

# Your *Country* Neighbor

Free!  
October 2023

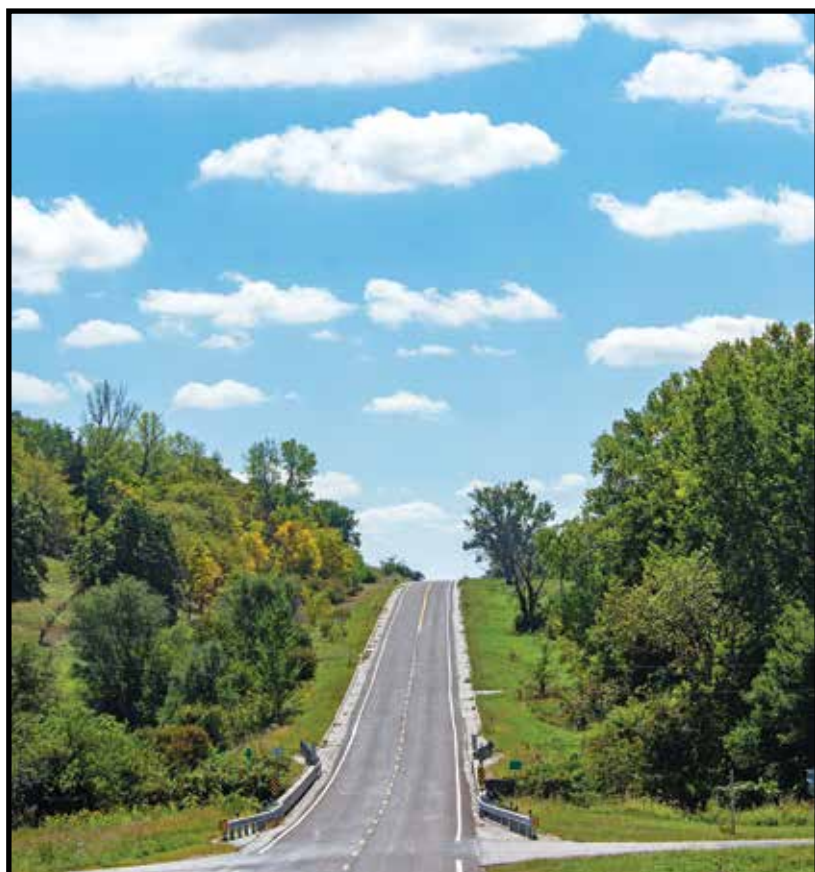
*Inside, Sweeten your Coffee Break with Views and Voices from the Nemaha River Valleys.*



Nebraska City Pioneers High School Marching Band in the AppleJack Parade, 09/16/23



Nemaha County Rodeo, 09/09/23



I will miss the Summer skies... until next time.

Scenic H-67 at 'Honey Creek.'

Volume Twenty-four, Number Ten



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October 2023



# Your Country Neighbor

Voices and Views from the Valleys of the Nemaha  
Publisher & Photographer, Stephen Hassler

P.O. Box 126  
Peru, Nebraska 68421

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[www.yourcountryneighbor.com](http://www.yourcountryneighbor.com)

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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

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## Outstanding October!

Stephen Hassler, Peru

Greetings Southeast Nebraska area readers! "Your Country Neighbor" publication is, in part, my photo gallery of recent wildlife, landscapes, sports action, and other scenes from around Southeast Nebraska. Plus, each issue includes monthly columns and poetry by local writers and some news from "Small Town America." This month includes Arbor Lodge "Living History" events in Nebraska City (details at [arbor-dayfarm.org](http://arbor-dayfarm.org) and on page 16), and Brownville's "Old Time Autumn," which this year includes a **Willa Cather** celebration (details and ticket info on page 4).

October is bound to surprise us with its sports activities, colors, harvesting activities, and of course, the weather, which can apply favorable or unfavorable factors to everything, as always.

For now, enjoy the anticipation of the coming holidays; Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Years, Hanukkah, Posadas Navidenas, and more I have not learned about yet.

Don't forget to clip the **Valentino's coupon** on the back page.  
**Carry it with you!**

And enjoy perusing "Your Country Neighbor!"

“Your Country Neighbor” is delivered to the following communities in Southeast Nebraska & Missouri.

**Auburn • Brownville • Cook • Falls City • Johnson • Nebraska City • Nemaha • Peru • Rock Port • Syracuse • Tecumseh • Verdon**



H-136 East of Auburn; (Peru turn near hilltop).

## Diary of a Part-time Housewife

Merri Johnson, Auburn

Have you ever owned a car that just seemed cursed?

Hubby and I purchased a new vehicle last spring. At our age, it’s a good idea to have a truly reliable vehicle equipped with all the latest safety features for the cross-country road trips we take every year. The automatic braking, backup cameras, and lane-drift warning protect us, as well as everyone else on the road.

But, despite those features, I was involved in my first-ever, two-vehicle accident in May. We had owned that vehicle for less than a month! Fortunately, I was not at fault and was not seriously injured. But our vehicle sustained significant damage.

With the SUV out of commission, we relied on our pickup truck... for about a week. That’s when Hubby’s tolerance for having to “schedule” his use of the pickup around my use of it ran out. There was more to it than the inconvenience, though. You would have thought he was stranded in the wilderness, so great was his aversion to the possibility that he might not have a vehicle at his disposal at every moment of the day. (For the record, Hubby disputes my interpretation of the situation.)

Anyway, during the remainder of the six-week repair period, we drove a rental vehicle that was much smaller and not nearly as comfortable as we were used to. With the aches and pains that are common to people our age, comfort on long car trips is a pretty big deal. (We would have bailed out on the Oregon Trail wagon train after about ten miles.) We did our share of whining about bumps and cramped quarters, and were thrilled to get our old-person SUV back.

But, it wasn’t long before we noticed a rattle coming from the area of accident impact. Hmmm. Back to the shop for diagnosis and repair of something to do with suspension, I think. No cost to us, so we didn’t whine too much.

Then, in August, we were all set to head out on a family visit to Central Iowa. And when I say “all set” I mean the SUV was loaded, we were buckled in, and Hubby was pushing the ignition button. Nothing. Zip. Nada. The battery was apparently dead. After only four months of use!!

