



THE ORD QUIZ

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2019 · VOL. 138 · NO. 45

\$1 SINGLE COPY

Bermejo Inspires At OHS Veterans Day Program

On Mon., Nov. 11, an audience of students and residents gathered inside the Ord High School gymnasium to honor our veterans and witnessed an inspiring story from Sgt. Omar Bermejo.

Omar Bermejo was born Jan. 6, 1982, in Guadalajara, Mexico. He lived a life of poverty with his family, including two sisters. In 1995, amidst an environment of drug violence, corruption, and without a clear future in Mexico, Omar's parents decided to leave everything behind, and migrate to the United States of America.

Five years after migrating to the United States, as a senior in high school, Omar was faced with two life-altering decisions. Omar desired to attend college, however his level of school proficiency, and the inability to afford higher education, left Omar with the following choices; either join the workforce as an immigrant, or join the military. Omar decided to join the United States Marine Corps and shipped out to boot camp two weeks after his high school graduation.

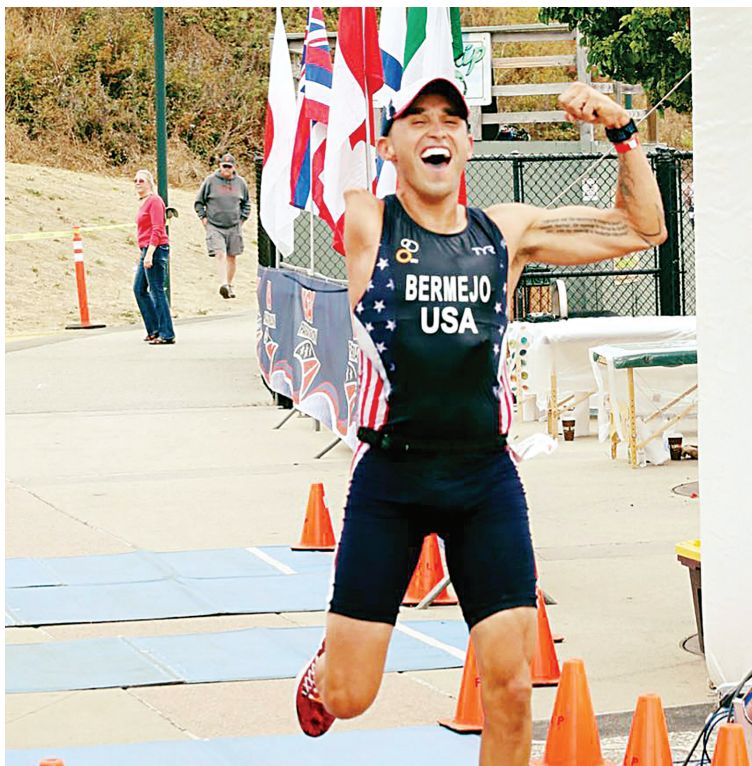
The Marine Corps training was physically and mentally difficult. After three months of grueling training, Omar became a United States Marine. Thankfully, his family was in attendance when he graduated, and the evidence of pride was clearly seen in all of their faces. He still remembers seeing their countenances of pride, and thrives on that to this very day.

In 2001, with a two-year tenure in the Marines, Omar was in the final process of becoming a Naturalized U.S. Citizen. However, the process was muddled when the terrorist attacks of September 11 occurred. Omar and his fellow Marines, regardless of upbringing, culture or nationality, were ready to fight. This was the first time Omar felt patriotism to any country and felt a greater purpose for his life.

After the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, Omar volunteered to be deployed to combat. He was in the initial wave that composed the support of "Operation Enduring Freedom." He volunteered to stay once his first tour ended, for a total of 16 consecutive months "In Country" while in combat operations. Omar was granted his first Navy and Marine Corps achievement medal for his efforts and became a Corporal. He was a leader among the Marines, and also became a Naturalized American Citizen.

In 2008, while riding his motorcycle back to Camp Pendleton, the weekend before Omar was going to attend his first high command military leadership courses, Omar lost control of his bike and crashed against a guard rail leaving him with the inability to use his right arm.

Everything had stopped for



courtesy photo

Omar, all of the training, deployments, and awards. While lying in a hospital bed with his family around him, he did not see glimpses of pride in their faces; he only saw sadness.

