



Waiting for warmer days, and the stories they bring.  
Window On Fifth Street, page 19.



Grace and power ride the wind -- timeless, fearless, and free.

## Sweeten your Coffee Break with these Voices and Views from the Valleys of the Nemaha River.



### Blue Star Mothers, Chapter #1

Hands that Craft Warmth, Hearts that Honor Service.  
Looking for Veterans to Honor with Quilts of Valor  
Mary Holland & Keitha Thomson Display a Quilt Awarded to a U.S. Army Veteran.  
See Page 12 for more Details.

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## *Your Country Neighbor*

*Voices and Views from the Valleys of the Nemaha*

Publisher & Photographer, Stephen Hassler

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### **This Month's Writers & Contributors**

Devon Adams 18

John Chatelain 7

Stephen Hassler 2, 19

Mary Holland 12

Merri Johnson 12

DiAnna Loy “Peru City News” 8

Bruce Madsen “Arbor City News” 13

Nebraska City's Morton-James Public Library 14

Marty Peregoy, “Peru City News” 6, 8, 9

Robyn Williams 19

Thank You!

*“Do not go where the path may lead, go instead  
where there is no path and leave a trail.”*

Ralph Waldo Emerson

*“People will forget what you said, people will forget  
what you did, but people will never forget how  
you made them feel.”*

Maya Angelou

*“Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is very  
important that you do it because no one else will.”*

Ghandi

## Cover Photos

It's worth mentioning that, along with being your publisher, I'm also a wildlife photographer—and this publication serves, in part, as my personal photo gallery. While wildlife is a passion of mine, I also enjoy capturing the energy of sports action and the beauty of landscapes when the right scene presents itself.

This month's cover features one of my favorite subjects, the American Bald Eagle. I selected this particular image not only because it's eagle season but also because the bird is in flight, its eye is sharply in focus, and it embodies both power and grace. The other two photos were chosen to connect with a variety of readers, ensuring a mix of themes that resonate with different interests.

## Marching Into Spring

A Message from your Publisher, Stephen Hassler, Peru

March is here, and with it comes the slow but steady retreat of Winter. We may still have a chilly day or two, but there's no denying that the season is shifting. The days are getting longer, and soon, the landscape will begin waking up in shades of green.

If you've never witnessed the annual migration of the sandhill cranes along the Platte River, this is the month to do it. Thousands of these graceful birds gather near Grand Island and Kearney, offering a spectacle of nature that never gets old. The Crane Trust and Audubon Center provide excellent viewing opportunities—just take the “Alda Road” exit off I-80. It's a sight (and sound) to remember.

March also means more time outdoors, whether it's spotting the first Spring blooms, hearing the call of returning songbirds, or just enjoying a brisk walk without needing quite so many layers. And, of course, if you're like me, you're counting down the days until that first truly warm afternoon when the world smells fresh and full of possibility.

So pour a second cup of coffee or treat yourself to tea from Diana's Tea Shop in Papillion, Nebraska, and peruse “Your Country Neighbor” with it's magazine articles and poetry, small town news and festivals, and regional photos of wildlife, landscapes, and sports action. **Omaha area residents can find “Your Country Neighbor” at Bureikou Tea & More, formerly Diana's Tea Shop, in Papillion.** Their web address is; <https://www.bureikouteaandmore.com/dianas-tea>. If you go online to your-countryneighbor.com you can ‘click on it’ from page 2 of the document.

I hope you will have a wonderful Spring-like March and I ask you to clip the **Valentino's coupon** on page 10 and carry it with you, because a good meal is always in season!

And if you're traveling to catch the sights of Spring, drive safely and enjoy the journey.

Stephen

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Bald Eagle, hunting at Loess Bluffs refuge.



Bald Eagle landing amongst fish heads in drainage ditch just east of Brownville, Nebraska



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**PSC v Central Methodist University, Win 84 - 72  
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**PSC v Clarke University, Win 80 - 72  
 High Scorer, #32 Devin Tomlinson 21 points.**



**PSC v William Penn University Win 106 - 90  
 High Scorer, #4 Carlos Hines 30 points.**



**PSC v Grand View University, Tournament Win 76 - 60  
 High Scorer, #4 Carlos Hines 27 points**



PSC v William Penn University Win 63 - 49  
Natasha Deal #10, High Scorer with 23 points



PSC v Central Methodist University, Loss 69 - 90  
Taydem Miller #3, High Scorer with 14 points



PSC v Clarke University Loss 73 - 86  
High Scorer #41 Kylie Diaz with 21 points.



## Spring Into Wellness!

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Red-bellied Woodpecker



H-75 near Duck Creek turn.



Someday, perhaps not soon enough, Highway 75 will be 4 lanes from Omaha to Topeka. Until then, drivers depend on passing lanes and signage to help provide safe traffic flow. Plus courteous drivers, especially those of “18-wheelers.”

## Highway 75 Offers Serious Driving Challenges

Marty Peregoy, Peru

I’ve noticed a disturbing traffic trend on Highway 75 lately. Occasionally two-lane traffic narrows to one-lane or people find themselves trapped in the wrong lane by traffic and need to change lanes. Do those in the desired lane slow down and politely allow others to go in front of them? Not often. Sometimes they even speed up. And sometimes, nine or ten people will pass while traffic behind the would-be turner comes to a virtual stand-still or starts changing lanes themselves. Conversely, there are the people who would rather challenge death than be a few seconds later arriving to work or grabbing their Scooter’s Coffee. They follow the car in front of them, bumper practically in their back seat, and then they zip around cars going the legal speed limit by using the last few inches of the passing lane.