*Diary, Continued on page 22 >>>>>*



## Willa Cather 150th Birthday Celebration

Saturday, October 14th

3 pm - Brownville Village Theatre production of “A Resurrection,” a story based in Brownville, written by Willa Cather, adapted by Rachel Curtiss.

4:30 - 6:30 PM - Dinner and music at the Brownville Concert Hall. Menu inspired by Willa Cather novels and life – Chef Paul will present an “amuse the mouth” meal of wine, barley soup with mushrooms, chiffonade salad with rosemary vinaigrette, czechoslovak pepper steak with caraway noodles and steamed asparagus, followed by delectable rhubarb dainty.

Live music from the late 1800’s by singers in costume from Opera Omaha, Mary Carrick and CeCe Hastreiter accompanied by pianist, J. Gawf.

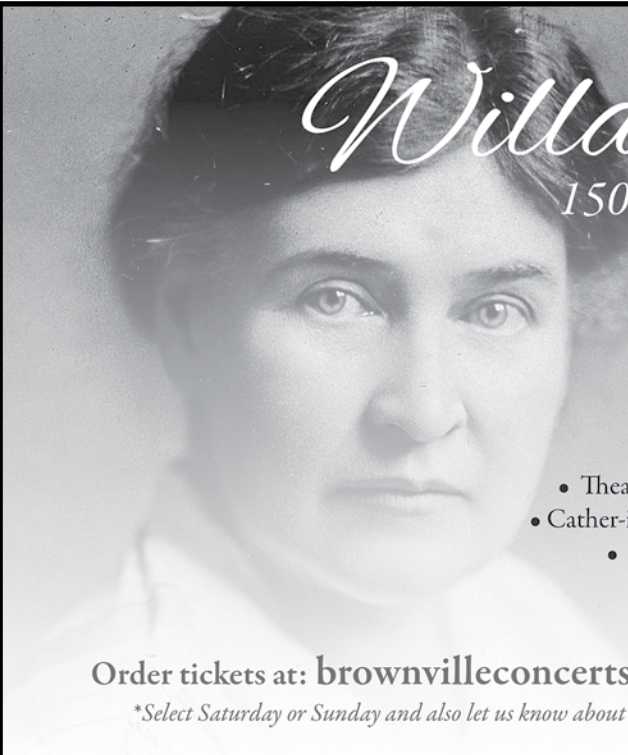
7:15 PM - Embark on an evening river cruise on the spirit of Brownville with wine and chocolates.

Sunday, October 15

11:30 AM to 1:00 PM - Light lunch and river cruise on the Spirit of Brownville.

3 PM - Brownville Village Theater production of “A Resurrection,” a story based in Brownville, written by Willa Cather, adapted by Rachel Curtiss.

4:30 - 6:30 PM - \*Dinner and music at the Brownville concert hall.  
\*Menu and entertainment same as Saturday.



*Willa Cather*  
*150th Birthday Celebration*

**October 14th & 15th**  
*Limited tickets available!*

**PACKAGE INCLUDES:**

- Theatre production • Live music • River cruise
- Cather-inspired meal • Commemorative program
- Hand-printed copy of Cather’s article on Brownville, “An Old River Metropolis”

Order tickets at: [brownvilleconcertseries.com/events-series](http://brownvilleconcertseries.com/events-series)  
*\*Select Saturday or Sunday and also let us know about any dietary restrictions you may have.*

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See listing of events in on page 24.

**Join us in a special wine-tasting experience!**

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Red-Spotted Purple, Indian Cave State Park.



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Peru State College loses to MidAmerica Nazarene University 44 to 45  
September 9, 2023



Peru State College over Missouri Valley College 48 to 31  
Homecoming, September 30, 2023



PSC Homecoming Parade  
Bowling is one of many sport competitions at PSC



# Peru Daycare receives a \$500 donation from The Market

Peru, Nebraska – Peru Daycare recently received a generous donation of \$500.00 from The Market - Peru Grocery Store on August 30, 2023. Lindy Schmidt, the store owner, shared “The Market contributed \$500.00, and an additional \$136.59 was graciously donated by community members through our in-store donation boxes.”

Jordan Pond, Director of the Peru Daycare shared, “The daycare is sincerely thankful for this support and is excited about utilizing the funds to provide high-quality nutrition to the children, enhancing their overall well-being. We appreciate their generosity, partnership, and the outstanding services offered by The Market.”

If you would like to contribute and support Peru Daycare, you can visit the donation boxes conveniently located at The Market - Peru Grocery Store or learn more about their impactful campaign through their video campaign. Your support is highly valued and will make a significant difference in the lives of the children at Peru Daycare.



Above, Bronco Riding; Nemaha County Rodeo.



PSC Volleyball wins over Culver-Stockton 3 games to 2, September 30, 2023



October 2023 Your Country Neighbor



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# PERU CITY NEWS

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Peru Community Impact Group Community Meal, hosted by the Northridge Church on September 17, 2023 See story on page 9.



Butch and Dobey Falter Haws, Grand Marshalls of the Peru State College Homecoming Parade, September 30, 2023



What is a parade without a marching band?



## Willy Wonka in Peru!

Angela Allgood

We have to thank Theresa Westfall and the Justin Heyk Family for bringing something new to Peru!

The movie was well received. It was a cool and beautiful night for an outdoor movie. My Junior Reporter, Vera Novak, counted around 40 people of all ages. There were children, college kids, and even a few Peruvians without kids with them!

It was free admission for all and there was popcorn, candy, pop and water available. All proceeds will help fund future movie nights. KJ Whitehorse Bar & Grill donated soda for concessions to future movie nights!

Raffle tickets were sold for \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Miranda Decker was the winner of the raffle and received a Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory with bonus movie, Everlasting Gobstoppers, Bottlecaps, Wonka Magical Hat Gummies (includes \$5 reward to see the new Wonka movie in theaters!) And Wonka Socks!

Vera talked to a few people at the movie and they all said they were very excited for the movie. Everyone she interviewed said they loved the movie and that they would love to come to another movie.

More stats: 66 raffle tickets, 16 bags of popcorn, 14 cans of soda, 11 bottles of water.



