

GROWING OPPORTUNITIES

Working Together to Grow a Vibrant Phelps County Economy

#GROW 37

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Michele High Retires From PCDC Board

Michele High of Bertrand is retiring from the Phelps County Development Corporation board of directors after serving for 15 years.

PCDC Executive Director Ron Tillery said Michele "provided the kind of experienced oversight and practical knowledge combined with professional experience that helped the organization function at the top of its game."

High, who has worked in banking for 34 years, started serving on the board in 2005 when PCDC was a young organization (it started in 1999). At the time, board members were anyone who paid the annual \$1,000 dues. Later, a board development committee formed, annual elections were established, and meetings become more structured.

High praised PCDC's decision

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CREATING A QUALITY WORKFORCE

Ten Students Earn Share of \$26,000 in High-Demand Jobs Scholarships

Ten students studying for future careers in construction, agriculture, nursing, diesel technology and other high-demand careers received generous scholarships because they plan to return to Phelps County to work after graduation.

The high-demand jobs scholarships are part of PCDC's efforts to create a quality local workforce. This year, \$26,000 in scholarships were awarded ranging from \$1,000-\$4,000 each.

Scholarship winner Eli Swanson plans to attend Southeast Community College in Milford and return to Holdrege to work in construction. He enjoyed his work on his family's home remodel, and that's what attracted him to that area of study.

Swanson enjoys small-town living and looks forward to returning to the area after he completes his program.

"I have family back here, and I've made a good number of friends in the community," Eli said. "I'd like to come back and keep those relationships."

His goals include working for a local contractor and

eventually launching his own construction business.

Eli's brother, Lex, previously received a high-demand scholarship and works at Titan Machinery in Holdrege.

Scholarship recipients sign a contract stating their intention to return to Phelps County and work after their education. The scholarships are funded through LB840 sales tax funds, private donors and matching funds from the Phelps County Community Foundation.

The scholarships are intended to encourage graduating seniors and non-traditional students to pursue work in local high-demand jobs: nursing, agri-business and technology positions, diesel mechanics, engineer technologists, mechatronics engineers, injection mold technicians, electro-mechanical technologists, machinists, tool and die makers, construction trades, welders and commercial truck drivers.

In the seven years that the scholarships have been offered, \$176,000 has been awarded to 66 students.

More Scholarship Information on Page 3



Eli Swanson



Jory Holt



Nathan Anderson



Cassandra Shepherd



Baylee Bryant



Hunter Brenn



Jordan Wilbur



Drake Johnson



RiLee Pascoe



McKayla Meyer











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PCDC Infuses Nearly \$200,000 Into Economy During Pandemic

PCDC's economic recovery programs infused nearly \$200,000 into the local economy when the coronavirus pandemic slowed or halted sales for many Phelps County business owners.

The Phelps County Development Corporation awarded \$94,042 to nearly 70 Phelps County business owners as part of the Magic Multiplier gift card program to match the \$94,042 in gift certificates purchased from area retailers, restaurants and service businesses between April 1 and April 17.

PCDC also awarded \$9,584 in digital development grants to 10 businesses, making the grand total of the money pumped into the local economy \$197,668.

Brad Schneider, owner of Hilsabeck Sporting Goods in downtown Holdrege, said the response to the gift certificate program was "overwhelming" and "unbelievable."

"We did not expect the volume of gift certificate sales that we had," Schneider said. "That's why we live in Phelps County. This stuff didn't go on in every city, rallying around things like this. It took me through a tough stretch and helped us get through that initial time when we were down to reduced hours."

With the cancellation of spring sports, Hilsabeck's saw decreased traffic. However, the store remained open a few hours a day throughout the pandemic as customers were still buying bikes, golf equipment and shoes.

"I don't know where I would be right now if it wasn't for the gift cards and the PCDC matching funds," Schneider said. "I would just like to thank the chamber and the foundation and PCDC and all of our customers."

The Phelps County Community Foundation also matched gift card purchases with its money going to the Phelps County Disaster Relief Fund to help people with basics needs such as food, medical prescriptions, rent and utilities. The Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce partnered with an online gift-card purchasing platform.

Kris Hueftle, owner of Kris' Family Hair Care in downtown Holdrege, said the program was a blessing to her business, which she has owned since 1987 (since 2000 in Holdrege).