Just last week the person in front of me at the Duck Creek corner slammed on his brakes when the person in front of him turned left suddenly. I had plenty of stopping room, but the person in back of me was following too closely and left rubber, while the person behind him had nowhere to go but to the passing lane on the right.

If you’ve experienced the length of that passing lane, you’ll know that you only have 15-20 feet to make your pass. The person on my right, an obvious out-of-towner, was not prepared for that distance, and I wasn’t sure what would happen first – my crossing into oncoming traffic or his ending up in the ditch.

Fortunately, we both made it, but that’s not the only close call I’ve experienced in those passing lanes. Often people new to the area think they have plenty of time to zip around slower cars, only to find there are now two cars sharing one lane. Oh how tempted we can be to hold our ground or box them out, but being right isn’t as important as living to drive another day.

It’s important to realize that not everyone driving the roads with us is familiar with them. The one thing we all have in common is that someone somewhere would miss us if our lives ended in a senseless crash. We need to avoid that at all costs.

Slow down, signal your turns, and be patient with those whose path is not as speedy as yours. I always find myself absurdly pleased when the person who passed me going 80 ends up waiting at the same red light, just two cars ahead of me. Two minutes is not worth dying for.

# PERU CITY NEWS

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## Waiting for Duck Eggs

Marty Peregoy

Late this summer I received a young female Rouen duck from the Arms family after a fox had relieved me of two hand-raised pullets and a duckling their first day out of the pen.

The Arms family had only the one duck, and she was lonely. I had only the one drake, and he was lonely. It seemed like a great idea for them to set up housekeeping together. I didn't know how old she was, but she certainly seemed to be old enough for the rigors of life with a drake.

Since then, I have been eagerly awaiting a duck egg. Despite Moby Duck's commitment to fatherhood, Ritz Quacker has not produced anything other than droppings and feathers.

Now it is winter, and while the chickens are still laying reliably with the assistance of a heat lamp in the hen house, I have not received a single duck egg. Ritz Quacker has no heated lamp, but she and Moby Duck have built in down jackets. They rarely go in their house, and they seem fat and content. "You should be laying eggs by now," I coached. "You have to earn your keep," I warned. "Maybe in spring," I thought.

Imagine my surprise on February 11th, the day before the huge snow storm, when Ritz finally laid her first egg. In the center of her pen. When the wind chill was near zero. Of course, it froze and cracked.

Ritz has a house with 12 inches of wood shavings, a heated water bowl, and plenty of high-protein food. She and Moby also get a scoop of chicken scratch each morning. Why she chose to lay her egg in a deadly environment rather than in her warm house is beyond me, but I thought it was just first-timer's ignorance.

I chucked the egg out in the middle of the yard for a wandering, hungry mammal and went back inside to get warm. That's when I started reconsidering my actions. I decided that the next morning I would retrieve the egg and put it in the duck house in the place that would be best for nesting. "Lead by example," I thought.

I wasn't planning on eight inches of white snow on top of a white duck egg to make retrieval impossible. I figured Ritz might eventually realize she should be laying her eggs somewhere different, but she would learn much

*Continued on page 9 >>>>*

## The Churches of Peru

John C. Chatelain

The French aristocrat, Alexis de Tocqueville, wrote "Democracy in America" following a nine month visit to the United States in 1831-32. He wrote extensively about the American phenomenon of forming volunteer, non-governmental, "associations." "In the United States, as soon as several inhabitants have taken an opinion or an idea they wish to promote in society, they seek each other out and unite together once they have made contact. From that moment, they are no longer isolated but have become a power seen from afar whose activities serve as an example and whose words are heeded." (Tocqueville 1840, 599). The spirit of self-help through voluntary association moved powerfully in the development of Peru's churches as reported in A History of Nemaha County, Pages 54-56.

Rev. W.S. Horn preached the first sermon of the Methodist Church in Peru in 1855. The denomination erected its building in 1859, which burned in 1861. George K. Pettit organized a meeting in early 1857, resulting in the formation of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a congregation under the spiritual care of Rev. J.T. Cannon. The church edifice, constructed in 1866, had a capacity of 200. The Methodist Episcopal and Methodist Protestant churches merged in 1870. By 1882, the church had 11 teachers and 125 scholars in its Sunday-School. In 1908, the imposing structure, now housing the Peru Community Church, was built at 520 Nebraska Street, featuring a beautiful pipe organ.

An anonymous lady from New York donated \$1,000.00, local townsmen contributed labor and Mr. Green furnished both timber and money for St. Mary's Episcopal Church. A fine, well-furnished building was built in 1869 at a cost of \$2,500.00. Services were held until 1882. The building stood for a number of years, until the Christian Church purchased the building materials for its own building.

Baptist records indicate Elder G. W. Read began preaching in Peru in 1857. Peru Baptist Church became official in 1871. The first structure was erected in 1877. A second building was constructed at the northwest corner of 6th and Nebraska Streets. The women's Mission Society was very active. For four decades a daughter of the congregation, Carrie Hezzeltine, served as missionary to Burma. Her return home on furloughs to present programs was a highlight at the church.

In 1896, Louis Fisher began holding meetings at the Opera House, which led to the formation of the Christian Church. In 1904, Fisher offered to pay half the cost of erecting a building if the other members would furnish the other half. Brick from the Episcopal Church was used in the foundation and basement walls and the Christian Church was completed in 1905, standing on the east side of 5th Street, between Nebraska and Oregon Streets.