Raffle Winner  
Miranda Decker

## Hocus Pocus\*

Saturday, October 21, 2023

Arrive after 6pm

Movie starting at 6:30pm

Showing in the Park South of Peru City Hall

Bring your own chair or a blanket.

Popcorn, Candy and Soda at set donation pricing

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL!

\*Licensing through Swank Motion Pictures, Inc.



# PERU CITY NEWS

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Take a Seat and Enjoy the View!

Theresa Westfall

Many of the cement benches at the Mt. Vernon Cemetery had become weathered and decayed, so in May of this year the groundskeeper, Phil Wemhoff decided to take the initiative to have area metal fabricator, Arcs and Sparks create a sturdy, attractive option for visitors of the cemetery to take a seat and enjoy. Phil purchased the first one himself with hopes of inspiring more in the community to donate one. In September, Peru's Cemetery Auxiliary purchased two more of the benches with donations from the annual Memorial Day Fundraiser; these have been installed by Arcs and Sparks, Phil Wemhoff and Johnny McConnaughey. Those interested in funding more benches can reach out to Peru Cemetery Auxiliary president, Theresa Westfall. If funding an entire bench, input can be given for where the bench would be installed, however the Peru Cemetery Association and groundskeeper will have final approval with consideration of plots and mowing paths.

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## Kickball Fun

by Angela Allgood

When I was growing up I always watched Janet, Dan and a bunch of others play slow-pitch ball. Watching the kickball game today took me back to my childhood.

You had to be there! There were about ten people at Peru's first Kickball game today. Brenna McSweeney, Dan and Cheryl Cotton, Xander Horton, Cassius Cotton, Drew Brown, Kiefer and Logan Coatney, Josie Coatney and Janet Hope showed up to play. It was fun for spectators and I am pretty sure they all had a lot of fun also. They may be sore tomorrow, but it was a great time.

As a spectator, I heard things like, "I need an oxygen tank," or "I need new legs." I even heard someone ask if they could have the Rescue Squad on standby next time! Janet Hope and Dan Cotton just about bit the dust... ankles may be sore tomorrow. After the game was over, hot dogs were served by the concession stand.

They are thinking that the next game will be October 8th! They would love to have more people there to play the game and if you cannot do sports, you can sit by me and be a cheerleader!

It was a great time had by all and we hope more people can make it on October 8th.

## PCIG is at it again!

Angela Allgood

Community Meals: PCIG and Northridge Church partnered up to have a Tailgate themed community meal. This meal brought approximately 100 people from the college and town to enjoy tailgate themed foods like brats, baked beans, potato salad, and lil' smokies and they had a Corn-hole board for tailgate game time. Julia Perry stated, "I'm so thankful our city council women attend these events and fully participate! Kate, Marty, Theresa are so supportive!" The Ice Cream Social, the Picnic, and the Tailgate Party have been free to the public thanks to the generous donations in memory of Jolene Downing.

The next community meal will be November 12, 2023 at the City Hall from 4-6 pm. This will be a Thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings! This will also be free to the public using the donations in memory of Jolene Downing.

Trunk or Treat: Kelsee Sayer is at it again! She is planning on making Trunk or Treat bigger than last year (WOW)! She has been in charge of planning the Trunk-or-Treat event for the past 7 years and states that it is a volunteer-and-sponsored-only event. Kelsee stated that they want to expand by offering free decor to trunks who might need it!

New to the event this year is "The Spook Zone." Kelsee is hoping that this will become a new tradition for the Trunk-or-Treat event. This will be located in the City Hall, and that is all the information we can give out for now. You will have to bring your family down and check out the newest event! Kelsee is currently looking for free Halloween decorations. If anyone has anything they would like to donate, please call or text Kelsee Sayer at 402-335-7554.

---

## Halloween Maze

Angela Allgood

There is something new this year during Trunk-or-Treat.

This year, KJ Whitehorse is working with the Peru State College Theater Department to do a Halloween Maze. They are charging \$5.00 per person and all proceeds go toward playground equipment at Sid Brown Park.

You will enter the maze through the beer garden. The dates are October 20-21, October 27-29, and again October 31st. All nights the maze will be open from 6 pm until 11 pm.

The Peru State College baseball players will be helping to arrange the hay bales and the drama students will be in costume ready to scare.

I am told that it will not be too scary or too gory and will be rated "Family Fun"!



# PERU CITY NEWS

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## Tuesday Literary Club Reads

DiAnna Loy, Tuesday Literary Club

At the September meeting of the Tuesday Literary Club, Fran Eltiste presented the book *The Giver* by Lois Lowry published in 1993. It is the first in a series of books but stands alone well.

Imagine a community where everything is the same; everything is equal. There is no color, no seasons, and no discrimination; everything is fair. The same meal is delivered to every house at the same time, every day. Everything happens on a schedule and the schedule is the same for every person. The town is run by the Elders of the community. Each family unit has a time of sharing at breakfast and dinner each day. Each member of the family unit is expected to share and must not lie. Dreams are discussed at breakfast and the current day is discussed at dinner.

Jonas and his friends Fiona and Asher are looking forward to the December Ceremony. Because this is their 12th December Ceremony, each will be told their life's work at this ceremony as will every other child in his/her 12th year. Just as every child in their 9th year will receive their bicycle and every child in their 1st year will be assigned to a family unit. After their 12th ceremony, the children will continue their studies and start their training for their work assignment after school.

In the years leading up to their 12th ceremony, the children are encouraged to volunteer at various worksites in the community. The Elders of the community observe the children in their volunteer roles to determine what they seem to be efficient at or enjoy the most. This information will be used to help the Elders make the work assignments at the 12th year. Asher is assigned to be the Assistant Director of Recreation, Fiona is assigned as a Caretaker of the Old, and Jonas is assigned to be the Receiver of Memories. There is only one Receiver of Memories for the whole community and this assignment is made very infrequently making Jonas' assignment quite special.

