up Market on Broadway
- 17th – online – Spectacular Stars, Magnificent Moths with Nebraska Game & Parks
- 18th – Gering, NE – Truck Show at the Hi Way 92 Raceway Park
- 31st – Kimball, NE – 3rd Annual Kimball Community Yard Sale

THE GOODHAND THEATER PRESENTS:

GOODHAND Theatre

Friends of the Goodhand Theatre presents:

GODZILLA VS. KONG PG-13

SHOWING AT 7 PM JUNE 4 & 5

SUNDAY MATINEE AT 2PM JUNE 6

Admission **MOVIE SPONSORED BY**
 Adult (12-older) \$3.00 **FLOWER HAVEN**
 Child (2-11) \$2.00 **AND GIFTS**
 Children under 2 Free



Legends collide as Godzilla and Kong, the two most powerful forces of nature, clash in a spectacular battle for the ages. As a squadron embarks on a perilous mission into fantastical uncharted terrain, unearthing clues to the Titans' very origins and mankind's survival, a conspiracy threatens to wipe the creatures, both good and bad, from the face of the earth forever.



GOODHAND Theatre

Friends of the Goodhand Theatre presents:

CRUELLA PG

Showing at 7 PM June 18 & 19

Sunday Matinee at 2pm June 20

Showing at 7 pm June 25 & 26

Sunday Matinee at 2 pm June 27

Admission **Movie Sponsored By**
 Adult (12-older) \$3.00 **Marquardt Insurance**
 Child (2-11) \$2.00
 Children under 2 Free




CrueLLa is set in 1940s London amidst the post-war rock n' roll scene and follows a young girl named Cruella, a clever and creative girl determined to make a name for herself with her designs. She befriends a pair of young thieves who appreciate her appetite for mischief, and together they are able to build a life for themselves on the London streets. One day, Cruella's flair for fashion catches the eye of the Baroness von Hellman, a fashion legend who is devastatingly chic and terrifyingly mean, but their relationship sets in motion a course of events and revelations that will cause Cruella to embrace her wicked side and become the career, fashionable and revenge-bent Cruella.



Kimball Area Tourism

Kimball County Tourism sponsors Kimball, Nebraska, and the western portion of Howard County.

The western Nebraska Peninsula is rich in history and scenic beauty. The landscape is a mix of rolling hills, prairie, and mountains. The area is a blend of natural beauty and human history. The region is a mix of rolling hills, prairie, and mountains. The area is a blend of natural beauty and human history. The region is a mix of rolling hills, prairie, and mountains. The area is a blend of natural beauty and human history.



Kimball County Visitor Center

204 S Kimball Blvd, Kimball

Conveniently located at Exit 20 along Interstate 80 and US Highway 77

Area Info
 Clean Restrooms
 Free WiFi
 Truck Parking
 Locally Made Gifts
 Nebraska Souvenirs
 State Road Maps

308-241-0573
www.visitkimball.com
visit@kimballcountyne.us



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