"I don't know where I would be right now if it wasn't for the gift cards and the PCDC matching funds. I would just like to thank the chamber and the foundation and PCDC and all of our customers.

> — Brad Schneider, owner of Hilsabeck's

Hueftle said she found out about the Magic Multiplier program through her customers, who wanted to support her through the pandemic.

"It's just amazing how this small town comes together," she said. "For us hair dressers, it really saved our businesses. I just feel like God has blessed me in so many ways even through the whole nightmare of being shut down."

Clients from as far away as Callaway and Overton participated in the program.

Hueftle did not apply for unemployment or CARES act funding, so the PCDC funds were the only funds she received to help pay for rent and utilities during the shutdown.

The Magic Multiplier program started April 1 and was one part of PCDC's economic recovery plan related to the COVID-19 pandemic. PCDC planned to offer the program through April 24 but suspended it on April 17 after the funds were exhausted sooner than expected.

The program encouraged residents to purchase gift cards from Phelps County businesses, and PCDC doubled the value of every gift card. If a customer purchased a \$50 gift card, the business owner received \$100 (\$50 from PCDC and \$50 from the customer).

PDCD also offered \$1,000 digital development grants that encouraged Phelps County retailers, restaurants, hospitality and service businesses to create a website or online store, advertise an online store, purchase point-of-sale software or become a member of GROW Nebraska or the Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce.

GUNEWS

2020 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Hunter Brenn, 2018 Holdrege High School graduate, animal science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (third-year recipient)

Jory Holt, Loomis High School graduate, diesel technology, Southeast Community College in Milford

Drake Johnson, 2019
Holdrege High School graduate, agriculture, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (second-year recipient)

Nathan Anderson, 2020 Holdrege High School graduate, utility lineman at Northeast Community College, Norfolk

Cassandra Shepherd, Arapahoe High School graduate, nursing, Central Community College, Grand Island Baylee Barnett, 2018 Holdrege High School graduate, medical studies, University of Nebraska at Kearney

Jordan Wilbur, 2020 Holdrege High School graduate, diesel technology, Southeast Community College in Milford

Eli Swanson, 2020 Holdrege High School graduate, construction management, Southeast Community College in Milford

RiLee Pascoe, 2020 Holdrege High School graduate, medical/ laboratory technology, Central Community College, Hastings

McKayla Meyer, Loomis High School graduate, agriculture, CCC-Hastings (second-year recipient)



BD Seeks Applicants for Apprenticeship Program

BD Holdrege is offering a Mechanic Apprenticeship program that includes a full educational scholarship plus a paid job while attending classes. A full benefits package is also included.

This 3-year apprenticeship program is registered through the U.S. Department of Labor and includes classroom instruction at Central Community College in Kearney and hands-on learning at BD in Holdrege. The successful applicant will earn a wage while attending class and while learning at the manufacturing facility.

The apprentice must must agree to work at the plant for at least two years after graduation.

Skills learned in the program include knowledge of mechanical systems, fluid power systems, control systems, concepts of electronics and leadership.

Interested applicants should apply at https://jobs.bd.com. Space is limited.

Michele High Retires From PCDC Board

Continued from page 1

to move from a dues system to inviting investors to make five-year pledges to support the office and staff salaries. The investor donations allow the majority of LB840 sales tax funds to support economic development activities.

"Due to the vision and support of our Phelps County citizens, the cities, villages and county commissioners, PCDC is able to use the majority of LB840 funds to grow Phelps County," she said.

High said she has enjoyed learning about the strengths and weaknesses of Phelps County communities and working to improve them over the years.

"We need to grow our communities so we can share in a larger tax base," High said. "It is a privilege to be a small part of the efforts to expand existing businesses and attract new employers."

High played a major role in a partnership with the Holdrege Housing Authority to obtain a housing grant in 2009 for the Lincoln Place subdivision in east Holdrege. Seventeen Nebraska communities competed for the grant,

and Holdrege was one of four communities to receive a New Neighborhoods Initiative grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development.

"The people in this community all pitched in," High said. "The City of Holdrege partnered in funding a housing study. We had a group of citizens participating in public meetings defining our housing needs. Every major employer in town took the time to provide guidance and letters of support. The high school allowed students to participate in our grant presentation to DED, and every financial institution in town pledged to provide financing. We experienced a can-do attitude from everyone we asked to step up and help make that grant happen. This community is amazing!"