When Jonas reports to his work assignment the first day, he meets the current Receiver of Memories. Jonas is told that since Jonas is now the Receiver of Memories, he should refer to previous Receiver as the Giver of Memories. Since Jonas did not even know that such a person as a Receiver of Memories existed until his 12th ceremony, he has many questions about the position of the Receiver and about the Giver himself. Jonas is told that although his friends may talk about their training, he is not allowed to discuss his training in any way; in fact, he is now allowed to lie unlike others who must always tell the truth.

In the process of his training, Jonas finds that his value system is challenged in many ways. He must make decisions with the help of the Giver that will have long lasting effects for himself, his family unit, and the entire community.

The movie of this book came out in 2014 with some significant differences. The movie added the use of robotics and was very Futuristic. Archer was assigned the position of Drone Pilot and Fiona the position of Nurturer. The reviewer felt that the Giver in the movie was often rude and not as kind, therefore making the book much better.

Happy Reading!

## Peru Progress (Peru Pride)

Angela Allgood

The Bark Park Committee has had to redo their plans and move the Bark Park, but they are on track.

Nine-year-old Vera and her dad, Nick Novak built a homecoming float for PCIG (see blurb about her plans).

Phil Wemhoff has been hired as the Maintenance Supervisor and trees downtown have been trimmed and look good, pot holes have been filled ... I see progress.

Northridge Church is making the upper/south part into more parking space! They have worked on leveling the ground and planting new grass in the places where there will not be gravel. However, gravel will be at the top flat part for parking.

Peru has another family that just moved here! We are getting a lot of new families with kids in town.

## Peru Community Church Fall Festival

Monday, November 6th.  
Serving Lunch @ 11:00 to 2:00  
Sloppy Joes, Salads, Desserts.

Servings for Supper: 5:00 to 7:00  
Cheeseburger, Chili, Vegetable Soups,  
Salads and Desserts.

Free Will Offering.

There will be a Free Will Bake Sale and  
a Raffle going on all day.

Drawing for the Raffle Items  
will be at 6:45.

By Peru Community Church Women's Guild



# PERU CITY NEWS

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## What I learned at City Council

Angela Allgood

When you get your water bills this month, there will be letters in there stating that all houses will have to have house numbers visible from the road. This is for Emergency Responders.

The water rates will also be going up starting October 1, 2023. The residential base pay will go up to \$27.50 from \$25.00. Using up to 3,000 gallons of water will be \$6.25 per 1,000 gallons. Anything over 3,000 will be \$7.75 per 1,000.

The Rescue Department is looking to purchase a different ambulance. They are looking at a 2004 and this will be a back-up ambulance. The ambulance is \$167,000 and the stretcher to go in it is a little over \$60,000.00. The older stretcher does not meet the current standards. The new ambulance will have a powerload that will make the stretcher and mount do most of the lifting instead of the EMTs doing all the lifting. They have \$75,000 to put towards the purchase from DHHS from ARPA funds and have saved \$17,000. They will order it this fiscal year so they can lock in the current price and will take possession of it in 2026.

The Bark Park has a new location! It will be located north of the ballfield and they are going to start working on it soon. They are going to try and get OPPD to dig the holes for the fence posts. The group has \$5,800 in donations and fundraiser money plus a grant.

The City of Peru is also having a silent bid auction for four inventory items. This will be a sealed bid auction. All bids must be in the City Hall by October 10, 2023 before 12:00 noon.

The four inventory items are as follows;

- 1) Police Service-Six.357 Magnum. This will have a minimum bid/reserve of \$350.00.
- 2) Eastfield Model 915 Smith and Wesson 12 GA, 3-inch chamber shotgun. This will have a minimum bid/reserve of \$50.00.
- 3) LaserJet Pro M402n printer with extra toner cartridge. This will have a minimum bid/reserve of \$50.00.
- 4) A Coca Cola Scoreboard owned by the City of Peru. This will have a minimum bid/reserve of \$1,200.00.

The One and Six Year Road Plan was voted on. Theresa Westfall stated that there will be six streets that need fixed first and are in the 1-year plan. The cost of all the streets on the 1-year plan should roughly be around \$243,000. The streets are: Neal Street from Park Ave to East of Corporate limits  
Washington from 7th to 8th Street  
Oregon from 7th to 8th Street  
3rd Street, to 400 ft south of Washington  
2nd Street from north of California to south of Oregon and 7th Street from Park Street to Nebraska Street.

Phil Wemhoff suggested that while they are fixing the streets, he would like to expand them to 22 feet instead of the 11 feet that they currently are because the streets are very narrow and usually only allow one car at a time. This is only in thought. To do this, will cost more money than the \$243,000.

## Fall Plant Exchange

Angela Allgood

I am not usually a person with a green thumb. Basically, I can kill a cactus.

I got a couple of small plants from a store at the beginning of summer, and I still actually have them. Now I am excited, and have decided to go to the the fall plant exchange on September 16, 2023.

The plant exchange is for everyone. If you want different plants, come on down. You do not need to bring anything, or if you have an out of control plant and want to trim it down, you can bring those down so other people can grab them.

I grabbed two plants. Theresa Westfall told me I grabbed a Cupid Pepperconia and a Mother of Millions. She told me the basics of how they will look and grow.

They had more starters at the Exchange. They had lots of aloe, spider plants, airplanes, succulents, African Violets, pothos (after going to the plant exchanges, I actually know what those are!), Hindu Rope and many more!

I love going to the plant exchange because the ladies down there are better at keeping them alive then I am. They tell me what they have and how big they are and I get so jealous, but they give me a lot of great advice on how to care for what I have and they are always willing to let me have more of their starters.

Join them outside of the City Hall for their next plant exchange. They have a plant exchange twice a year! You can follow the Peru City News for dates and times.



St. Clara's Catholic Church  
604 6th Street

Pastor Fr. Timothy Danek  
Mass - Sunday 8:30 am

Confessions - Sunday 8:00-8:20 am



Northridge Church  
808 5th Street

Pastor Daniel Hutchison  
Services - Sunday 10:00 am



Peru Community Church  
520 Nebraska Street

Pastors Raymond & Rebecca Girard  
Services - Sunday 10:45 am

October 2023 Your Country Neighbor 11



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1100 Central Av, Auburn \$130,000  
Commercial property, 2 overhead  
doors, office space, corner lot.



910 10th St., Auburn \$20,000  
5 Bedroom, 2 bath.