Omar spent two years trying to feel better. Finally, one day in early 2011, Omar decided to go for a long walk. Four hours later, he found the more he walked, the better he felt. Walking became an everyday ritual and eventually turned into a run. Omar finally decided to have his arm amputated as the residual unusable right arm was getting in the way of him running faster. In early 2012, while in recovery from the amputation at the Veterans hospital, Omar began communicating with Paralympic Biathlon coaches from the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club. He was then invited to attend a Cross Country ski and biathlon camp in Lake Placid, NY.

Although, this was the first time Omar was ever on skis, the Paralympic Biathlon coaches noticed the natural inclination to the sport, as well as his precise rifle handling. After being offered the chance to take up biathlon, Omar jumped at this new purposeful opportunity, and left everything behind. With only what he could fit in his truck, a pair of used skis and poles, he now claimed his brand-new purpose. He set his sights high, and with this new drive, he desired to become an elite biathlete and compete in the 2014 Sochi Paralympics. He only had two years to accomplish this feat!

In 2013, in his first season of biathlon racing, Omar raced well enough to earn a spot at his first Para-Biathlon World Cup. Omar went on to compete in the World Cup and in the middle-distance biathlon race, Omar "shot clean" and skied fast enough to earn a berth (by 10 seconds) at the 2014

with the fastest and best shooting of all Paralympic biathletes.

After the 2014 Sochi Paralympics, Omar moved to Casper, WY, to be closer to his girlfriend and train full time at the Casper Mountain Biathlon Club. He also became an athlete-coach. Omar went on to compete in the 2015 biathlon season, but due to "frozen lungs" from excessive training, he was forced to retire early.

Since retiring from biathlon, Omar has found tremendous success in the warmer sport of Triathlon. He became the US Paratriathlon National Champion in 2017, and is currently working to earn a spot on the US Paratriathlon team that will compete at the summer Paralympics in the near future as well as to become a top contender in the physically challenged Ironman world championships in Kona, HI.

Omar now lives and trains in Casper, WY with his wife, Lindsey, and his two-year old son, Marcus, loving every day and looking forward to represent the U.S., his heritage and his military upbringing everywhere he goes.

"So, on this 244th Marine Corps birthday and on Veterans Day, go beyond your own expectations and find it within you to not only thank Veterans but to realize that Veterans need your appreciation, and on these days, Veterans look up to the citizens to defend them and honor them, as they have defended and honored them, and will continue to do so, until there is not a breath in our lungs." Sgt. Omar Bermejo.

Sochi Winter Paralympics. His dream was now a reality!

After the 2013 season, Omar moved again to train full time, but this time under the tutelage of coaches from Maine Winter Sports Center in Caribou, ME. Omar was also attending camps hosted by Casper Mountain Biathlon Club, where he met his future wife.

Omar competed at the 2014 Sochi Paralympics, where thousands of people lined the stands to watch the games; however the only spectators that mattered were his family. He recognized that familiar expression of pride again. Omar's best race was the middle-distance Biathlon race where he skied to a top ten finish



Lisa Fischer photo

DURING THE ANNUAL VETERANS DAY PROGRAM, Barb McKenney presented a Quilt of Valor, courtesy of VFW Post 7029, American Legion Post 38 and Auxiliaries, to Sgt. Omar Bermejo, a United States Marine, who was the guest speaker at the event.

Huskie Wall of Fame Nominations Deadline Jan. 1

The deadline for submitting nominations for new members for the Arcadia Huskie Wall of Fame is quickly approaching. Nomination forms must be received in the school office by no later than Jan. 1, 2020 in order to be considered for 2020. There are three categories for which nominations may be made: Alumni, Employee, and Team/Individual. Details and forms may be picked up at the school office or by going to the school website at <https://www.greatschools.org/nebraska/arcadia/arcadia-public-schools/>.

Surely, you know of someone who is worthy of consideration, so please get your form submitted as soon as possible. Late arriving submissions will not be considered until 2021.

Joint Venture Unveils New Sign At Evelyn Sharp Field

By Lisa Fischer

The finishing touches on the new sign promoting one of the youngest and first women in history invited to fly for the Army Air Force in WWII occurred on Veteran's Day.

Evelyn Sharp Field is boldly highlighted thanks to Tina Treffer of Treffer Signs & Designs. The sign, complete with an illustration of the last plane Sharp flew, a P-38 Lightning Pursuit, is found on an airplane hangar at Sharp Field facing Highway 11. It was financed by members of the Valley County Historical Society (VCHS) and Valley County Airport Authority (VCAA) with the intent of being installed the same year Ord's favorite daughter would have turned 100.