In the future, High said it will be important to choose the right "building blocks" to support existing businesses, attract new jobs, create workforce housing and grow Phelps County.

Examples of some of PCDC's building blocks, she said, are providing:

· Scholarships for needed job skills in

partnership with local employers;

- Low-interest gap loans to small business owners and entrepreneurs in partnership with local financing;
- Homeownership incentives in partnership with employers to bring new families to the county;
- Support for downtown revitalization through retail programs and business enhancement grants to promote a vibrant business district;
- Assets to develop an industrial park to provide benefits for our future.

"What I enjoyed the most is that there are so many opportunities to work together, in partnership, creating building blocks for the future," High said.

High said she is retiring from her PCDC role so that others can have the chance to serve.

"Serving has been a privilege and a learning experience for me," High said. "There were extra hours spent during bank hours when my fellow employees had to cover for me. Everyone I work with invested in my time spent serving PCDC. It would not have been possible without them."

Phelps County Communities:

Atlanta

Bertrand

Funk

Holdrege

Loomis

NEW COBBLESTONE HOTEL OPENS IN JULY

Hotel Creates New Opportunity for Events and Tourism

Holdrege's new Cobblestone Hotel & Suites is scheduled to open on July 10.

After an October groundbreaking, construction began on the \$4 million, 45-room, two-story hotel in November and was completed in mid-June. It is located at 814 Burlington on the busy Highway 183 corridor.

The Phelps County Development Corporation was a leader in organizing the investor group for the hotel and spurring the project after a hotel study indicated the need for more overnight accommodations in Holdrege.

According to a hotel study commissioned by PCDC, the new hotel could generate an estimated \$900,000 annually in hotel room fees.

PCDC Executive Director Ron Tillery said the hotel will attract new business to the market, especially business travelers that rely on corporate booking agents and those that favor loyalty programs.

"Given the impact of COVID-19, it's difficult to predict the next six months but we're gratified to see fairly heavy advance reservations activity," Tillery said. "We're hopeful that the hotel will continue to build momentum as the economy gains more steam in the coming weeks."



The new Cobblestone Inn & Suites at 814 Burlington will open on July 10.

Additional high quality hotel rooms will add choices for consumers and new opportunities for Holdrege to capture meetings and events further strengthening Holdrege's appeal as a hospitality destination.

Crystal Purdy, a Kearney native, has been hired as the general manager of the hotel. She will be relocating with her family from Williston, North Dakota, where she was the director of sales and marketing for Candlewood Suites.

The Holdrege Cobblestone is accepting

reservations for stays after Aug. 15 on the hotel's website at www.staycobblestone.com/ne/holdrege. Reservations for rooms needed before Aug. 15 can be made by contacting Andrew Wright awright@whgco.com.

The hotel is constructed on Washington Square, which still has opportunities available north of the new hotel for commercial/retail operations. Anyone interested in developments in Washington Square should contact Ron Tillery at ron@phelpscountyne.com or (308) 995-4148.

Phelps Memorial, Veteran's Clinic Complete Expansion Projects

Besides the Cobblestone Hotel, several other major construction projects are wrapping up in Holdrege this summer.

Phelps Memorial Health Center

The 42,200-square-foot addition to the Phelps Memorial Health Center is anticipated to be complete in mid-July. The expansion will house the Phelps Medical Group clinic and includes 21 exam rooms. Phelps Medical Group has 17 employees and five providers.

PMHC's cardiac rehab services will also be located in the newly constructed area, which is attached to the hospital.

The former Phelps Medical Group clinic will be used for oncology services and future growth.

PMHC also recently demolished an old medical

clinic building south of the hospital to provide additional space for employee parking.

Veteran's Clinic

Work has been completed on the renovation project at the Veteran's Administration Clinic at 1118 Burlington in Holdrege.

An additional 4,000 square feet was added to the existing clinic, nearly doubling the space. More parking spaces were added as well.

Gustin Road

PCDC helped secure a \$350,000 grant to pave Gustin Road, and that joint city-county project was completed in June 2020. Paving that one-mile stretch between 18th Avenue and Highway 23 reduces dust and provides a better entrance to

Allmand Inc./Briggs & Stratton and to PCDC's Iron Horse Business & Industry Park.

"Development will occur faster when there's already infrastructure in place. So, it's possible we could see other development up and down Gustin Street now that this paving is complete," PCDC Executive Director Ron Tillery said.