1604 G Street \$259,000  
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2-car garage



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Auburn, Nebraska 68305



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# ARBOR CITY NEWS

*News from Nebraska City*



## KHN Center for the Arts

Established in 2001, the Kimmel Harding Nelson Center for the Arts is a renowned Artist Residency program that supports established and emerging visual artists, writers, composers, and interdisciplinary artists from around the world.

Uniquely housed in a residential prairie-style complex, KHN also hosts a public gallery that showcases the work of Nebraska and regional artists, and is home to the Kimmel Permanent Collection.



October 19th, 5 - 7 pm, KHN Center for the Arts  
801 Third Corso, Nebraska City

14 October 2023 **Your Country Neighbor**



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In association NDE, EAS inc. and Project ASSETS, LTC Consuelo Castillo Kickbusch (ret.) invites you to six days of interactive virtual workshops. The workshops will help you and your family learn how to better communicate with your children, school, and community. Join us for action, motivation and inspiration!

### DETAILS:

- Every Thursday from October 5 to November 9
- From 6:00pm - 7:30pm central time
- Graduation at the end of the workshop series to celebrate!

### REGÍSTRATE:



## *Arbor City News*

is a monthly news section in

***Your Country Neighbor***

A Southeast Nebraska

Regional Magazine (w/News)



# ARBOR CITY NEWS

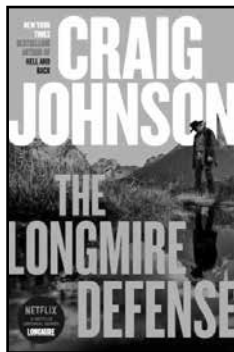
## *News from Nebraska City's Morton-James Public Library*

923 1st Corso, Nebraska City, Nebraska 68410

### October Calendar of Events

**Meet NY Times Bestselling Author of the Longmire series, Craig Johnson**  
Saturday, October 7 2:00 PM  
**Reservations required, tickets are free. Call 402-873-5609**

Craig Johnson, best known for his Sheriff Walt Longmire novel series will be speaking on his newest release, **The Longmire Defense** at Morton-James Public Library on October 7 at 2 pm in the Kimmel Gallery. The series is the basis for the hit Netflix original series Longmire. He is the recipient of the Western Writers of America Spur Award for fiction, and his novella Spirit of Steamboat was the first One Book Wyoming selection. He lives in Ucross, Wyoming population 26. Due to limited seating at MJPL, reservations are required, but tickets are free. Make reservations by calling 402-873-5609.



**Autumn Story Time**  
Wednesday, October 4 10:00 – 11:00 AM

All for Autumn Story Time: Stories, song, and sign language all about Autumn, and a foam sticker craft. Story Times are geared toward children ages 2-6. Families welcome! Free, no registration.

**Humanities Nebraska Program: Diaries and Letters of Early Nebraska Settlers**  
Thursday, October 5 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Diaries and Letters of Early Nebraska Settlers with Lucy Adkins & Marge Saiser.

Women pioneers and homesteaders played an important part in the development and heritage of Nebraska. In this program, Marge Saiser and Lucy Adkins will honor them, featuring excerpts from diaries and letters of plains women of the past. In addition, they will share poems they have written about the history and experiences of their own plains' families. This program is free and open to the public. No registration.

**Book Club**  
**The Maid** by Nita Prose  
Tuesday, October 17 2:00 PM

**Not-So-Scary Ghosts Story Time**  
Wednesday, October 18 10:00 – 11:00 AM

Not-So-Scary Ghosts Story Time: Stories, sign language, song, and paper cup ghost craft. Story Times are geared toward children ages 2-6. Families welcome! Free, no registration.

**Evening Book Club**  
**The Cartographers** by Peng Shepherd  
Wednesday, October 18 5:30 PM

**Adult Autumn Soiree**  
Friday, October 20 from 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Adults 18 and older are invited to join us at the Morton-James Public Library for an Autumn Soiree! There will be refreshments, scavenger hunt, spaces for mingling, table games, and a professional photographer to capture your memory at our photography station. This child-free evening is perfect for couples, a friend's night out, or anyone looking to meet new people. Dress is as fancy or casual as you choose. We will also have gift basket drawings and door prizes! This event is free and open to the public. There is no registration. Questions? Call the Library at 402-873-5609

**Meet the author of Raw: The afterlife vs. schizophrenia**  
Cheryl Ann Fletcher  
Sunday, October 22, 2:00 PM

Cheryl Ann has lived an extraordinary life. She's a legitimate Psychic Medium with experiences that will have you questioning the Afterlife vs Schizophrenia. Her Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice has worked to solve murders, missing and presumed, and effective communication with the afterlife for various ghost hunting teams. This event is free and open to the public. There is no registration.

**Teen Ghost Glow Up Party**  
Friday, October 27 from 6:00 – 7:30 PM

School-student teens aged 13-18 are invited to the dance party of the year at the Morton-James Public Library. At the Ghost Glow Up, teens can enjoy glow in the dark dancing, refreshments, ghost-photo selfie stations, ghost-themed activities and book giveaways. Free sunglasses for all attendees! School dress code appropriate costumes welcome. No re-entry if you leave the building. This event is free and there is no registration.

**Trick-or-Treat through the Library**  
Tuesday, October 31 from 6:00 – 7:00 PM

Come trick-or-treat through the Library. Handouts will include candy, stickers, bracelets, coloring books, and more! All ages welcome, free, no registration.

**Questions about Library Programs? Call 402-873-5609**



# ARBOR CITY NEWS

*From Nebraska City Tourism & Commerce*

## FALL IN NEBRASKA CITY ABOUT MORE THAN APPLE ORCHARDS

Nebraska City's annual Applejack Festival may be in the books, but the Otoe County community has not slowed down.

The month of October in Nebraska City is filled with history, scarecrows, and crisp evenings. While the crowds are quite a bit less than the Applejack weekends in mid-to late-September, Arbor Lodge is still a popular place for tourists and locals alike during their annual Living History events. Happening each weekend through the end of October, Living History activities include demonstrations, a celebration of the ethnic heritage of early Nebraskans, a detailed look at the Morton Family, a retrospective of the Victorian Era, and a vintage Halloween display. Details on which activities are on which weekend

can be found at [arbordayfarm.org](http://arbordayfarm.org).