"She believed her birthday was Oct. 1, 1919, but official birth records say it was October 20 of that year," said VCHS member, Dorothy Andreesen, before VCAA member, Don Vancura added "This is a way to commemorate the 100th birthday of an extra special former resident."

Even though Evelyn Genevieve Sharp was born in Melstone, MT, she spent a majority of her 24 years, growing up in Ord. Her parents, John and

Mary Sharp, adopted her from a close friend, Elsie Haeske Crouse, before taking her to live with them in Kinsey, MT where they ran a boarding house, pool hall, dance hall and store. When a fire tore through their operation, they moved to Billings, MT where they ran a grocery store before they moved to Hastings. While in a two-story house on West High Street, formerly atop the highest hill in town, the Sharps made ends meet by renting rooms on their second floor to college students and utilizing the front of their home as a grocery store. As a five or six-year-old, she told her dad she wanted to fly an airplane someday, a dream that would become a reality about a decade later.

At about nine-years-old Evelyn's family moved to a ranch near Ericson for about a year before the Sharps moved into their Ord residence, at 1634 M Street in 1930. Soon after, it became a boarding house and cafe. A frequent customer in the early '30s was Jack Jefford, who rented a room about three times a week when he utilized his three planes housed at Ord's airfield. By 1935, Jefford and John Sharp made a deal that if Jack taught Evelyn to fly, his delinquent bills at the boarding house would be



Lisa Fischer photo

MEMBERS OF THE VALLEY COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY AND THE VALLEY COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY (left) Larry Marsh, Kyle Mohler, Dorothy Andreesen, Janet Jones, Rex Kelley and Don Vancura stand under the new Evelyn Sharp Field sign installed in time for Veterans Day 2019.

forgiven.

On Feb. 4, 1935, at age 15, Evelyn started taking flying lessons in a two-person passenger plane called a Flyabout. She also learned how to fly in Jack's Curtiss Robin and Stinson-Detroiter. By March 4,

1936 she flew her first solo flight in a Aeronca C-3 (a.k.a. The Flying Bath tub or The Jeep). By Nov. 1936, Jack officially became her mentor and she set her first goal of being the youngest commercial pilot in the U.S. She was a member of Ord's Aviation

Early Deadlines

The Quiz office will be closed Thurs., Nov. 28 in observance of Thanksgiving. There will be early deadlines for the Nov. 27th edition of *The Ord Quiz*. Ad copy and news content will be due by 5 p.m. on Thurs., Nov. 21. Items received after deadline will be run in the following week's paper.

North Loup Memory Ribbon Christmas Tree

For a donation of at least \$10, a ribbon printed with a name of a loved one or a date or a cherished memory may be purchased and placed on a community Christmas tree in downtown North Loup. Funds raised will be used to update and purchase Main Street holiday display decorations for the Village of North Loup.

Find the Memory Ribbon Christmas Tree donation form, with instructions, on our "Holiday Happenings Page" (page 5) of this edition of *The Ord Quiz*. Forms are also available at various Valley County businesses.

An Old Fashioned Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony with be held in North Loup on Sat., Dec. 7 at 5:30 p.m. You are invited to attend and enjoy the tree lighting, hot cocoa, hot apple cider, caroling, Christmas music and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Food Pantry Closed For Thanksgiving

The Ord Area Food Pantry will be open on Tues., Nov. 26 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. and will be closed on Thanksgiving Day.

Quiz Football Contest Winner

A tie resulted in last week's Football Contest. Tim Rowse and Jenna Breitreutz both correctly guessed 23 of the 29 games that were played on Saturday. (Air Force and New Mexico's game was postponed.)

Jenna, however, correctly predicted LSU to outdo Alabama in the tie breaker, therefore she earned her place in the winner's circle. Congratulations! Your \$50 check is on its way!

Fri., Nov. 15 will be your last chance to enter this year's Football Contest.

Continued on page 4

Joint Venture Unveils New Sign At Evelyn Sharp Field Cont.

The people of Ord were so impressed with her enthusiasm to fly, Dr. Glen Auble convinced local businesses to pool money to purchase a brand new, silver-colored, two-person Taylor Cub Evelyn named "The Ord." Even though she could only afford to keep the plane for a year, she did not give up flying and the people of Ord did not give up on her. They raised money by throwing fundraisers to finance her attendance at a flight school in Lincoln. Afterwards she took and passed a test enabling her to become the only licensed female commercial pilot in Nebraska. A week after passing the test, May 19, 1938, she took part in the 20th anniversary of American airmail, by delivering more than 2,500 pieces of mail and being the only Nebraskan female pilot to fly in the event.