Tillery said that the agreement to pave the road played a deciding factor in Briggs & Stratton's recent decision to expand the Holdrege facility.

"The paving of Gustin Street was an essential part of the approval process of Briggs and Stratton for this project," Tillery said. "They had a choice of where they could make these improvements and increase production. They had other plants around the country that they could have moved to, but instead they came here."

PCDC Partnership Paves Way For New House Construction

Thanks to a partnership between the Phelps County Development Corporation and the South Central Economic Development District, Inc. (SCEDD), a new home now brightens the corner of 11th and Logan streets where two dilapidated homes once stood.

"It was a great partnership with PCDC to be able to get that property," said Sharon Hueftle, executive director of SCEDD. "That neighborhood has some nice things going on. We think it's a great way to continue to enhance the neighborhood."

The new home is part of PCDC's and SCEDD's efforts to ease the workforce housing crunch in the area. SCEDD received a \$274,000 grant from Nebraska's Rural Workforce Housing Fund to help with this issue.

PCDC purchased the lot and demolished the two homes on the property through its GO Home Phoenix program. In early 2019, SCEDD purchased the lot from PCDC for \$1, which made the project affordable and able to stay within the grant guidelines. SCEDD contracted with Vantage Pointe of Lincoln to build a component home on the lot.

In April, Vantage Pointe delivered the house in two sections and set it on a basement that was built over the winter. The three-bedroom, two-bath home located at 1103 Logan St. has 1,268 square feet of living space and a two-car garage.

SCEDD invited local Realtors to tour the home in late May, and a few days later, a buyer stepped forward with an offer.

Hueftle said SCEDD has invited the governor to a ribbon cutting for the project.

SCEDD has created a fund just shy of \$700,000 to help solve workforce housing issues in its 13-county region.

This Holdrege Logan Street house was the third project from this fund. The first two projects involved loans instead of a SCEDDdeveloped home.

Funds from SCEDD's workforce housing fund are available for a low interest rate for substantial rehabilitation of existing homes or construction of new homes.

Anyone interested in learning more about SCEDD funds is encouraged to contact Sharon Hueftle at SCEDD at (308) 455-4771.





PCDC and SCEDD partnered to enhance a Holdrege neighborhood and create workforce housing. PCDC demolished the two houses (left) at 1103 Logan St. and sold the lot to SCEDD to develop a new home (above).



Crew Subdivision Will Welcome First Residents This Summer

Rental homes could be ready for occupancy as early as July in the new Crew Subdivision in east Holdrege.

Construction began on the subdivision in October, and the infrastructure was completed over the winter. Street paving was scheduled to be completed by late June.

The subdivision is part of local efforts to add workforce housing to the community and will result in more than 40 new living units once completed.

The community received a \$318,500 grant from the Nebraska Department of Economic Development's rural workforce housing program and a \$250,000 grant from the Nebraska Investment Finance Authority to help fund infrastructure for the subdivision. PCDC earmarked \$250,000 in LB840 sales tax funds to secure the grants and to put toward the project.

Mesner Construction of Central City is the developer for the 10-acre property that sits just south of the Sunrise East Subdivision.

Phase 1 of the Crew project includes building 10 rental duplexes (20 living units).

Cris Larson, projects director for Mesner
Development, said nine of the duplex units will be
subject to income limits, and one duplex will rent for
market rate with no income restrictions. Construction on
the duplexes began in late May. She said some of the
units could be ready for renters as early as July.

By mid-June, 20 prospective renters were on the waiting list, and the application and income verification process for those prospects had started. To be added to the list, contact Rae Jean Hawk at (308) 946-3826.

Mesner will also build three townhomes (6 units) that will be for sale at market rate. The townhomes will have three bedrooms, two baths and two-car garages.

PCDC has purchased 19 lots in subdivision to help spur the completion of the project. East Street, which is the gravel road along the western boundary of the new subdivision, is scheduled to be paved this summer.

Phelps County Communities:

Atlanta

Bertrand

Funk

Holdrege

Loomis

Boxing & Fitness Classes Offered at New Business

Those interested in the sport of boxing can now find it in Holdrege. Quintana Boxing/ Invictus Fight & Fitness opened at 915 West Second St. on June 1. Owners are Kellon Cummins and Matt Wittenhagen of Holdrege and Ernie Quintana of Kearney.