Nebraska City businesses enjoy the season with the annual Scarecrow Decorating Contest, sponsored by Nebraska City Tourism & Commerce. For several weeks during October, themed scarecrows are displayed in front of participating businesses; portraits of each entry are also posted on the NCTC Facebook page. "Likes" are counted at the end of the month and the scarecrow with the most "likes" wins a special trophy.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** Kimmel Orchard & Vineyard is hosting the 1st Annual Kimmel Scarecrow Festival from October 14-30. Details can be found online at [kimmelorchard.org](http://kimmelorchard.org).

**ALSO NEW:** Nebraska City recently learned it has received "Creative District" status from the Nebraska Arts Council. The community will celebrate with an Artist Walk from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, October 21. More than 25 artists will partner with local businesses to showcase their work during the Walk. Other events that weekend include live music, a Christmas tea, and a book signing. Follow the Nebraska City Creative District at [Facebook.com/nebcitycreativedistrict](https://Facebook.com/nebcitycreativedistrict) to learn more.

\*\*\*\*\*

*A detailed Calendar of Events can be found at [NebraskaCity.com/calendar](http://NebraskaCity.com/calendar).*



*Living History at Arbor Lodge, left, takes place on weekends through the end of October. Above center, the annual Scarecrow Decorating Contest blankets the town in creative Halloween decor. Above right, Self Expressions Gallery hosted "Art in the Alley" in September; Nebraska City will celebrate its status as a certified Creative District with an Artist Walk in October.*





Lourdes Central Catholic High School Marching Band -- AppleJack Parade.



# ARBOR CITY NEWS

*News from Nebraska City*

## Welcome Hunters

Bruce Madsen

Our area of the state is very favorable for hunting. We have various species of upland birds including Wild Turkey, plus White-tailed Deer, Coyote, and even an occasional Mountain Lion.

The residents of this area realize that hunters play an important part, along with the Games and Parks Commission, in regulating population control over these bird and animal species.

There are some requirements however, that need to be addressed so that everyone involved can feel safe and confident in this process.

First; Permission is always nice. This lets people know that someone is out there traipsing around on their property.

Second; Recognition of a valid gun permit so we know you're not breaking the law.

Third; A signed statement from your primary care physician that says your heart and body is healthy and will not be at risk hiking through our property.

Fourth; A signed statement from your lawyer that says in case you get hurt, fall or trip and break a leg or just walk into a tree, you won't sue or hold the landowner responsible.

Fifth; A signed statement from your eye doctor that says you have good vision and can tell the difference between a pheasant and a cow.

Six; A current financial statement. This to let us know that if you drive across our property and get stuck or drive into a ditch, that you can afford to be pulled out or if necessary, towed.

Seven; A current address in case trash such as candy wrappers, plastic water bottles, beer cans, soda cans and other discarded items are found, a bill can be sent to you for policing the area and disposing of such items.

Other than these few things you are most welcome to hunt. I'm sure you will find that most landowners will be very welcoming and easy to get along with by following these simple steps.

One more thing that might be of interest to you, and that is the cost to hunt is currently \$160 per hour, but you are more than welcome to hunt all night.

So we hope you enjoy your experience hunting and have a really good time because we'd like to have you come back next year.

(Read the small print, ..... Government employees \$200 per hour, Politicians \$300 per hour.)

Signed:

A Rural Landowner



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[southeast.edu/adulthoodeducation](http://southeast.edu/adulthoodeducation)

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[adeline'sbakery@outlook.com](mailto:adeline'sbakery@outlook.com)

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# ARBOR CITY NEWS

*News from Nebraska City*



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Mindy Chesterman  
Sales Manager



Debra Chesterman  
Owner

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## This Halloween Watch Out For Trick-or-Treaters



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## The Halloween Wedding Dress

Dorothy Rieke, Julian

Early in October of last year, I walked into a familiar store filled with used household goods, furniture, clothing, and books. As usual, I was there for books. I really like to read and spend many evening hours reading.

As I moved through the store I was attracted to different tables and racks containing all kinds of used articles.

All at once I noticed a rack of Halloween costumes. To my amazement, a lovely wedding dress, made of white Slipper Satin, was hanging among the costumes. Curious, I pushed the costumes apart so I could see the dress more clearly. The white satin dress, sewed in a princess style, had a sweetheart neckline and long puffed sleeves. From a fitted waist, it flared out to a full skirt. It was a lovely garment that brought many thoughts to mind.

I searched the neckline to see if there was a tag revealing who fashioned the dress. There was no tag; just hooks and eyes closing the back opening. Obviously, it was homemade.

I wondered if the dress was made during the late thirties or early forties. I thought of fashions of wedding dresses of that time, and, of course, satin was a popular material for wedding apparel at that time.

I could see that the skirt was fairly long, so the bride had to be taller than I.

All kinds of scenarios entered my mind. Why was the dress here? Had the girl who had worn the dress died? Had someone called off the wedding? Perhaps, there were no daughters who wanted to wear this dress. Did some tragedy prevent the wearing of the dress? After all, wartime caused plans to be changed and, at times, deep sorrow for a future destroyed by untimely death.

Maybe, the dress had been worn at one time. If so, then, had it been wrapped in tissue paper to preserve it for use later for a daughter or a grand-daughter? Perhaps, there were no daughters or grand-daughters to wear the dress later.

The fate of such lovely memorable garment bothered me, but I did not buy it. I thought perhaps some mother might wear it when she accompanied her children trick or treating.

It is strange how some items can bring so many thoughts. The dress was lovely, and I felt sad to think of its fate on such a rack. However, we sometimes have to let go of memories. We can only hope for the best for the fate of a lovely wedding dress.

## Window From The Past (October 2004)

Stephen Hassler, Peru

What makes life interesting for you? I think of family, friends, food, work, weather, and the seasons. I love the seasons, especially when I get to experience all their characteristics; snowy days in Winter, colorful leaves in the Fall, Spring flowers, and warm, moonlit Summer nights.

