

Valentine MIDLAND NEWS 75¢

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Valentine Area Arts Council presents

Sabor

On Sunday April 18, 2010, at 3:00 p.m., the Valentine Area Arts Council hosts the last concert of the season bringing to Valentine the amazing group called *Sabor*. This group was featured in the Omaha Entertainment Awards on WOWT and declared in 2009 as one of the best live entertainment acts on the Omaha scene ever.

Headed by the guitar sensation Marcos Mora, this extraordinarily talented group from South Omaha plays a variety of music and styles that include Santana, Cumbia, Latin Jazz, Bachata, Salsa, Ballads, Latin Blues, American Oldies y mucho más.

It's an energetic, fun entourage of Latin rhythms that keeps the crowd moving to the beat! Looking for something to spice up your Sunday afternoon? This is the group to do it! Marcos and Sabor perform various musical styles and you will be sure to recognize some of the tunes that promise to get your toes tapping.

Do you remember songs like *La Bamba* or *Twist & Shout*, *Blue Moon*, *Guantajamera*, *Hound Dog*, *Let It Be*, and *Tequila*? You will hear them on Sunday! Don't miss this spectacular event. The Valentine Area Arts Council will supply the salsa, you just come and enjoy! Local business sponsors include: Dick Tetherow; Tetherow Cattle Company, Jordan's Fine Dining, Quigley, Dill & Quigley, Sandhills Title; Susie Beel, S & S Maintenance and Valentine Medical Clinic.

The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, supports this program through a matching grant funded by the Nebraska Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Visit www.nebraskaartscouncil.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization, or how you can support the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

Share how Super your Mom is this Mother's Day!



by Laura Vroman

When we hurt ourselves, who did we cry for? Mom.

When our siblings weren't being fair, who did we tell? Mom.

When we were hungry or needed our favorite outfit washed, who did we go to? Mom.

Now it's time for you to tell Mom what you think of her and her mothering ways.

Share with our readers a favorite story, lesson, or example your mother gave you. Keep your stories to a couple paragraphs. Include a photo of you and your mother as well. We'll publish the best stories in the Mother's Day edition of the Valentine Midland News, May 5, 2010.

Have stories and photos here by Friday, April 23, 2010. You can either fax them to: (402) 376-1946, e-mail them to editor@valentine-news.com; or mail them to Box 146, Valentine, NE, 69201.

If you're sending photographs, they need to be e-mailed as a .jpg on the highest quality setting. If sending them through the mail, include a self addressed stamped envelope. Don't fax photos.

Let our moms' know how much we appreciate them!

How can we sustain communities across Nebraska?

by Laura Vroman

What is sustainability and does Valentine have it?

That was the question that leaders from the community came to find out in a two day seminar titled *Nebraska Sustainability Leadership Workshop*.

The definition of sustainable is: *to be maintained at a certain rate or level; conserving an ecological balance by avoiding depletion of natural resources.*

Clearly, sustainability in the Sandhills is beyond important - it's crucial in both of our biggest assets: ranching and tourism. Which comes down to one of the most important resources we have...water!

This water resource shows itself in several ways: the Ogallala Aquifer to feed the cattle, Merritt Reservoir to have fun with and to irrigate and the Niobrara River which is a huge draw for tourism.

But sustainability is also more than that - not saying that water quality, quantity and usage aren't important topics in themselves - they are.

But people are another important aspect in sustainability in any community. Who will take over the mom and pop shops when they're ready to retire? Do we have good or great paying jobs for our college graduates to come back for? Do we have economical programs in place to fix up homes from half a century ago?

Several experts and consultants made themselves available to explore and answer those questions and more.

The seminar was hosted by Mary Ferdig, Ph.D. who is President and Director of the Sustainability Leadership Institute and is an organizational consultant and facilitator with 25 years experience in business and nonprofit arenas, including 10 years as senior staff and manager of the Human Resources and Organizational Development Department at OPPD.

Also hosting was W. Cecil Steward, President and CEO of Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities. Steward is a world expert on sustainable development and sustainable design. Dean emeritus and emeritus professor of architecture and planning at the University of Nebraska College of Architecture in Lincoln. He is the founder of the International North-North Network for Urban Sustainability and the Joslyn Institute for Sustainable Communities, in Omaha and Lincoln.

Steward began by discussing global warming. While there is scientific studies that show we are in danger of global warming, there are also other studies that say it's a myth. Who's right? Who's wrong? Who on earth knows? But as a community what do we have in place "if" global warming is a reality? How would global warming affect our primary assets? Black



Facilitator Mary Ferdig, Ph.D., Director and President of the Sustainability Leadership Institute.



