



Southeast Nebraska Development District

NOVEMBER 2011
NEWSLETTER



YORK—Focused on Quality of Life!

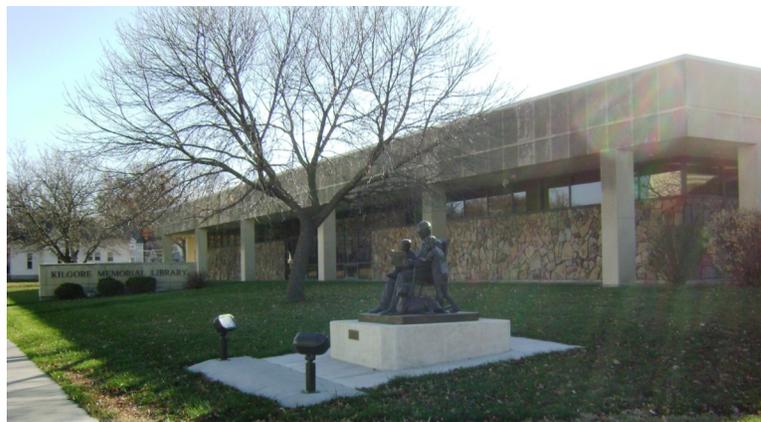
York is perfectly situated between Lincoln and Grand Island off of Interstate 80. It is known to some as the town with the bright and unique water tower painted like a hot air balloon. York has a population of more than 8,000 hard-working residents and the community offers many of the amenities seen in the much larger cities. These include a 4-year college (York College), cutting-edge medical facilities and schools, and an outstanding business district. The City takes pride in their healthy and family-owned core downtown with friendly store-owners. York's forward-thinking and strategic planning has prepared them for future generations.

York's strong values and great quality of life are reflected in its public spaces. The Community has six beautiful parks to enjoy: Harrison Park, Miller Park, Beaver Creek Park & Trails along Beaver Creek, Foster Park Arboretum, Duke Park and East Hill Park. East Hill Park is the home field of York High School football, York College baseball and soccer, along with York Cornerstone Legion baseball. The City has also been awarded Tree City USA designation for 17 years. This designation has been helpful to obtaining grants for special tree projects over the years. An event now in its' 32nd year, "Yorkfest" is a celebration of history, family and all things York! "Celebrate Family" was the theme of this year's celebration. An event like "Yorkfest" has been largely successful because it links current, past and future York residents from any age. Events like this show the community's great reputation annually for volunteerism, hospitality and down to earth feel.

Infrastructure is notably the foundation to a thriving community. York recently undertook a massive street project for both continued access and safety. York has begun to see the fruits of their labors after nearly completing the massive four million dollar project. The project, which extends down Nebraska Avenue, entails the installation of a very large, much needed storm sewer that will prevent the historic flooding down that street. It also includes

with several Economic Development and Affordable housing projects. Housing projects have included a current home buyer down payment assistance program to assist individuals and families find affordable housing in York and York County. SENDD assisted with a Community Development Block Grant application for York Cold Storage business expansion.

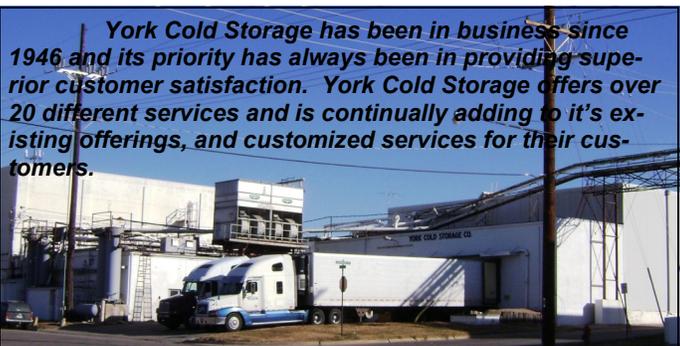
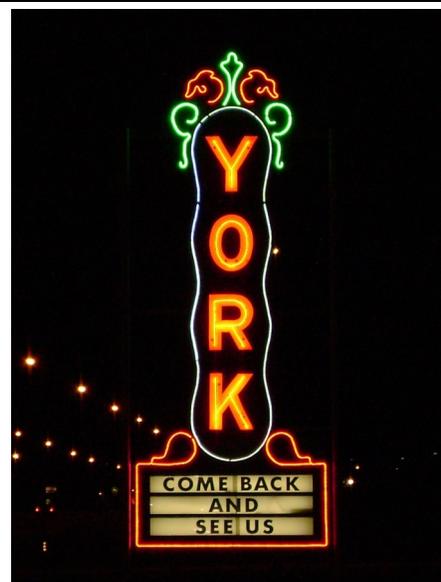
SENDD FEATURE COMMUNITY
November 2011



The City of York has supported public library services since 1894. In the early years, the City supported the Women's Club Library (established in 1885). The City took on full responsibility for the library with the completion of the York Public Library building in 1902. Kilgore Memorial Library, home of the library since 1986, was a gift to the community from the Dr. W. Sherwood Kilgore Estate. The library contains approximately 66,000 items in multiple media formats. The average annual circulation is approximately 75,000 with more than 2,500 individuals borrowing one or more items annually.

repaving the entire stretch, as well as the installation of water and sanitary sewer lines on the south side. Currently, crews are finishing landscaping with the intended finish date in the next few months.