Recently though, I realized that the seasons don't connect as well as I think they should. So I've developed an idea that would make this season thing more to my liking. Instead of four seasons, I'll have three. Winter will be November, December, January, and February. Spring will be March, April, May, and June. And the months of July, August, September, and October will be Summer. So I can consider that there is a whole month of Summer left this year. Summer has just gone by so fast that I don't want it to be over yet.

Falling leaves and football don't have to spell Autumn on my new calendar, they can be a part of my Indian Summer portion of Summer, a Summer Part II. Summer is seldom over just because Labor Day and back-to-school are behind us.

September was a beautiful Summer-like month for me. And I expect to be viewing wildflowers through most of October. And with global warming, we don't get much snow anymore until January. I don't remember when we last had a white Christmas, but as Bing Crosby sings, I'm dreaming. The first month of my new Winter season has Thanksgiving, and the second has Christmas. January is snow time, February brings snow geese, and by then Spring is just around the corner.

OK, now that I'm settled, is there anything you need to contemplate, revise or consider? Choose whatever pleases you and look at it in a different light. Suppose it's your world, and you are the creator of your reality. You can make life really interesting.

---

***Your Country Neighbor***  
**Your “2-cups-of-coffee” companion**  
**including local photos and articles**  
**with the flavor of rural America.**



<<<<< *Diary, Continued from page 3*

Hubby messed with the battery for several minutes, but it refused to respond to his ministrations. O.K., I said, we will just have to move our luggage to the pickup and drive it instead. That sounds simple enough, right? Not so fast, old-timer. Without a functioning battery, we could not open the rear door to unload our suitcases and the massive cooler we take with us everywhere. O.K., I said again, we can drag our suitcases out between the rear seats. No big deal. But, that massive cooler? No way that thing was coming out between the seats. We could have left it behind, except that it had food in it that may or may not have stunk to high heaven by the time we got back five days later.

The only solution was for one of us to crawl back there and hand every item forward to be put into a different cooler. In our household, Hubby has the muscles and I have the flexibility, so yours truly did the crawling. We managed to get on our way only 30 minutes behind schedule and all went well after that. But once again we were down to one vehicle for several days while the dealership took care of the battery issue, the details of which I will not bother to relate.

But wait. There's more!!

Yesterday, Hubby came home from a trip to Nebraska City. About half an hour later, I stepped into the garage and smelled a decidedly unusual odor, like something hot. I approached the SUV and could feel excessive heat radiating out from under the hood. No smoke, just heat. Hubby initially doubted the veracity of my sense of smell, but he consented to looking under the hood. The hood holder-upper-rod was so hot he could barely hold onto it long enough to get it propped open. Nothing looked amiss, but the heat and odor were definitely not normal. Hubby drove the vehicle a few miles, watching for any warning lights on the dashboard display, but nothing lit up.

So, what to do? We will give the dealer a chance to try to figure out what caused the heat and odor, but our confidence in this particular vehicle is running on empty about now. We are making a trip to Omaha tomorrow... in the pickup, just to be on the safe side. Sitting on the side of the freeway with the hood open and an over-heated engine is not something we want to experience.

It's a pretty sure bet that we will unload this SUV before we take off on our next cross-country trip. Can anyone recommend a good vehicle???

**October**

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

October means eighth month in Latin...  
squeezed between November 9th month and Sep-  
tember 7th month... she tantalizes with  
Halloween  
And gathers her crops into her waiting arms,  
waiting, waiting, waiting for Halloween  
For long leisurely football games  
For the Bobcats to win  
For the Huskers to reclaim their glory  
Maybe we all are like October  
Suspended in time  
Waiting for life itself to unfurl its mysteries  
But like those Patriots who kept the  
American flag aloft at Fort McHenry  
May we live for God, for country, for faith  
May  
We strive into the winter  
Ready  
To embark on a new month, October



**October**

Sheila Tinkham, Lincoln

October winks  
Her amber eyes waiting for ale to be quaffed  
In October fest  
And haunted haystack rides to be ridden  
Ready to scare summer out of my heart  
And into the arms of a waiting Fall  
Football games to cheer  
Who needs Ole Ole  
When we have Go Big Red  
Go Peru Bobcats  
Let me lie back  
Sated with summer  
Ready to embrace a crimson Fall .....

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# P o e t r y

by Devon Adams, Peru

## O HAUNTING NIGHT

The soft body  
of the howl owl  
floats over the  
grassy field at  
dusk, wide wings  
silent, as he finds  
a perch for spying  
little critters he  
will invite to an  
evening meal.

His hungry eyes  
focus on a mouse  
by a house, by a  
bush. In a split of  
a second, he  
glides to a quiet  
kill. Next is a rapid  
rabbit, half-grown,  
running for cover.  
After a bloody  
catch, his haunting  
cackle lets the  
prey crowd know  
he's done. For now.

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## SUN DAZE

Think of the sky  
with blue burned  
away, until white  
hot glare is all that  
is there. Heat on  
the ground blasts  
up to the edge  
of the air that  
keeps us alive,  
and we bake.

Time ticks away  
all day until night  
comes around to  
the sounds of dark,  
like owls, and  
coyote howls.  
But wait, summer  
is gone and we're  
not awake. It's a  
mistake, and our  
furnace is on. The  
wind at the window  
must be ghosts,  
whispering lies.

## ENTER THE NIGHT

In the dark  
of the moon,  
come out and  
gaze at the  
black velvet sky  
studded with stars.  
The endless space  
is over the rainbow,  
lost in the long  
distance of the  
past.  
Watch for hot  
tracks sparking  
the path of burning  
cinder streaks.  
There is magic  
out here, in the  
quiet of the wild  
places, and you  
can feel spirits  
drifting, as a  
constant fog of  
energy.