Photos by Laura Vroman

Attending the seminar were from L to R: County Commissioner Mark Adamson, City Manager Shane Siewert, facilitator W. Cecil Steward and Sandra Scofield who presented the UNL Nebraska Rural Initiative.



Chad Podolak, Energy Efficiency Specialist with NPPD.



Paul Bartlett is the Regional Director of USDA Community Development in Kearney.



Jim Goeke, Professor, Survey Division in the School of Natural Resources at UNL. He has served as a hydrogeologist in the School of Natural Resources since 1970.

cows with a 10 degree increase in temperature during the summer months could be brutal...especially if that heat is drying up creeks and other water supplies. What about the Niobrara River as well as Merritt Reservoir and the Ainsworth Irrigation District? How would all that be affected? As a community, the workshop invited us to explore

some of those types of issues and the effects from now all the way through our seventh generation. Kind of hard to imagine?

Steward said we need to keep our resources in balance, environmentally, economically, socio-cultural, technological and public policy.

"The least expensive isn't always the best answer. How can we re-

duce consumption and still sustain our community?" Steward asks.

Chad Podolak an Energy Expert with NPPD took a look at the factors that they need to help us in that aspect. Wind? Most people here hate wind except to turn the windmills. But what about turning the wind turbines?

Unfortunately, while it's green

energy, it's also very expensive to produce, and there is no economical way to store it when the wind dies down.

Podolak said, "The United States has five percent of the population yet we use 25 percent of the energy world wide. Since 1965, the world population has doubled. And in

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Valentine City Council hears sewer report

by Laura Vroman

The Valentine City Council met for their regular meeting, Thursday, April 8, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Library Meeting Room.

April is Child Abuse Preven-

tion Month

The Council adopted April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Nebraska Legislature has passed the Child Protection Act charging all citizens with responsibility to report incidents of child abuse or neglect by calling law enforcement or the state hotline at: 1-800-652-1999.

Name change

The Council tabled the request to change the name of Chestnut Street to Freedom Road until there is a full board present.

Storm sewer study

Kevin Kruse with JEO presented their study on the storm sewers. He said they looked at the storm

sewer network, identified the deficiencies and are using a phased approach to correct them.

They color coded the pipes red, green and black, with black being the pipes in the best shape. Unfortunately, there weren't many black pipes on their map, and a lot of red pipes. The red and green pipes resulted in the deficiencies in drainage.

The first project is already in effect, and that is a maintenance plan which is currently being done.

Using the downstream first approach, project two is the replacing and adding the drainage to and from Mistake Lake to the Niobrara River. The estimated cost for this is \$2,610,100. There are two different options for this portion; keeping Mistake Lake to collect the garbage that comes with storms as a flush area which would prevent it from being strewn about for miles; or eliminate the "lake" all together.

Project three are sewer improve-

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Outdoor Family Fun Day this Saturday April 17 at Smith Falls

Remember to bring the family and join the outdoor fun at Smith Falls State Park this Saturday, April 17, from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Rain or shine, the event will kick off National Park Week and offer families a chance to make memories together. Opportunities include a chance to take a short, safe, canoe ride down the river, "dig" for "fossils" in chocolate chip cookies, cook your own lunch over a campfire, and play nature-based games. All activities are free and lunch will be provided. Smith Falls State Park requires a \$4/ vehicle parking fee or a NGPC Annual Pass. The park is located 19 miles east of Valentine, Nebraska on Hwy 12.

The Niobrara National Scenic River is proud to offer this event in partnership with the Niobrara Council, the Middle Niobrara Natural Resources District, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, and local volunteers. The Niobrara National Scenic River is one of your 392 National Park sites

in America. Find out more by visiting www.nps.gov/niob

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by Americans so that all may experience our heritage.

Spring cleaning anyone? Down the Niobrara is more fun!

Coming up soon...the Niobrara Council 10th annual Spring River Cleanup! Sign up today at the Niobrara Council Office, or contact them for more information at (402) 376-2793 or e-mail info@niobrara-council.org. The event will be held Saturday, May 1, 2010, beginning at 9:00 a.m. at the Ft. Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge Canoe

Launch Site at Cornell Bridge.

Pre-registration is required and due by Wednesday, April 28, 2010. Lunch will be provided to all participants. There are walking and canoeing cleanup spots available. See you there, do your part to help keep the Niobrara a Scenic Treasure for generations to come!

Re-think....

When stress hits!!!

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Way to go Valentine

69 percent participation in Census!

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