In the early days, Benedictine priests served the territory by horseback from St. Benedict's Church in Nebraska City. Originally, the priest would meet in a home. In the 1920's mass was said in a room above the Mardis Store. In the 1930's Monsignor L.L. Mandeville of St. Joseph's Church in Auburn realized the need for a church building. The Indian Hill site for St. Clara's Catholic Church was donated by Dr. William Jack, of Baltimore, in honor of his parents, David and Catherine Jack of Peru. Joseph Palmer of Auburn, built St. Clara's in the summer of 1933, at a cost of \$2,817.24. Fr. Timothy Danek of Auburn currently serves the congregation.

By the early 1970s the Baptist, Methodist and Christian Churches were holding joint worship. The decision was made to merge into the Peru Community Church. The group agreed to affiliate with Nebraska Christian Church and to use the Methodist building. Stained glass from the Baptist Church was installed. A tower was constructed at the southwest corner of the building to display the bells from the three churches. The church continues serving the community, under the leadership of Pastors Ray and Becky Girard.

American's tendency to form associations, described by Tocqueville, was in play as recently as 2020, when the vibrant Northridge Church-Peru-SBC came together. It meets in a newly constructed building, 808 5th Street, under the leadership of Senior Pastor, Daniel Hutchison, and Men's Ministry Pastor, Matthew Leininger.



## Tuesday Literary Club Reads

DiAnna Loy, Tuesday Literary Club

Everyone came together at the Auburn Memorial Library to continue our discussion of senior authors with Susan Pease presenting *The Unlikely Yarn of the Dragon Lady* Sharon J. Mondragón. As the book opens we join the ladies of the Heavenly Hugs Prayer Shawl Ministry as they gather as they always do on another Wednesday morning at the Hope of Glory Church intending to meet in the Prayer Chapel of the church to knit prayer shawls and pray for the people who will eventually receive the shawls as gifts.

Today would seem to be no different until they are met by Pete McIhaney, the rector of the church, who begins by telling them they can no longer meet in the Prayer Chapel as it is being renovated by a volunteer who can only work one day a week and that day is Wednesday. They must take their knitting elsewhere until the chapel renovations are completed. He suggests that they find somewhere public such as the mall where they can be seen by the public and people can ask questions. The ladies can tell people about their work and their church; maybe attracting new people to join them in church. It seems the Rector has been told by the bishop he must increase attendance at the church or it will be closed.

The prayer shawl group is made up of four members: Jane, the youngest of the group who has 2 teenage daughters and a 19 year-old son in prison; Rose a white haired octogenarian that has recently moved from her home to an assisted living facility and is the only one Jane has confided in; Fran is their newest member and is just learning how to knit; and last but not least, Margaret, who is almost 6 feet tall and is often referred to as “Mrs. I-Run-Everything” Benson because she is the self-appointed person in charge of every group she is a member of. As the women listen to the rector’s news, Margaret is loudly and emphatically against the idea. Fran suggests the café in the bookstore in the mall.

The first day in the mall, they meet a young college student named Sarah who is interested in what they are doing. After visiting for a while, Sarah hands them--- a napkin with her name and the time and date of her upcoming anatomy test and asks if they will pray for her to pass her test. Rose says they will but Margaret is not happy about this. Sarah starts spreading the word among her peers. The next week in the mall a woman asks if she can buy a shawl. They explain their shawls are not for sale but the woman is distraught. Fran offers the woman a newly completed shawl to keep because the woman is clearly in need but Margaret is opposed to this idea because Father McIhaney has not blessed the shawl. The next Sunday Father McIhaney tells the ladies that at the early service a woman asked him to bless her lovely dark green prayer shawl.

On the third day at the mall, the ladies are told they can no longer meet in the café. After some looking, they find a lovely, plush seating area right outside Macy’s. They claim it as their own and their knitting continues with even more pleasant interpretations than before. Soon people from all over the mall are leaving prayer requests on “their” table for them to find. And many new faces are turning up in church.

As time passes, the ladies realize that they’ve helped many people but the people they haven’t helped is themselves. They have kept their own problems closed off from the rest of the group. As one by one they begin to share amongst themselves, they begin to feel their own problems feel not quite so heavy.

This book was easy to read and full of heart warming experiences. It definitely earned a place on my “to be recommended” bookshelf.

Happy reading!

## You, Too, Can Become a Parli-Pro - Part III

Marty Peregoy

This is a continuation of a five-part series on the basics of parliamentary procedure. The last two articles focused on main motions and subsidiary motions. This article will focus on incidental motions.

According to Robert’s Rules of Order Newly Revised, the pre-eminent authority on parliamentary procedure, an incidental motion is one that relates to other motions in some way and always takes precedence over any other motion currently on the floor. When you look at the following list of incidental motions, I think you will see why.

- Appeal the Decision of the Chair is called when the maker of the motion believes the chair is in error, and the motion must be called before any discussion or other business takes place. The motion requires a second and a majority vote. If the majority are in favor of appealing the decision of the chair, the chair responds by taking a vote with the words, “Those in favor of sustaining the decision of the chair signify by saying aye”, followed by “Those opposed to sustaining the decision of the chair signify by saying nay”. The results are then stated, and the meeting proceeds accordingly. This occurs fairly infrequently, but Chairs are not infallible.