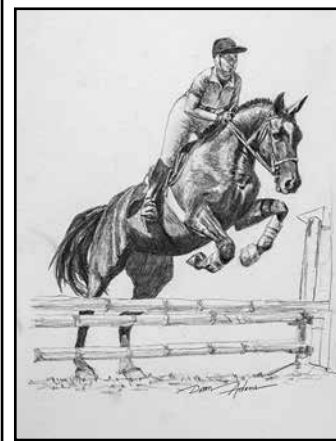
## A HOLLOW TREE

Six bright eyes  
glow in the dark  
under the bark of  
a hollow tree.  
They're scared  
to be alone, but  
Mom will be back.  
Soon. They hope.  
The sun is down,  
the wind is up,  
and the breeze  
carries scents of  
coyotes. Hunting.  
For them. They  
shiver and quiver.  
A cold crescent  
moon is hanging  
over them like a  
sharp white tooth.  
Sudden scratches  
scream them to  
attention, as four  
wary, weary, hairy  
hands climb back  
home.

## COSMIC RAYS

Coming from the  
space around us,  
invisible bullets  
don't shoot us,  
but they go through  
us. We don't blink  
or even think about  
them. Scientists see  
their tracks, like a  
bloodhound finds  
scents. We can't see  
them but we know  
they're real. What do  
they know about us?

**By Artist, Devon Adams**  
**PENCIL PORTRAITS OF**  
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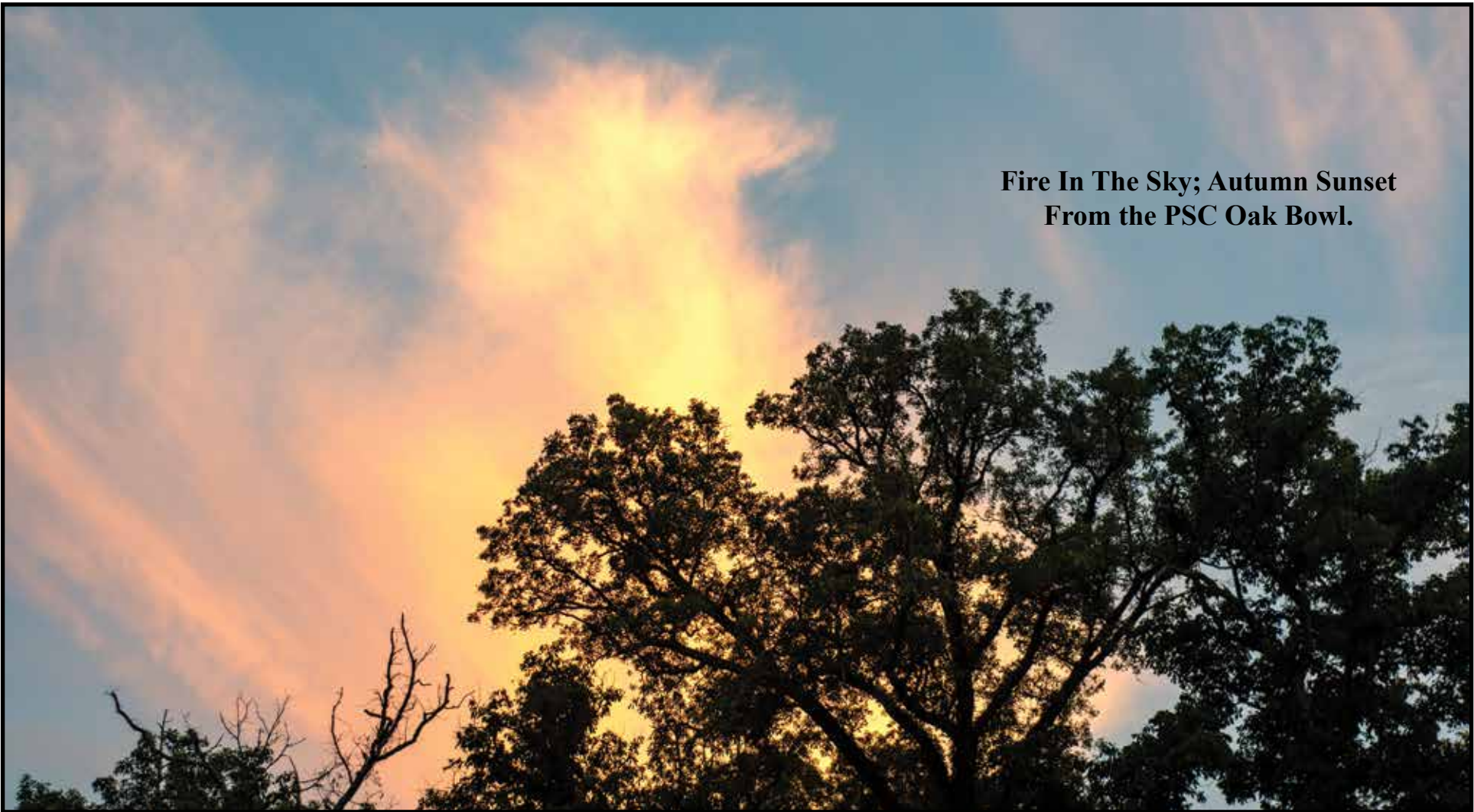
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**including Nebraska photos & articles**  
**with the flavor of rural America.**





**Fire In The Sky; Autumn Sunset  
From the PSC Oak Bowl.**

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**(402) 873-5522**

**The Brownville Historical Society Presents;**  
*Old Time Autumn 2023*

**Both Saturday & Sunday, October 14th & 15th**  
10 am - 4 pm Museums Open around town  
11 am - 2 pm Native American Children's Craft at Bird's Nest Trading Post  
10 am - 4 pm "Small Quilts and the Stories They Tell" at the Schoolhouse Art Gallery, Sponsored by the Brownville Fine Arts Association.  
10 am - 6:30 pm Antiquarium open featuring Cather-inspired books, displays, and memorabilia.  
3 pm Brownville Village Theatre production of "A Resurrection" by Willa Cather, adapted by Rachel Curtiss.

**Saturday, October 14th**  
11 am - 1 pm Brownville Historical Society Chicken and Biscuit Dinner, Town Hall, free will offering.  
1:30 pm Speaker Series: Andrew Jewell presenting "Willa Cather's Life in Letters," Town Hall, free admission, co-sponsored by the BFAA and Humanities Nebraska.  
7:00 pm River Cruise on the Spirit of Brownville

**Sunday, October 15th**  
1:30 pm Speaker Series: Ashley Olson presenting "Willa Cather's Nebraska: How Life Inspired Fiction," Town Hall, free admission, sponsored by BFAA