The new business will include lessons and training for amateur and professional boxers under the direction of Quintana, who has trained athletes and boxers for more than 30 years. Quintana's son, Blake, is a professional boxer.

Holdrege boxers will be able to compete in competitive boxing matches, and the local gym hopes to host matches in the future.

In addition, the gym will offer boxing fitness classes for women, men and children for those who just want the physical benefits of boxing training and don't want to compete.

For more information, call (308) 991-1258 or visit the Facebook page at Quintana Boxing/Invictus Fight & Fitness.

Be Restored Offers MYK Treatment for Migraines

Be Restored Massage Therapy is offering help for those who suffer from migraines.

Owner and massage therapist Mary Olson is now offering a technique called Myokinesthetic (or MYK), which has proven successful with clients who suffer from reoccurring headaches or migraines.

The 15-minute technique involves passive and active movements and stimulation of nerve endings.

"What I found is that I believe I have a 90-95 percent effective rate on being able to rid people of migraines without medication and without a great deal of time," Olson said.

For some patients, the migraines ease after just one treatment. For others, it takes several visits or follow-up treatments.

Olson just completed her third year as a massage therapist after a previous career in insurance. Her business is located at Bilka Chiropractic and is open Monday through Friday. For more information, call Olson at (308) 995-2355.

Holdrege Entrepreneur Creates Successful Digital Guestbook App

Product Attracts Customers in 45 Countries

In less than five years, local entrepreneur Daryl McNiel has turned an idea that occurred to him at a wedding into an app that is used by people around the world to record guest photos and memories at special events.

My Digital Guestbook is an app that allows guests to take a selfie on an iPad at an event, write a message on the photo and then have that photo become part of a hard-cover book the host receives after the event. It's a guestbook with a modern-day twist.

The idea first came to him while attending a wedding in October 2015.

"I got up to the guestbook, and I looked at that thing, and it was nothing but illegible signatures," McNiel said.

At the time, he was managing the technology division for CPI and worked with apps daily. He knew there had to be a better way to remember quests at an event.

He started planning out ideas for a guestbook app and carefully thought out each page and the navigation process before taking his ideas to computer programmers for bids. The price was "a very large amount," so McNiel formed a C Corporation and started selling shares into his company, Application Visions, Inc. He and his family own 54 percent of the company, and investors, mainly local farmers, own the other 46 percent.

McNiel said when he started sharing his idea for a digital guestbook with his friends, they asked how they could be involved.

"Every single person I shared the idea with wanted to be a part of it," McNiel said. "I've got some amazing investors. They've made my dream and my vision reality."

McNiel secured 20 investors who helped My Digital Guestbook officially go live in July 2016.

In December 2019, McNiel added Pix Bash to the guestbook package. Pix Bash allows photos and videos that guests take on their smartphones to be captured in one place for the hosts. Those photos also become part of the guestbook.

"What I wanted to do it capture all those candid photos that guests are taking without the hassle of



My Digital Guestbook and Pix Bash have been popular around the world.

using disposable cameras or tagging photos with hashtags," McNiel said.

The cost for My Digital Guestbook and Pix Bash is \$109, which includes the use of the app for one event and the hardcover photo book and a slide show of the event photos.

"It's the least expensive thing anyone would ever buy for a wedding," McNiel said.

Customers in 45 countries have purchased the app, and 3,000 new accounts are created each month. It has been most popular for milestone birthdays, retirement parties and weddings and has also been purchased for quinceaneras, bar mitzvahs, baby showers, funerals, post-prom parties, graduations and Prince Harry and Meghan Markle wedding watch parties.

Besides McNiel, his company employs one staff person to help with marketing. He hopes to continue to grow the business and has countless ideas for improvements and additions.

"It's been a blast," McNiel said of creating the business. "We are in it for the long haul. I want people to have fun with this, and I want them to have a better product than what has been on the market in the past."

For more information about My Digital Guestbook and Pix Bash, visit mydigitalguestbook.com where a free demo can be downloaded.

GUNEWS



Teacher Opens Music/Tea Business in Historic Holdrege Opera House

Music will once again be played and sung in Holdrege's historic opera house.

Ashley Brock, who teaches 5-12 vocal music for Holdrege Public Schools, opened Serenity Music Studios and The Crystal Leaf at 615 4th Ave., which was once the entrance to the opera house.

"The kids that are coming in and taking lessons are learning about music and performing in the original performance space in Phelps County," Brock said.

