



Nov. 1, 2018

By NCTA Dean Ron Rosati, Ph.D.

NCTA Aggies value our community

Fall is evident everywhere one looks around the campus of the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture.

We are grateful for the weather allowing crop harvests at the campus farm and throughout the region.

Our Aggie students are now at their tenth week of the fall semester so we enter November with them well settled into their courses and campus programs.

They find an increased familiarity with not only their campus surroundings but also as residents of a hospitable, rural community much like what they experienced in their home areas.

Students value the importance of mentors, community leaders, and the welcoming faces and smiles which are shared at local churches, the grocery store or gas station, schools and in neighborhoods.

They express gratitude time and time again for the friendliness and support they receive from the residents of Curtis and the rural areas of Frontier County. Thank you for making NCTA Aggies and their families feel so welcome!

Partnerships are a two-way road, and NCTA values the many forms of assistance and services provided to the campus. Our students do not take for granted access to shopping, transportation, health care, employment and emergency services. These things keep them comfortable in their home-away-from-home.

Local city and community services are invaluable to the welfare and safety of our campus community and we appreciate every employee and volunteer who lends a hand.

For example, the local medical clinic provides health care during business hours. The fine staff there do an outstanding job meeting the needs of local residents and NCTA students. We appreciate their care and support.



A mobile food pantry provided by Food Bank of the Heartland arrived at campus in September. NCTA students and staff volunteered for the community distribution at the Student Union.

NCTA receives outstanding service from the Frontier County Sheriff's Office. They respond to emergencies, perform welfare checks and are visible around town and on the campus. The Sheriff's office regularly demonstrates a high degree of professionalism and competence as they help our students grow and develop.

We are extremely appreciative of the volunteers who serve the local fire department and emergency medical crew. They respond quickly when needed and help with special events. They come to campus for class demonstrations, for example, or to train residence hall assistants and NCTA employees.

NCTA is a community partner, sharing program with the public and area residents. We strive to make campus services available to residents of our local community.

Meals are served daily at the Aggie Dining cafeteria, and snacks and salads can be purchased at Chandie's Castle Deli. The public is invited to visit the cafeteria and the deli.

Twice a year, usually on a Saturday morning, Food Bank of the Heartland bring deliveries to the NCTA Student Union. The food pantry is free to the public, with no registration or application necessary. Our staff and students lead this community project.

NCTA contracts for mental health services here on campus so that students and employees can make appointments with a counselor. The community is welcome to utilize services provided by Ambiance Counseling from McCook.

Additionally, Domestic Assault/Sexual Assault Services (DASAS) of McCook also provides programs and appointments for Frontier County residents and NCTA students.

Local high school and homeschooled students are welcome to attend dual credit classes on the NCTA campus. We are working on additional opportunities for students in Frontier County to be a part of dual credit and high school initiatives at NCTA.

We appreciate all who participated in the recent Flu Shot Clinic on campus, and thanks to all who supported Phi Theta Kappa with the Red Cross blood drive. Get your 5-person team together for PTK's "Family Feud" game show fundraiser on Nov. 8. It will be fun!

November Events:

- 6 – District 9 FFA CDE contests on campus
- 7 – District 11 FFA CDE contests on campus
- 7 – Nadine Strossen lecture, livestream, 7 p.m. Ed Center
- 8 – NCTA Career Fair, 9-12, Ed Center
- 8 – PRK "Family Feud" game show, 6 p.m., Ed Center
- 10-11 – Horsemanship and Reining Clinic, LTC Arena
- 12 – NCTA Discovery Day, 8:30 a.m., Ed Center

***NCTA Mission:** The Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture is devoted to a statewide mission of preparing students for successful careers in agriculture, veterinary technology, food and related industries. The college provides open access to innovative technical education resulting in associate degrees, certificates, diplomas and other credentials.*

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