In June of 1940, at age 20, Evelyn became a licensed flight instructor and soon took part in the Civilian Pilot Training Program that took her to Mitchell, SD, Spearfish, SD and Bakersfield, CA. As one of the youngest female flight instructors, she taught many students that later flew for the military. In fact, she was teaching a student to fly, in California, on Dec. 7, 1941 when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor. She was one of 25 invited to join the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron (WAFS) who were tasked with moving planes to one base or place. In August of 1943, the WAFS was transformed into the Women Airforce Service Pilot program that eventually graduated 1,100 women who were stationed on military bases across the country. While stationed in Long Beach, Evelyn was on the last leg of her cross-country flight on April 3, 1944 when she lost her life when the P-38 plane she was transporting crash landed.

In 1948, Ord Airfield was renamed Evelyn Sharp Field. By 1992, her name was added to the Nebraska Aviation Hall of Fame. In 2010, her name was added again as part of the 19 Nebraska WASP WWII members. By 2010, at Lincoln's Antelope Park, her name was highlighted on a

memorial commemorating the WAFS/WASP pilots. A Congressional Gold Medal was also provided in her name, and the name of the other WASPs that same year.

In 1987, Dave Williams began managing the 4700x75-foot concrete runway at Sharp Field. The new building was constructed in 2014 after utilizing a WWII barracks building as an airport hangar for a number of years. The former and current main buildings also set aside an open air exhibit highlighting the airport's namesake, Evelyn Sharp. During the past 71 years the airport has seen its share of upgrades.

"Sharp Field has one of the longest runways in the area," Williams said.

The lighting on the runway is controlled by pilots in the air. While approaching the airfield, pilots use NDB and GPS instrument approaches that enable them to land during any type of weather. Poppy lights, small/blinking lights, illuminate the side of the runway to let pilots know if they were too high or low. The airfield is utilized by hospitals for Life Flight planes and helicopters, by doctors flying into work at Valley County Health Systems, by producers attending cattle sales and for cross country travel.

"We house 13 airplanes here and teach three student pilots," Williams noted.

The National Weather Service also has an AWOS monitoring service on-site that enables pilots to see what the weather is like in Ord to ensure a safe take-off and landing. In fact, if clouds are below 900-feet, the instruments on-site enable pilots to use an instrument approach. By 2018, the FAA installed a Data Communication Center in Ord that is designed to track planes across the U.S. and in 2019, a cement driveway, financed by a FAA Entitlement Fund, was installed to replace the gravel driveway.

"People are usually surprised when they find out how active Evelyn Sharp Airfield is," William added.

Elaine Asper

© 402-990-2692



Notes from North Loup

northloupnews@gmail.com

I hope everyone took time on Veterans Day to thank a veteran for their service. Without our veterans we wouldn't have one of the greatest gifts in life - freedom. To all who served, both in war and peace, to those who came back changed and to those who didn't return, we honor you. We remember your sacrifices. We cherish your memory. Your nation is grateful. Thank you veterans.

The Lord's Acre Turkey Supper, sponsored by North Loup's Seventh Day Baptist Church, was described as phenomenal. Everyone who attended was greeted by a wonderful collage of pictures of North Loup (NL) citizens along with a heart-warming message that read, "2019 was a difficult year for North Loup, but with God's help our people came through! We'd like to say how much we care about you. To show our love, we hope you will accept this gift of a simple meal. NO free-will offering will be taken tonight. Enjoy the food and fellowship!" On stage was a fantastic home Thanksgiving setting, complete with a dining room table, beautiful table settings and a turkey ready to be carved. The evening reminded everyone there is always something to be thankful for.

Joe and Phyllis Hanson spent Saturday in North Platte celebrating their granddaughter, Holly's, birthday. Watching Holly blow out four candles and make wishes along with her grandparents were parents, Brandon and Karla, and her brothers, Blake and Boden.