- Division of the Question is called when the item on the agenda contains two or more points that could stand on their own as a complete proposition without the other. The maker of the motion might say, “I move division of the question so that we might consider separately ABC and DEF.” This motion requires a second, is amendable, and requires a majority vote. If the vote is affirmative, the points that have been divided are then considered separately in the order

Parli-Pro Continued on page 9 >>>>



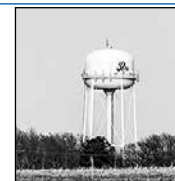
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<<<< Duck Eggs Continued from page 6

faster if she had a visual aid. I dug through my first-aid poultry kit in the laundry room and found a fake egg that I had used with great results when the chickens were young. I went back outside and popped it in a prime spot in the duck house.

For three days there were no more real duck eggs to be found. I found the fake egg buried in different places in the duck house, but it was never where I put it.

Finally on the 16th, there was another frozen duck egg in the middle of the pen. Once again, I retrieved it, and this time I put both the fake and real egg together in the prime spot, realizing that sitting on that frozen one might well be a deterrent to leaving it outside in the elements. Despite the fact that the egg was un-useable, I thanked Ritz for her egg as I do the chickens, Giada and Red for theirs each morning .

February 17th, both fake and frozen real eggs had been rolled into the pen. I pictured a frowning Ritz Quacker saying, "My nest is HERE!" as she stomped a yellow foot. The slide clasps on the pen door were frozen stiff, and I had to get down on my knees in the snow to blow warm air on them before they would open. Then, using a garden rake, I retrieved the eggs and once again placed them in the prime nesting area in the duck house. "Your nest is HERE!" I muttered.

February 18th, I perused the pen and found no egg. I excitedly opened the door to the duck house, hoping to see Ritz atop not only the fake egg and frozen eggs, but a new one as well. What I found was the fake egg halfway to the outside door. Apparently, I had interrupted her mid roll.

February 19th, both real AND fake eggs were in the middle of the pen, and once again I retrieved them. Opening the door to the duck house, I thought, "This is getting to be reminiscent of the old Dr. Seuss book, Green Eggs and Ham. 'You can nest here, yes you can....you can lay eggs...in a pan!'"

I excitedly remembered that I had an old black rubber feed pan, which a previous duck had loved to use as a swimming pool, stored in the garden shed. I figured that filling it with a comfy layer of shavings and topping it with a couple of eggs might be enticing to a duck with exacting taste in nests. I popped the new nest on one of the ledges in the duck house and crossed my fingers.

Today is February 20th. It is 0 degrees outside without windchill. There is a new egg in the center of the pen, and although I spotted it when it couldn't have been more than an hour old, it was already frozen solid. Once again I retrieved it, and it now sits atop the feed pan nest with the other two eggs.

I'm not sure if I'm at the end of my rope with the nest training. I'm pretty tenacious, and I like a good challenge. It's not like I have been depending on duck eggs for breakfast every day. Maybe I'll keep trying different spots or maybe I'll just let Ritz do what she wants. When it eventually warms up, I know I will have both duck and chicken eggs, and all the frozen ones will make a good meal for some hungry fox and her kits.

<<<<< Parli-Pro Continued from page 8

in which they were stated in the original motion. This might occur if the agenda listed a topic of discussion as having two choices, such as "Discussion and possible motion regarding having a fund-raising pancake feed or having a raffle."

- Division of the Assembly is called by any member of the group when a vote has been taken in which the results seem so close as to be in doubt. This generally occurs in large groups when it is difficult to tell by voices alone whether there were more yays than nays.

When Division of the Assembly has been called, the Chair immediately responds with, "Those in favor of ABC, rise. Be seated. Those opposed to ABC, rise. Be seated." The Chair visually affirms the majority by noting whether or not one group was larger than the other and declares the result.

The member who called for division of the assembly may move for a counted vote if he is doubtful of the results of the rising vote, but the motion will require a second and an affirmative vote before proceeding. If the Chair is in doubt after the rising vote, he may order a counted vote on his own without consent of the body (the rest of the group).

- Objection to the Consideration of a Question is used most often in the following situation. Imagine that "Joe Thunder" has brought up the same motion, which has failed, at every monthly meeting for the past nine meetings. The minute Joe opens his mouth and begins stating the recognizable motion, a member of the group may call "Objection to Parli-Pro Continued on page 17 >>>>



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Loess Bluffs  
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## Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson

Greetings from Paris! That would be Paris, Texas, not that other Paris.

We left home at 8:00 a.m. on February 19 when the temperature was an invigorating five below and there were approximately eight inches of snow on the ground. As we turned south onto highway 75, I ventured a question, Do you think the road is slick? Nah, Hubby replied casually. OK, that’s good. Not slick.

The sky was overcast and Hubby wasn’t wearing his sunglasses, so I thought I’d just mention that it would be good to wear sunglasses, even though it was cloudy. He countered with a comment that he can see better without sunglasses on a cloudy day. Maybe so, but I discreetly Googled the topic and noted – diplomatically, of course – that UV rays can get through the clouds, so sunglasses are still recommended, especially if you’re going to be driving ALL day. He conceded the point graciously and put his sunglasses on.

As we continued down the road and drew closer to the vehicle ahead of us, I thought I detected a slight surge from the engine, as if Hubby were about to speed up to pass. Passing on two-lane roads is near-panic-attack-inducing for me. But, was it wise to make a third comment on Hubby’s driving in the first ten miles of our trip? My commentary from the passenger seat isn’t always well-received by the driver. But, yes, I had to say it: We don’t have to be in a hurry, you know. Again, Hubby responded with complete calm and assured me he was not planning to pass the vehicle ahead of us.

