

New Coffee Shop Opens Up In Thedford

Photos & Story By:
Linda Teahon

When entering Anthem Coffee the word “pure” comes to mind. Simple, but with a well thought out design. Open and welcoming with the aroma of fresh brewed coffee.

The location is ideal for locals and travelers coming to the “Crossroads of the Nebraska Sandhills.” The shop sits on the east side of Thedford along Highway 2 also known as the Sandhills Journey National Scenic Byway, Grand Island to Alliance, and the transactional Highway 83 running north and south from Canada to Mexico.

Anthem Coffee has been the dream of owner Alicia Clark the past eight to nine years. Many hours of research have gone into the business. Business is not new to Alicia as she is a 2003 graduate of Nebraska Wesleyan earning a teaching degree in business and having taught four years.

The property was purchased November 8, 2021 and demolition began



The exterior of the newly remodeled Anthem Coffee on the east edge of Thedford. Area residents are encouraged to stop in and have a hot fresh cup of coffee.

that day with the opening of Anthem Coffee this past October 18th.

Alicia hopes that the shop will be a “gathering place” for the locals. She explains “I totally love it. It energizes me. It’s a career, not just a hobby.”

She credits her family for supporting her. She says her husband Adam “holds the family to-

gether.” Daughter Anna, a sophomore at Thedford High School, loves rodeo, basketball and track. She was the state runner-up on the 4 x 100 relay team this past year. Along with her trusty horse Bogie, she has earned the title of state high school barrel racing champion as a freshman and also in junior high school. Son

Caleb, age 12, loves rodeo, football and wrestling.

He is sitting second in the state jr. high school break-

away roping and sits in the top ten in team roping.

Alicia also credits friend Bridget Licking for finding and inspiring the look and feel of the coffee shop. She is grateful to her extended family Roy Licking, the Connell family, Ashley Burk and so many others.

Currently Anthem Coffee employs six part time people. Normal Roasting Company of Burwell supplies the coffee beans. Tasty Black Hills Bagels are customer favorites. All of the 1883 syrups and Hollander sauces are gluten free. Hours are 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturdays and closed on Sundays.

A Grand Opening appreciation is planned for December 1st during the Thedford annual Christmas Walk About.



The newly updated and fresh look of the inside matches the taste of their many flavors of coffee.

Nebraska Byway Releases New Tourism App

Nebraska's Sandhills Journey National Scenic Byway is now only a tap away, thanks to the Byway's new mobile app. The official Nebraska Sandhills Journey app will serve as a travel guide for Nebraska's Highway 2.

"Exciting things are happening within the Sandhills Journey National Scenic Byway!" said byway president Linda Teahon. "New businesses are opening, and long-standing companies are developing in new and exciting ways. The new Sandhills Journey app will help visitors discover major attractions and hidden gems along the Byway."

The Sandhills are the largest area of stabilized grass-covered sand dunes in the Western Hemisphere encompassing more than 13 million acres (20,312 square

miles). The Sandhills equal an area about as large as Vermont, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island combined.

Expansive ranchland, remote landscapes, winding rivers, and the dramatic Sandhills provide an amazing view from Nebraska Highway 2, which stretches from Grand Island to Alliance, NE.

"Two hundred seventy two miles of America's heartland is a sight to behold," added Teahon. "Byway travelers have the opportunity to experience the unique Nebraska Sandhills and its agriculture, history, wildlife, recreation, and natural resources."

Visitors can find meals, lodging, attractions, gas, and an interactive travel guide on the new NE Sandhills Journey app. Attractions include the

largest hand-planted forest in the world.

The "Nebraska Sandhills Journey" app is available for download on Google Play for Android and the Apple App Store for iOS devices. A Progressive Web App (PWA) is also available by visiting app.sandhillsjourney.com in a web browser. The app was designed by huntrex.com, a Nebraska-based web and app design company.

Learn more about the Sandhills Journey National Scenic Byway at sandhillsjourney.com or on the Sandhills Journey app.

During the 2022 Bicycle Ride Across Nebraska (BRAN), Rick from Omaha may have said it best, "I have to get to the Sandhills a couple of times a year, or I'm just not right!"

Thedford Alumni Raffle Ticket Winners



COURTESY

The Thedford Alumni Association raffled two Husker football tickets at the Thedford Alumni Banquet on June 18, 2022. Mark Nutter was the winner and he was unable to attend and the tickets were given to Allen Ewoldt. Allen sent his son, Cay and wife, Stephanie Ewoldt.

The Ewoldts report a very enjoyable and exciting Homecoming game with perfect weather conditions and a 35-21 win for the Huskers.

Cay and Stephanie say thank you to the Thedford Alumni Association for the great time and feel fortunate to see the Husker win. Thanks also to Mark Nutter for allowing them to use the tickets.

Be watching for what will be raffled at the 2023 banquet.

Area Closure Order: Scott Lookout Tower & 4-H Camp



Forest officials from the Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands, Bessey Ranger District announced an Area Closure Order for the Scott Lookout Tower and 4-H Camp beginning October 26, 2022 at 12:01 AM. The order will remain in place through April 30, 2023.

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(a) and (b), the following act is prohibited in National Forest System lands within the Bessey Ranger District of the Nebraska National Forests & Grasslands in Thomas County, Nebraska, described below and shown on the attached map incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A.

1. To go into or be upon any area in and around the Scott Lookout Tower and the State 4H Camp, which are closed for the protection of public Health and safety (36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e)) and the protection of property (36 C.F.R. § 261.53(f)).

RESTRICTED AREA: In addition to the area

shown on Exhibit A, portions of Forest Service roads and trails are closed to entry:

1. Highway 86B west of its junction with Forest Road 203 South (also known as Circle Road).

2. The entirety of the entrance road to the State 4-H Camp north of its junction with Forest Road 212.

3. The Scott Tower Hiking Trail west of its junction with Forest Road 203 South.

EXEMPTIONS Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from this Order:

1. Persons with Forest Service Permit No. FS-7700-48 (Permit for Use of Roads, Trails, or Areas Restricted by Regulation or Order), specifically exempting them from this Order or a written determination by a Forest Service authorized officer that a permit is not required under 36 C.F.R. § 251.50(e)(1) or (2).

2. Any Federal, State, or Local Officer, or member

of an organized rescue or firefighting resource in the performance of an official duty.

IMPLEMENTATION 1. This Order shall be in effect from October 26, 2022 at 12:01 a.m. through April 30, 2023 at 11:59 p.m., unless rescinded at an earlier date and time.

2. A violation of the above prohibitions is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals and \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six months, or both. 16 U.S.C. § 551; 18; U.S.C. §§ 3559, 3571, and 3581.

3. Contact the Bessey Ranger District in Halsey, NE (308) 533-2257 for more information about this Order.

We post notification of operations on our Facebook page; (<https://www.facebook.com/NebraskaForestsGrasslands/>), our Twitter @USFSNebraska and our website <https://www.fs.usda.gov/nebraska>.