Brock, who holds a degree in K-12 vocal and instrumental music, will teach voice, piano and other instrument lessons to youth and adults from the Serenity Studios portion of her business. Brock has taught in Holdrege since 2011, performs and directs with the Crane River Theater in Kearney and has conducted summer music camps and directed honor choirs and festivals.

"This business is the next step of wanting to do extended outreach to the students of our community to make sure they have the opportunity to study privately or get prepared for college if they want to major in music education or go into performing," Brock said. "I also wanted to provide opportunities for adults who always wanted to learn to play the piano or clarinet or learn about music in general."

The next registration week for Brock's music lessons will be July 13-19.

The music studio will occupy the south space of Brock's business, while her tea shop, The Crystal Leaf, will be on the north.

She will sell 25-30 varieties of loose-leaf teas that can be purchased by the ounce. Tea can be mixed and matched to create just the right flavor

or provide the right health benefits.

"A lot of my passion about tea comes from the fact that I have a suppressed immune system," Brock said. "In addition to modern medicine, I like to learn about different things you can do for yourself to stay healthy, and there are many health benefits of tea."

Tea can help relieve upset stomachs (peppermint tea), lower blood pressure and improve blood flow (black tea) and help with sleep (chamomile). Tea can also awaken the brain, reduce anxiety and boost cognitive function.

In addition to tea, The Crystal Leaf will also sell essential oils, crystals and incense and will offer a space to learn about meditation and healing through various methods, including reiki.

"My underlying purpose is to create a safe inviting place where people can come in and learn about alternative ways to stabilize their mental and physical health," Brock said.

Brock also plans to display the work of local artists at her new business. One resident artist will have photography displayed in the business year-round, and Brock will feature the work of other area artists on a monthly rotation.

PCDC awarded Brock a digital development grant that she used to join the Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce and GROW Nebraska and to develop a website and buy a POS system.

The Crystal Leaf and Serenity Studios will be open from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 9 a.m.-8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays through July. Hours will be altered once school begins in August.

For more information, visit The Crystal Leaf or Serenity Studios on Facebook.

New Physical Therapy Clinic Opening Downtown

Holdrege Physical Therapy and Sports Rehab will open in the Johnson Building in downtown Holdrege in August.

Brandon Smith, PT, DPT, will offer all types of therapy at the new clinic, including postoperative care, general orthopedic care (neck, shoulder, back, knees, ankle/foot), work comp services, dry needling, sports injury rehabilitation, bracing, balance training and more for people of all ages. The business will accept all major insurance plans.

"We want to give Phelps County residents a choice in their physical therapy provider," Smith said. "We are excited to provide great customer service and compassionate care to our patients."

Smith, who is originally from Sidney, graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney with a degree in athletic training and then earned a doctorate in Physical Therapy from Des Moines University. He has worked for five years as a physical and most recently worked as the director of a physical therapy clinic in Columbus. Nebraska.

Smith said he and his fiancé, Lucero Murillo (who grew up in Holdrege), both enjoy small-town life and are looking forward to establishing roots in the community.

"We really enjoy the small-town values and family atmosphere," Smith said. "Holdrege is a great place to raise a family."

Smith's new business will be located at 701 Fourth Ave., Ste. #1.

For more information, please call (308) 248-0303 or visit www.HoldregePT.com.



Brandon Smith and Lucera Murillo



PO Box 522 Holdrege, NE 68949-0522

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PHELPS COUNTY BUSINESS JOURNAL



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PCDC Launches Website for Veterans Memorial

The Phelps County Development Corporation is sharing its resources to enhance Holdrege with a new attraction. PCDC launched a website (holdregeveteransmemorial.com) to promote the Holdrege Veterans Memorial, which will honor veterans who served in one or more Federal services of the United States Armed Forces: Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard and National Guard.

The memorial is a collaborative effort of Holdrege DAV, the City of Holdrege, Phelps County Community Foundation, Phelps County Development Corporation, Palmer Brothers Granite Company and Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce. It will be located in Holdrege's South Park, which is scheduled to be renamed Veteran's Memorial Park in the fall of 2020.

South Central Nebraska's County Emergency



Response Team, which consists of about 35 volunteer community members trained to help in times of emergency, is planning a fundraising event for the memorial on Saturday, Sept. 19, from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Holdrege South Park. The event will feature live music, food, a fly-over, show and shine, vendors, games and more.