SENDD has assisted York



York Cold Storage has been in business since 1946 and its priority has always been in providing superior customer satisfaction. York Cold Storage offers over 20 different services and is continually adding to its existing offerings, and customized services for their customers.

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York is the Site for December SERN Meeting

The Southeast Nebraska Resource Network (SERN) is a group of development resource and service providers, and volunteers interested in the betterment of Southeast Nebraska. SERN Meetings are an excellent opportunity for local community leaders, volunteers and municipal staff to be connected with Federal, State, and Local resource and service providers to discuss ideas and opportunities for potential projects in SE Nebraska.

Date: Wednesday, December 14, 2011

Location: Chances R Restaurant & Lounge, York, Ne

Address: 124 West 5th Street, York, NE 68467-3555

Host: Cassie Seagren, York County Development Corp.

RSVP by December 9, 2011

cseagren@yorkdevco.com

Feature Presentation – Jeff Yost, Nebraska Community Foundation Transfer of Wealth Study.

In 2002, the Nebraska Community Foundation published the first Transfer of Wealth study in the nation. Now, that pioneering study has been refreshed with 2010 Census data and updated methodology. According to the new study, about \$230 billion will pass from one generation to the next in rural Nebraska over the next 50 years. Retaining even a small portion of that wealth for philanthropic purposes close to home is an historic opportunity for our state and for people who care deeply about the places they call home. Yost will address the new study and the massive opportunity it presents for building strong communities across Nebraska.

2011 Invest Nebraska Venture Competition

(Peru, NE – October 14, 2011) Invest Nebraska Corporation hosted its 2011 Southeast Venture Competition Friday at Peru State College. Five Nebraska entrepreneurs/teams competed for the chance to win a \$25,000 equity investment.

The winning company was created by Nathan Meyer, a resident of Nebraska City. His company, VersaFiber, will provide an innovative way to process natural cellulose fiber bundles from agricultural residues such as corn stalks and husks, wheat straw, rice straw, cotton stalks and switchgrass. These by-products are inexpensive renewable resources with current limited use. The fibers that will be produced at VersaFiber will be made by using a process developed at the University of Nebraska.

“There was definitely a diverse group of business ideas represented today,” stated Jeff Meese of Invest Nebraska. “All the finalists did a fantastic job with their written business plans as well as their presentations, but overall we felt that VersaFiber had the potential for the greatest impact on Nebraska’s economy.”

The judges’ panel, which included SENDD Business Loan Officer Craig Eberle, chose the most promising business plan from the five finalists selected to present from 13 eligible counties in Southeast Nebraska.

SEND D Welcomes Derek Bargmann to Humboldt Office

Derek Bargmann has joined the Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND D) in Humboldt, NE. In his role as a Community Development Specialist, Derek will work with local boards and councils to support local leaders as they strive to sustain public infrastructure, improve structural and visual aspects of downtown business districts and create and retain jobs. As part of the SEND D team, Derek will focus on community development and grant management needs in the four county corner of Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, and Richardson Counties while also being available to serve the other counties that make up the 15 county Southeast Nebraska Development District.



A Pender native, Derek has a Bachelor of Science degree in International Business with a minor in German from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and plans to begin a Master of Public Administration degree at the University of Nebraska in Omaha in the Spring. He resides in Auburn currently. In his free time, Derek is an avid Nebraska football fan as well as a viewer and follower of nearly any sport.

Derek can be reached at the SEND D Office in Humboldt at (402) 862-2201 or via email at dereksendd@windstream.net.

Derek will allow SEND D to maintain a two person staff out of the Humboldt office. “This job posting attracted many quality applicants and we have high expectations that Derek will continue the high level of service to the local leaders across SE Nebraska” according to Kevin Burnison of the SEND D Humboldt office. Burnison further noted that: “Derek’s interest in helping small communities survive and thrive and his willingness to bring his skills to work with us here in SE Nebraska is what makes him a great fit for this position.”

Special Announcement SEND D Western Field Office

SEND D would like to announce that the district has opened a new “Western Field Office” near Bradshaw. SEND D Business Loan Officer Craig Eberle and his wife have moved to a home outside of Bradshaw (York County). Craig will be working from that location three days a week and from the Lincoln office two days a week. The Western Field Office is a great way for SEND D to have a local presence in our western counties and communities.

To Reach Craig:

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at the Western Field Office (Bradshaw), Phone: 402– 736-4417

Tuesday, Thursday by phone at the SEND D Lincoln Office, Phone: 402-475-2560