North Loup's Memory Tree last year was so admired that by popular request it will grace Main Street again this year. There will be a North Loup Pride get together Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Curtis Christensen home. Please plan to attend. Janet Cox started this wonderful Old Fashioned Christmas tradition with her Memory Tree fundraiser last year, resulting in the awesome signage at the Hillside Cemetery. The Memory Tree ribbons will once again be hung with a requested donation of \$10 per ribbon. Memories can be for loved ones who no longer share Christmas with us, people you want to honor, like a favorite teacher or veteran for example, pets, a memorable event like a 50th anniversary or anything you want to acknowledge as a memory. Some of the planners to date are Laurie Christensen, Janet Cox, Kate Wolf, Deb A. Cadek, Justina

Birkel, Kathy Studnicka and Elaine Asper. Everyone is welcome to join in. It would be great to get the kids involved. Order forms are at the NL Whoa & Go, Cornerstone Bank, NL Library, NL Co-op, Friskie Moose, L&D Insurance, Main Street Gallery and Scotia State Bank. Forms will also be in *The Ord Quiz* and *The Greeley Citizen* for you to cutout, complete and mail to Laurie Christensen, 803 W. 3rd St., North Loup, NE 68859. Get your ribbon information turned in as soon as possible as Janet has graciously agreed to be in charge of making the ribbons again. The funds raised will go towards updating and repairing Christmas decorations for Main Street which need some attention after many years of use and possibly adding to the collection. The lighting of the tree will be Dec. 7 at 5:30 p.m. with Santa, hot cocoa, and Christmas carols. There are some tentative plans to have a wreath-making workshop the afternoon of the 7th with hopes of having wreaths lining the doors on Main Street. Wreath updates will continue as plans evolve. With the barrels taking on their winter personalities, wreaths on many doors, and the Memory Tree shining bright, our little village will make this a memorable Christmas that will be hard to forget. Let's make this North Loup Old Fashioned Christmas happen. Get involved. It will be fun for young and old. North Loup pride - keep it alive.

North Loup Lions met Thursday with Jim Craft filling in for President Curt Christensen. Larry Whiting did a great job as tail twister. For those unfamiliar with the duties of the tail twister, he is an officer and the 'pep master' of his Lions Club. His duties are to instill enthusiasm, good fellowship and to keep harmony amongst the pride. He is empowered to collect fines from the members. There shall be no appeal from his decision in imposing a fine, and he may not be fined except by the unanimous vote of the members present. Special guests at the meeting were District 3-I Governor Wayne Hinnerman and Larry White's hunters from out-of-state. The auxiliary served a delicious turkey dinner to 28 hungry Lions. The Lions voted to purchase a Lions Club Shield for the peak of the picnic shelter at Alumni Park. They continue to encourage everyone to drop off used eyeglasses at the Cornerstone Bank, Jim Craft or any member. These glasses will be recycled as prescriptions are matched to people in need. Make Christmas Happen will receive a \$250 donation from the wonderful caring Lions. The annual Lions Christmas Party Skate will be held Dec. 21 and the Lions will get together on the 20th to help Santa sack candy and judge Christmas lights in and around North Loup. The Lions will donate \$100 to the Memory Ribbon Tree fundraiser this year. North Loup Lions are always ready whenever, and however, their community needs them. They work hard to provide these events and services to all. Thank you Lions.

Curtis Christensen, a.k.a. Santa, is recuperating from his total hip replacement. Curtis is grateful for all the phone calls, messages, and prayers for healing. Visitors this week were his brother, Robert, and wife Alice from Pierre, SD, son, TC of North Loup, Dennis and Cathy

Danielson, of Scotia, and a sister-in-law from Wasilla, AK, Charlene Christensen. They've enjoyed being blessed with their houseful off-and-on all week, along with the phone calls from other sons in Omaha, Lincoln, Norfolk and Broken Bow. Laurie said everyone has been wonderful. Well wishes for continued healing.

Congratulations to Central Valley's FFA team qualifying for livestock judging at the state convention. They will compete at University of Nebraska-Lincoln in April. Twenty-five CVFFA members went against 350 students from 16 different schools in our district to qualify. The beef industry is Nebraska's single largest industry, driving much of the state's economy. Central Valley's FFA just didn't 'meet' expectations - they exceeded them. Good luck in April. "Steak" your claim and bring home a win.

Heartland Youth Ranch (HYR) will hold their annual fall barbecue and awards event Fri., Nov. 15. Activities for the children begin at 4 p.m. and barbecue at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to come and share in the celebration of how God has blessed the ministry of HYR this year. HYR will announce some of their future plans during the program. Susan and her granddaughter, Abby, took advantage of the 70 degree weather on Saturday to clean and wash the saddle pads so they will be ready for next season. Chores on the ranch are never ending and Sue was grateful for Abby's great help.