Well, that all went well. Of course, there would, no doubt, be many occasions for observations on speed limits, tail-gating, etc., etc., over the duration of our trip, that might not go so well.

But for the time being, with the Classic Vinyl station playing on the radio, we rolled along without incident through Kansas and Oklahoma. We were making a side trip on our way to visit Hubby’s brother and sister in south Texas, so our route was farther east than usual. Instead of the Flint Hills of Kansas and the wide-open spaces of central Oklahoma that we are used to, we enjoyed more wooded terrain, all of it under snow cover and as cold as Nebraska. We didn’t see green grass until 4:30 in the afternoon, when we were practically in Texas.

Approximately ten minutes from our destination, our GPS directed us to take what we first assumed was a short-cut, but which turned out to be a SNAFU. Hubby soon realized that we had lost the GPS signal, compelling us to resort to navigating by the paper road map! Good thing we are old enough to know how to do that. We soon got turned around successfully, arriving only about 20 minutes later than expected, and most importantly, getting off the road before dark.

So, no harm, no foul on day one of our trip. But tomorrow is another day. Who knows what challenges or delights might come our way.

## Blue Star Mothers, Chapter #1,

### Looking for Veterans to Honor with Quilts of Valor

Mary Holland, Nebraska City

Blue Star Mothers of Nebraska, Chapter #1 in Nebraska City, is a local service organization, dedicated to providing assistance to family members of deployed soldiers, as well as services to veterans upon returning to civilian life.

In 2017, this local group of Blue Star Mothers [a national organization with more than 6,000 members nationwide] selected the National Quilts of Valor movement as their service project. The group has made and awarded 290 Quilts of Valor to area veterans, most of which reside in southeast Nebraska.

Blue Star Mothers is asking for the public’s help in identifying veterans who have not yet received a healing and comforting Quilt of Valor. Most quilts have been awarded during public ceremonies held in a variety of settings: the Veterans’ Memorial Building in Nebraska City, the park in Auburn, Brownville’s 4th of July Celebration, at county fairs, among others. At times a Quilt of Valor award is completed in a more private setting, such as the veterans’ home, or their driveway/patio, assisted living facility/nursing home, or some other specific location.

Each Quilt of Valor is handmade using 100% quality cotton fabric, machine quilted, as per requirements established by the National Quilts of Valor Foundation. All quilts are made by volunteers, long arm professionals are recruited to complete the quilting process. Each quilt is ‘valued’ at \$300. Funds to support this project come from private donations, VFW Auxiliary groups, and grant funds from community foundations. Any service member or living veteran who served in one of the following branches: Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard, members of activated National Guard units/reservists are eligible. Veterans may have served during declared war, conflicts, police actions, peacekeeping missions, counter terrorism operations and times of peace.

Blue Star Mothers is planning to hold public award ceremonies in 2025 on Memorial Day weekend, the 4th of July, at the Otoe County Fair Aug.3, and Veterans Day weekend in November. Private award ceremonies will be scheduled as necessary.

To nominate a veteran for this award, please contact Blue Star Mothers at P.O. Box 333, Nebraska City, NE 68410, or contact Mary Ann Holland by phone/text at 402-297-3536 to request a Veteran Information Form which is used to gather a veteran’s information.

Being awarded a Quilt of Valor is one of the highest honors a veteran receives. It is a once in a lifetime award. Please join Blue Star Mothers in honoring many more veterans in our communities.

This article was written by Mary Ann Holland, member  
Blue Star Mothers, Chapter #1 in Nebraska City. Ph. 402-297-3536

# ARBOR CITY NEWS

*News from Nebraska City*

## 2025 Kimmel Orchard & Vineyard 100 Year Anniversary Events

Date	Event
January	<b>Kimmel 100-Year Anniversary Kick-Off</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Announcement of the 2025 100-Year Anniversary Event Calendar</li> </ul>
<b>Saturday, March 15</b> <i>Snow Date, March 22</i>	<b>American Architecture Quilt Block Workshop</b> <i>Design &amp; Instruction: Heritage Needlework Guild, Nebraska City</i> A tribute to Laurine Kimmel’s ‘American Architecture’ artwork collection, this class will assemble a quilt block with an outhouse design. Choose to attend one of two instructional sessions, 9 am – 12 noon, or 1 – 4 pm. <i>Appropriate for all ages and stages of quilters.</i>
Friday, April 25	<b>2025 Opening Day – Kimmel Apple Barn</b>
<b>Saturday, April 26</b>	<b>“A Ride Back in Time” Car Show</b> Attend our 2025 opening weekend and enjoy a collection of cars from past eras. The show feature will be Model T and Model A cars, which were popular at the time the orchard started. No fee to participate or attend. All car enthusiasts are encouraged to join us and display cars from the 100 years Kimmel Orchard has been in business. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Take a ride in a car from the era when Kimmel Orchard began.</li> <li>Attend educational programs to learn about the influence the automobile had on America and agriculture.</li> <li>Enjoy a free hayrack ride and the spring beauty at the orchard.</li> </ul>
<b>Saturday, May 3</b>	<b>Kimmel 100 Year Anniversary - Apple Blossom Dinner</b> Join us for a chef prepared, family-style meal, served outdoors where diners can soak in the beauty of spring at the orchard. Enjoy tasty cuisine and the company of friends and family, while taking in the views of the spring apple blossoms.
<b>Saturday, June 21</b>	<b>Antique Tractor Show</b> Join us to experience the progress of agricultural technology over the years. Enjoy exploring the many different types of tractors and power equipment used in agriculture in the last 100 years. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Show Feature: Orchard Tractors &amp; Orchard Equipment.</li> <li>No fee to show and share your equipment.</li> <li>No admission to attend.</li> </ul>
September 20 & 21 September 27 & 28	<b>2025 Applejack</b>
<b>Tuesday, November 11</b>	<b>Armistice (Veteran’s) Day Salute – Video History of Kimmel’s 100 Years</b> Learn more about the 100-year history of Kimmel through recorded videos on our website, social media, and YouTube.
<b>Fri and Sat December 5-6</b>	<b>German Christmas Market &amp; Enchanted Twinkle Tour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Cocktail Party Preview:</b> Friday, Dec 5, 4-6 pm (<i>Invitation Only</i>)</li> <li><b>Market Vendors Open:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sat, Dec 6, 10 am to 5 pm</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Adult Only Twinkle Tours,</b> Friday, Dec 5, from 6 to 8 pm.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reservations required.</li> <li>Featuring Music, Mulled Wine, and Holiday Charcuterie</li> <li>Tours leave every 30 minutes.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>Twinkle Tours – Saturday, Dec 6</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tours leave every 30 minutes, from 5 to 8 pm.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Updated Jan 2025

