

Art Highlighted In Central Nebraska



Terri Licking

The Association of Nebraska Art Clubs, Inc. (ANAC) will hold its 57th annual conference in Broken Bow for the first time in the organization's long history. There are 38 art clubs in Nebraska and the only state to bring art in its various forms for an annual exhibit.

Grand Island hosted the first conference in 1956 and Albion was the most recent in 2019.

A single club usually

takes on the daunting task of hosting the state ANAC, but this year there will be six art clubs coming together to host the "Heart of Nebraska," event in Broken Bow.

Committee members and their clubs include Sue Oiler Dowse, Darwin Hunt, (Vissid'Arte, Comstock); Betty Carlson (Artissimos, North Loup); Nicole Hoffmann (Mullen Art Center); Mary Smith, Callaway (Arrow Artists, Broken Bow) Tresa Haney, Oconto (Prairie 7,

Dunning); and Terri Licking (Thedford Art Guild). Megan Dietz, former member of Artissimos Art Club, created the logo design.

The conference will be held June 8-11 at Mid-Plains Community College. Except for 2020 when COVID locked everything down and 2021, which was a virtual/online event, a summer never passed without

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Joint Installation In UCC Churches



A group photo of those attending the joint installation of Rev. Coral and Rev. Les Parmenter. Pictured front row, l-r: Brenda Masek, Purdum UCC moderator; Rev. Sarah Rentzel-Jones, Pastor Linda Newman, Rev. Fay Ann Blaylock, Rev. Jerry Cassidy. Back row, l-r: Dan Daly, Thomas Co. Parish President; Rev. Les Parmenter, Allan Stuckey, Prairie Association President; Rev. Coral Parmenter; Rev. Kate West; and Rev. Katie Miller.

Terri Licking, Story & Picture

Congregations of four churches of the United Church of Christ (UCC) in Thomas and Blaine counties, as well as several other UCC pastors from across the state, met at the Thedford UCC on Saturday, April 23 for the joint installation of Rev. Coral and Rev. Les Parmenter.

The couple first met during their years of Education for Lay Ministry (ELM) classes. Les started his in 1998 and was a member of the very first class. Coral started her class in 2002. The couple married October 6, 2006 and both were classified as "licensed" ministers and became ordained in 2014 and 2018.

"We came to Thedford two and a half years ago

in September 2019. I was hired by the Thomas County Parish which has three churches in the villages of Halsey, Thedford and Seneca," Pastor Les said. "When Purdum UCC's minister retired, Coral was approached in becoming their minister. She began serving that congregation in July 2020."

They both say it has been a good fit.

"We would have been installed months ago, but thanks to COVID it had to be postponed," Pastor Les said.

Being installed as a minister of a congregation is like a wedding Pastor Coral said. "At a wedding the couple commits to a covenant with each other and there is a lot of planning and preparation. When you are installed as a minister one makes a

covenant with the members of the congregation to minister together with them to the best of one's ability with the Lord's guidance."

Pastor Les said this is his fourth and last time being installed. His first church was in Bayard, then Crofton and then the couple was jointly installed at the Faith Fellowship Parish serving the communities of Beemer, Wisner and West Point in northeast Nebraska.

Carol jokes that one of their parishioners told them when they were leaving Cuming County they were doing the "cattle thing" backwards - going from a heavy feedlot area to the cow-calf production of the Sandhills.

Helping the couple cele-

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NRCA Tour Passing Through Thedford



The 29th annual Nebraska Rod and Custom Association (NRCA) 500-Mile Tour Nebraska driving event will be held on June 4 and 5 this year. This is a road TOUR of 450+ classic, antique and special interest vehicles. This unique driving event will draw considerable local interest. The Tour Route this year will go near 19 towns and villages. There are many car shows and car events during the summer season, however there is no other event like Tour Nebraska.

The route changes every year as they showcase the special attractions of Nebraska to their members while bringing a classic car show to many areas.

There are morning and noon stops along the way but otherwise a lawn chair along the side of the Tour Route or the tail gate of a pick-up will give an excellent view of the Tour vehicles in action. You can hear the sound of the vehicles coming five miles away, and it will take more than 30 minutes for the Tour to go by.

450+ vehicles have registered to participate this year in what becomes a "Traveling Parade" of 30 miles or more. With drivers and passengers nearly 1,000 people will partici-

pate. Pre-Tour arrangements have been made at scheduled stops and as much as possible we utilize local law enforcement to help prevent congestion. The estimated value of the vehicles our members will be driving is \$7 million. From the first Tour in 1993 participants have decorated their vehicles with small American flags. Patriotism is still very much alive with the members. The previous tours have covered over 17,000 miles of roads in Nebraska promoting not only our association, but also the many wonders of Nebraska to our members.

The goal of the 1,800+ members of the Nebraska Rod and Custom Association is to protect the rights of special interest vehicle owners who enjoy driving them on the streets and highways of Nebraska. This is a good-will tour and the members look forward to meeting the people who enjoy vintage automobiles.

Participants/members come from all over Nebraska and some from surrounding states. They come for this unique weekend and for the warm welcome they get from those who appreci-

ate the show we bring to their town.

The organization's web site nrca.wildapricot.org contains posted information in a PDF format so you can easily print it off. That includes an itinerary for each day showing the times they will be near each community.

Also, a map showing the actual route for each day is included there.

NRCA Tour Times
Saturday and Sunday,
June 4 & 5, 2022

Leave
North Platte...7:00 AM CT
Tryon.....7:45 CT
Mullen.....8:30 CT
Valentine.....11:30 CT - 1:30 CT
Thedford.....2:45
North Platte.....4:00

Sunday:
Leave North
Platte.....7:00 AM CT
Maywood.....8:00
Curtis.....8:10
Farnam.....8:30
Gothenburg.....8:50
Arnold.....9:30 - 10:45
Merna.....11:15
Broken Bow.....11:30
Arcadia.....12:00 NOON
Ord.....12:30 - 2:30
Loup City.....3:00
Pleasanton.....3:30
Kearney.....4:00

For more information, please contact Lin Hoskins at 402-984-4272, or by email at nrca-hoskins@gmail.com

Over 4,000 acres burned at NE National Forest



The above photo was taken at 11:40 a.m. on Thursday, May 19 northeast of the Wally Collier ranch on Wild Horse Creek Road. Friday's favorable weather conditions helped firefighters keep the 201 East Fire at 4,192 acres. Extreme fire conditions on Thursday, May 19 caused the fire to grow to this size. On Thursday, firefighters reported spot fires igniting as far as 400 yards away from the main fire. For firefighter safety, personnel moved back from the approaching flames and worked toward containment at a safe distance. The fire was 30% contained on Saturday and the weather forecast for cooler temperatures and higher humidity was helping. The Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forest near Halsey remained temporarily closed as of Saturday, May 21. Please remain aware of local conditions.