

Donation Trailer To Be In Thedford



Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska is having a donation drive in Thedford, beginning at noon on Friday, September 27, 2019, and continuing daily from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. until Friday, October 4. People living in and the surrounding area can drop off their donations at the Goodwill Donation Trailer parked at the Thomas County Courthouse, Thedford, NE.

Virtually anything in your home or garage that you no longer use is accepted; clothing, household items, shoes, boots,

purses, belts, hats, books, computers, printers, monitors and computer accessories can be placed inside the Goodwill trailer. Due to limited storage space, furniture, television and large appliances are not accepted. Tax donation receipts are available at the trailer.

Goodwill appreciates the generosity of the people in your community and surrounding area. Revenue generated through the sale of donated items at Goodwill's retail stores supports services for people in liv-

ing in greater Nebraska.

Goodwill Industries of Greater Nebraska's mission is to help people with disabilities or barriers achieve their goals and improve their quality of life. The organization fulfills this mission every day by supporting people to find jobs that match their talents and gifts, teaching skills leading to increased independence, helping people through the process of recovery and empowering people to focus on their strengths and abilities rather than a diagnosis or disability.

Father & Son Killed In Plane Crash

A father and son died Sunday, September 8, in a single-engine plane crash near the South Dakota and Nebraska border. Clint VanderWey, 39, of Crookston, and his son, Jed VanderWey, 16, were killed when the Cessna 140 crashed in a pasture near the family's farm north of Crookston about 12 miles northwest of Valentine.

The VanderWeys left in the plane Sunday evening and a search and rescue mission began around 10:00 p.m. The downed plane was found Monday north of Crookston and east of Saint Francis, South Dakota. Both were pronounced dead at the scene and the cause of the crash is under investigation.

Services were held Monday, September 16, at the Valentine United Methodist Church.

Jed was a sophomore at Valentine High School where he participated in wrestling and excelled in cross country and track.



COURTESY

He was following in his father's footsteps and aspired to become a farmer.

Clint worked for Danielski Farms and began manufacturing inventions. In 2007, Clint and Justin Loeffler started

their business L & V Innovations and invented the Pivot RX. Clint built a prototype in 2009 for the Pivot Flusher which is

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Outpost is Stapleton's newest business

Remodeled church becomes home to antiques, lodging and more



Cece Allison and her daughter, Kristy Opela, are pictured in the antique side of Opela's Outpost. Cece has collected collectibles for over 30 years and they are now being offered for sale in the newly remodeled former church building.

MARCIA HORA

Stapleton's newest business is up and running. Opela's Outpost has opened and the remodeled former Assembly of God Church is now filled with antiques, collectibles, and a by-the-day or week two-bedroom rental.

For Cece Allison it is a dream come true. She and her husband, the late Wally Allison, have been purchasing antiques and collectibles for many years. They purchased the former Assembly of God church building in Stapleton in the 1990's and used the building for storage.

There was always a thought in the back of their minds that some day they could open an antique store.

The Allisons were both in education for their entire lives. While teaching in Lisco, they would go to the Western Stock Show location in Denver for shows with Cece's sister and brother-in-law.

"We just kept collecting and going to shows. My main interest was in marbles and jewelry," Cece said.

When the Allisons moved to Stapleton in 1974 for Wally to teach sixth grade and serve as elementary principal,

Cece was adamant they would not be moving again until all four of their children graduated from high school.

Kevin was a freshman that year, Kendall in seventh grade, Kristy a sixth grader, and Kent in fifth grade. The Allisons stayed put and all four graduated from Stapleton High School.

Cece taught in Ringgold in 1975 before going back to Chadron State College and received her teacher's degree in 1977. She then taught at Stapleton elementary for six years.

The Allisons also taught at Atwood, Kansas, and Crawford, and Cece was



The former Assembly of God Church in Stapleton, has been transformed into an antique store and lodging for rent by the day or week.



The one bath, two bedroom rental features a kitchen, living and dining room.

in a school at Holbrook, Arizona.

After retirement, they returned to Stapleton and have lived here since. Wally passed away in 2016 and never got to see the antique store come to fruition.

The Allison's daughter, Kristy Opela, purchased the building from her parents a few years ago, and the first thing she did was put a new roof on it to prevent it from leaking and further deterioration.

"Somehow it evolved into a much bigger project," Kristy said.

The front of the building is the antique store and a two-bedroom, one bath rental is located in the west end. A loft area is being used to work on the digitalization of senior class pictures for Stapleton Public Schools.

Kristy credits her family with helping her in this new business venture. They have contributed with everything from

window shutters to artwork for her business cards to painting. Her brothers and sisters-in-law assisted with moving collectibles. Friends also joined in to help paint and polyurethane. A unique piece is a copper sink used in an old dry sink by her son-in-law and a table made by her son.

Baumgartner Construction was the general con-

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