# ARBOR CITY NEWS

## *Morton-James Public Library Calendar of Events March 2025*

All activities held at Morton-James Public Library (unless otherwise noted) 923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, NE 68410

For questions call 402-873-5609 or visit [morton-jamespubliclibrary.com](http://morton-jamespubliclibrary.com)

### **Build An Animal Workshop - Dr.Seuss Themed Elephant**

Limited spots available. Must register ahead of time in person or by calling 402-873-5609.

**Saturday, March 1  
10:00 AM**

### **Lego Club**

Must be 8 years and older to join.

**Monday, March 3  
3:30-5:00 PM**

### **Story Time - Ages 2-6.**

Families Welcome! No registration.

**Wednesday, March 5  
10:00 AM**

### **Yarn Crafters Club**

Join us to work on your crocheting or knitting skills and projects. Club is for all levels of crafters.

Bring your own hooks, yarn, needles, whatever you need to make your yarn craft. Club members will be here to help those beginning. Free to attend.

Everyone welcome 15 and older!

**Wednesday, March 5  
1:30-3:00 PM**

### **Chess Club Every Thursday**

**4:00-6:00 PM**

### **Orphan Train Presentation**

presented by Mickey Creager

**Thursday, March 6  
7:00 PM**

### **Scrapbook Club**

**Saturday, March 8  
9:00 AM- Noon**

**Writer's Workshop-** Join us to get feedback on your own writing and to learn more about the craft of writing.

**Saturday, March 15  
10:00 AM**

### **Youth St. Patrick's Day Party**

**Saturday, March 15  
10:00 AM**

### **March Puzzle Tournament**

**Sunday, March 16**

**Registration required.** Call 402-873-5609 for details.

**Check in 12:30PM**

**Competition 1:00-4:00 PM**

### **Lego Club**

Must be 8 years and older to join.

**Monday, March 17  
3:30-5:00 PM**

### **Day Book Club The Mitford Affair**

By Marie Benedict

**Tuesday, March 18  
2:00 PM**

### **Story Time**

Ages 2-6. Families Welcome!

No registration.

**Wednesday, March 19  
10:00 AM**

### **Evening Book Club**

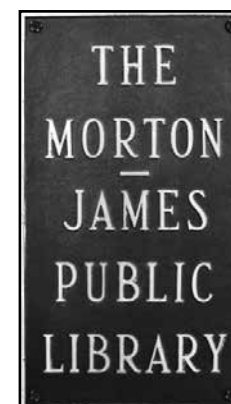
**Twenty Eight and a Half Wishes**

by Denise Grover Swank

**Wednesday, March 19  
5:30 PM**

### **Adult Craft Class Wreath**

**Wednesday, March 26  
6:00-7:00 PM**



**Kimmel Gallery at MJPL    YOUTH ART SHOW    March 7-27, 2025**

Student art work from Nebraska Middle and High Schools and Lourdes Central Catholic School

# ARBOR CITY NEWS

News from Nebraska City



**QUILT BLOCK WORKSHOP**

*A Tribute to 'American Architecture' Art Collection by Laurine Kimmel*

Join the Heritage Needlework Guild for a Paper Piecing Quilt Block Workshop. Appropriate for all ages and experience levels.

Bring Your Supplies:

- Sewing Machine
- Neutral Thread
- Scissors
- Glue Stick

**100 KIMMEL ORCHARD & VINEYARD**

5995 G Road, Nebraska City, NE  
www.kimmelorchard.org

**Kimmel Orchard 100-Year Anniversary Event**

**Sat, March 15, 2025**

Presented by Heritage Needlework Guild, Nebraska City, NE

Two sessions to choose from:

🕒 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
OR  
1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

**Workshop Kit: \$ 15**  
Includes pattern for one block plus material.


Call to Register  
402-873-5293  
Deadline Feb 28th



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The timing of the thaw was perfect for these Snow Geese to “stop over” at the Loess Bluffs Wildlife Refuge, 02/28/2025.