Speech and drama seasons are underway. These students put a lot of energy and practice time into their presentations. Just like sports, fine art is something that the more you see the more you want to see. Loup City Parade of Plays had 14 schools participating and Ord High placed third. Students from North Loup receiving acting recognition were: Halle Jacobs, Abby Jacobs and Reilly Peetz, who received best overall supporting actress award. "The Last Illusion" was fun to watch. Congratulations to all the cast. Fine art is that in which the hand, the head and the heart come together.

Valley County Artissimo's Club welcomed Kathy Foster of Greeley as a new member. She impressed the club with several of her awesome photography pieces. There is so much talent in the club that I sometimes wonder how they allow me to be a member. But as Picasso said, "Art washes away from the soul the dust of everyday life." The meetings are always uplifting and refreshing.

The full moon in Nov. 12 and is called the Beaver Moon, named after beavers who build their winter dams at this time of year. It is also called the Frost Moon and Mourning Moon. Fur trappers welcomed the additional brightness of the full moon and found it helpful while hunting beavers.

Reminders: Nov. 15, 6-8 p.m., soup supper at Cedar Hills Church in Scotia; Nov. 16, Girl's Night Out at Central Valley in Scotia. Plan to start your Christmas shopping; Nov. 18, NL Community Dinner hosted by BPW Club; and Nov. 19, BPW Pinochle, 7 p.m. at No Lo Villa. Also, don't forget to purchase your "Music Through the Years" tickets.

Until next week - stay awesome!

CRANE RIVER THEATER presents

Elf
The Musical

Merryman Performing Arts Center
Kearney, Nebraska

Dec. 19-21
at 7 pm
Dec. 21 & 22
at 2 pm

Order your tickets today!
CraneRiverTheater.org
or call 308.627.5796

"K-LAWN DEALERS EARN UP TO \$50,000 IN SUPPLEMENTAL INCOME EACH SUMMER."

At K-Lawn, we're looking to add a few quality dealers to our network that covers 10 Midwestern states. K-Lawn is a part-time business opportunity providing lawn fertilization and weed and insect control. If you feel you have what it takes, and are interested in owning your own business, call us today at 800-445-9116, or visit us online www.k-lawn.com/np to learn more.

Call today **800-445-9116**

Kugler Company
PO Box 1748
McCook, Nebraska 69001
www.k-lawn.com/np

K-Lawn Dealers earn the extra income that makes a great family life possible.

Watercolor Class

at CCC
Ord Learning Center
Paula Warner, instructor

2 THURSDAYS // DECEMBER 5 & 12
\$25 - 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

MATERIALS NEEDED FOR
Watercolor paper block - 8x10 or 9x12 - (A block is glued on all sides, this prevents warping. If non glued, bring masking tape and a board on which to stretch the paper)
Watercolor paint - pan or tube - (alizarin crimson, cadmium red, burnt sienna, lemon or hansa yellow, thalo green, ultramarine blue, Payne's gray, violet)
Water container
Brushes - examples - Utrecht - round size 4, 8 - flat 1/2 inch
Viva paper towels
Pencil

EXPERIENCE THE JOY AND BEAUTY OF WATERCOLOR PAINTING. CREATE FLOWING, VIBRANT COLOR MIXTURES. YOU WILL DISCOVER BASIC WATERCOLOR TECHNIQUES AND THEN COMPLETE A STILL LIFE PAINTINGS WORTHY OF FRAMING.

Central COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Essential Oils Class

at CCC Ord Learning Center
Brittany Augustyn, instructor

EXPERIENCE THE WONDERS OF ESSENTIAL OILS. THE CLASS WILL BE COVERING TOPICS ON WINTER WELLNESS, AND HOW TO KEEP YOU AND YOUR FAMILY HEALTHY THIS WINTER.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 - \$15 - 7:00 - 8:00 P.M.

To secure a spot contact us
(308) 728-3299
janetteppenbach@cccneb.edu
1514 K. Street · Ord, NE
CCC is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution

Cathy's Computer Services

Cathy Bruha
A+ Certified Technician

ordrepair@gmail.com
(308) 728-7216

Call, Text or Email for an appointment

New Patient Special

\$50 Off New Patient Exam

*Some Exclusions Apply. Must present coupon at time of appointment. Expires 12/31/19.

LOUP VALLEY DENTAL

DR. ARIELLE BRINKMAN, D.D.S.
1730 M STREET, ORD, NE • 308-728-5672