# ARBOR CITY NEWS

*News from Nebraska City*

## Blessings

Bruce Madsen

This morning I got to watch the sun come up  
And last night, I got to see the sun go down  
So that means I rode the earth one more time around,  
And I think that's a blessing

Plus the moon and stars that shine above  
In the dark of night at the end of the day  
When the work is done, we find we can not measure  
The amount of satisfaction and pride we feel  
in the contentment of relaxing pleasure.  
And this too is a blessing

I kiss my wife first thing every morning  
and again, the last thing each night  
After all these years, we still have the warm glow  
created by the feeling of love at first sight  
and that is a blessing

Our kids are grown and on their own  
and have found their own path to follow  
They grew up so fast, you wish those times would last.  
So I get sentimental when I reminisce  
and get choked up when I think about the past  
But you know, I also think that's a blessing

I've got a few good friends that I think are real  
Ones I could count on if I would ever have the need  
Ones to share a cup of coffee, or chuckle over a joke  
Ones to give you a wink and a warm smile  
These are reasons enough to know, that for your own soul  
these are the kind of friends you need  
And this too is a blessing

So, put yourself in this poem and consider your life  
Are you grateful and satisfied that you lived your life right  
Our blessings are many if we just take time to think  
From the roof over our heads  
To the dirty dishes in the kitchen sink

A preacher I'm not, nor trying to be  
Not my style to any degree  
But I look around and what do I see  
I see abundant blessings for you, and also for me



Goldfinches spar over feeder positioning.



Black-capped Chickadee

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Nuthatch



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**Wed 5:00pm-10:00pm**  
**Sat/Sun 9:00am-2:00pm**

<<<<< Parli-Pro Continued from page 9

the Consideration of the Question.” A second is not required. The Chair immediately takes a vote and proceeds accordingly. This is a great time saver and curtails Joe’s attempted public manipulation of the group.

- Point of Order is called by any member of the group when a rule of parliamentary procedure has been violated. The person calling point of order must be prepared to state the specific violation. For example: “Point of order. The council member has added additional information in his second that was not present in the main motion.” Or “Point of order. My colleague has incorrectly moved to table the motion rather than to postpone the motion.”

Point of order may interrupt other proceedings, and you need not wait for recognition from the chair. Having heard the point of order, the chair responds with either, “Your point is well taken” and will correct the situation or “Your point is not well taken,” in which case the business of the group continues as if you had not interrupted.

- Request to be Excused from a Duty is called when the member wishes to be excused from a duty that has been imposed on him or her. This motion requires a second when made by the member, is debatable and amendable and requires a two-third vote. For example, if a motion has passed requiring that all officers of the group provide the food for the community fundraiser breakfast out of their own pockets, and one member of the group has a limited budget or cannot cook, he/she might request to be excused from a duty.

- Suspend the Rules may be called by any member of the body when the rules must be deviated from for an important reason. The motion requires a second and a two-thirds vote. It is neither debatable nor amendable.

Unlike the privileged and subsidiary motions, incidental motions have no order of precedence among themselves. They take precedence over any pending question out of which they arise. There are a few additional incidental motions that will be discussed next month, as well as information on how to amend a motion, and the notion of a general motion.

If you’re interested in obtaining a PDF of the Robert’s Rules of Order motion chart, it can be accessed at <https://www.robertsrules.org/motions.html>.

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by Devon Adams, Peru

## TIME TILTS

Soon our days and nights will grind their gears in protest as humans twist their brains and bodies trying to make sense of something senseless.

Nature set the clock that works, but we break it, and then wonder why we're tired and mad and sad and off our feed. Just stop tinkering with the hands of Time!

## FORWARD FOCUS

There is a way to get from day to day without looking back. In fact, it can be done, but not forever. The cost to forget your days before today is heavy on a scale of pain. The body will know what your mind wants, but it won't vote that way. Memories belong to you and it is better to learn to live with them than to hurt.

## RIVER RUN

Lightning cracks the night beyond the bend by the river road, as sparks erupt with the boom of a tree exploding. Blue-white light breaks on boulders of ice pushed into piles along the banks. A massive groan rises from the frozen surface, as the force of moving water under the ice cracks loose more huge chunks and heaves them upwards. Flooding will come now, in the wake of a mighty thaw.

## By Artist, Devon Adams PENCIL AND WATERCOLOR PORTRAITS OF PEOPLE, ANIMALS, & BUILDINGS

*Drawn from your photographs.*



### PENCIL

8x10 mat: \$25  
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16x20 mat: \$55

### WATERCOLOR

8x10 mat size: \$45  
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16x20 mat size: \$100

### Send to:

Devon Adams

1220 Oak Street, Apt. A, Box 9 Nebraska City, NE 68410  
adamsdevon07@gmail.com 402-209-9377

## ALMOST PERFECT

It is a mirror in the waving grass that grows below the hill. Smooth as glass, it shows the rippled sky is upside down on the surface of the quiet water waiting for a wind to blow. Still as death and deep as a dream, the silent pond is waiting for the night to close the day.

## FOUNDATIONS

The rain came down and melted the ground so deep that the stones peaked out. They were a forgotten foundation, left from a farm that had faded away before the town came around to a new life. The family wanted to build on a quiet plot, so they chose this spot and got a lot more for their money than dirt. It is a history of stones with a family.

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## Window On Fifth Street

Stephen Hassler, Peru

After all the leaves have fallen, it's still premature to long for Spring. Instead, I cherish the warmth of Thanksgiving and Christmas, trying to find joy amidst the cold and snow that Winter brings.

Summer is not everyone's favorite season, but I often dread the discomfort of the cold, the heaviness of Winter clothing, and the closed windows necessary to keep the chill at bay. The landscapes seem drab, only brightening when a blanket of snow covers them. Yet snow has its own kind of beauty and I am reminded of the magic in nature's cycles.

Even during an unseasonably mild winter, with occasional 60-degree sunny days, it's easy to feel that summer is still far away. However, these glimpses of warmth remind me that change is on the horizon.

January brings a sense of hope, even if relief feels distant. The February groundhog may seem like a whimsical reminder of the light at the end of the tunnel, and while March can be unpredictable, it also serves as a gentle nudge that brighter days are approaching, even if sometimes accompanied by its lion-like winds.

While summer might seem a way off, the promise of Spring draws nearer with each passing day, reminding me that this waiting period is part of the journey toward warmer and brighter times.

April may still bring its share of cold spells, with ice crystals lingering among the budding violets. Yet even these moments are fleeting, as nature prepares to burst forth with life and color, reminding me that Spring is as inevitable as was the Winter left behind.

And so, I wait -- not with impatience, but with quiet appreciation for the season we are in. Each day, whether frosted with ice or kissed by an early sunbeam, brings me closer to renewal. Just as the trees will bud and the birds will return in song, so too will my spirits lift with the changing light. Snow and ice may test my patience, but they also remind me that beauty exists in every season, and that the warmth I long for is never truly gone, it is simply waiting for its time to return.

*While the main body of this article is my own, a few lines were developed with the assistance of a thoughtful outside perspective to add a final note of inspiration.*

## The Corridor

Robyn Williams, Nebraska City

The unfamiliar road is less traveled. I await with excitement, in anticipation of my final destination. My bags are packed, but I can't take much with me. Delayed! My flight has been delayed. I don't know when I'll return home. With patience I wait nonetheless. "I mean, do I really have a choice," as I think to myself in the busy corridor, with all the precious gifts I can possibly carry. I eat. And I wait. Then I awake. Whilst in my bed, awakening from the dream of restful waiting, I'm reminded of a hope deferred once. It seemed too good to be a story that I, one day, would be able to proclaim, but I kept believing. The assurity I held was eternal. It was real and tangible, although others did not see it because my youth stood in their sight. Yet, I still believed that it would someday find me. I couldn't hold it, or touch it, oh but it was, yet and still - so real. A young girl, not comprehending much, even that which was inside of me. A love. A peace surpassing my own understanding. Albeit young, I discerned His tender and loving kindness towards me. My prayers reached His ears and He heard my cry; my words that rang out, denoted with a childlike faith, that one day, I would be found.

Many miracles have occurred while on standby in the corridor. The first, when I was born. I am a product of someone who chose not to abort me. What a miracle! You knitted me in my mother's womb and knew the plans of my life, before I came into this world. At seven years old, when I consumed what resembled candy (in the eyes of a kid, anything pink in color, like PEZ, would look as so), I was rendered unconscious. I discovered later, to my surprise, it was my grandmother's heart medication. I was hospitalized. Moving from one corridor to the next for various tests because I couldn't speak for weeks. In this space, you didn't abandon me and my voice returned to me.

As a teenager, it would seem that all of the ailments started at the age when I would rebel all the more. Diagnosed with acute Streptococcus pyogenes at fifteen, it would be the first of many episodes of strep throat, before complications set in from this bacterial infection, leading to more chronic illnesses. After high school, I decided to go to college at a major university with the sheer thought that I was ready for the world. I met new people and discovered new things in life. I was having a ball, not realizing that there was more for me to learn. Furthermore, I failed to recognize that I was in the world, but not of it. Not too soon after this, pancreatitis and ulcers began to break me down, during that same year. Like Kanye West, I was a freshman dropout, leaving me with scars of failure and disappointment.


Yet, you didn't leave me or forsake me.

Now, by the grace of God, I am a 10-year survivor of CHF or Congestive Heart Failure which onset at the tender age of twenty-seven. No longer bound by medication or physician orders, I am free and clear of all evidence of ever having CHF. Your hands touched me through my faith. And I am healed. The love you administer freely has found me. It has touched me. It has and continues to restore me. And I lift up my hands to thee. I never knew how much your loving power was bestowed upon me until four years ago when I walked through the library corridor, alongside another. The tree is no longer barren, producing good fruit by way of your covenant and sovereignty. That precious day, he jovially pretended like he didn't see me initially. Which is fair, because I was blinded too. But when the moment came, he and I both stepped out in faith. And we said yes, to your will. And I am so glad that we did. That we trusted in you to do the rest. To lead. To guide us the remainder of the way. In the twenty year span of prayers, you showed me an absolute power like no other, by reconciling our hearts back to you. The unfamiliar road is narrow and not often traveled. Therefore, we will wait faithfully and patiently in the corridor until your arrival.

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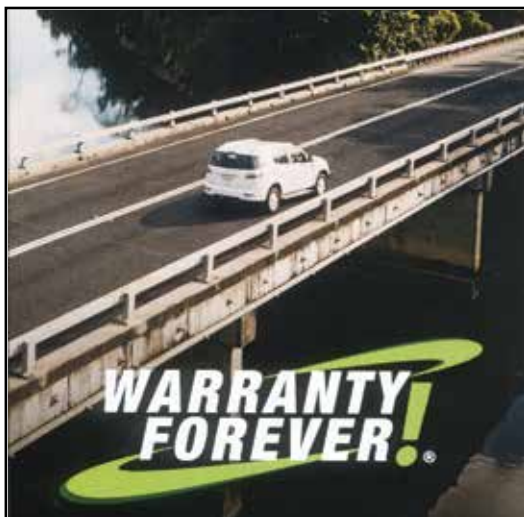
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