## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Contact Lisa Burke, Executive Director Visit North Platte 101 Halligan Drive, North Platte, NE 69101 (308) 532-4729 <u>Iburke@visitnorthplatte.com</u>

## Lincoln County Stops for the Nebraska Passport

(North Platte, Nebraska, March 5, 2024) – Now in its 15<sup>th</sup> year, the Nebraska Passport Program continues to be a popular way to invite visitors to explore Nebraska's unique tourist destinations. 70 places have been chosen as Passport stops throughout the state after going through an application process. This year, two of the stops are in Lincoln County. Being a Passport stop will benefit, not only the selected business, but the entire community as the visitors come for the Passport Program and stay to experience the entire community.

The first Lincoln County stop is CR Rustic Antique Mall. CR Rustic is located in the Historical Canteen District and opened in August of 2020. At CR Rustic, they have a large range of products including antiques, refurbished goods, candles, paint, crafts, fresh flowers, and boutique items. With over 20 vendors, there is a great selection of custom-made products. CR Rustic is open Tuesday-Friday from 10:30am-6:00pm and on Saturdays from 11:30am-6:00pm. They are located at 108 E 5th St, North Platte.

The second stop in our area is Feather River Vineyard. Located in the hills of the Southern Platte Valley, just south of North Platte, Feather River has been offering a variety of wines that reflect the character and history of the area's geologic heritage since 2007. River and windblown sediment have created the mineral-rich soil of the region that nurtures vines that produce grapes of a distinctive quality. Feather River is one of Nebraska's largest vineyards and planted their first vines in 2001. The 37-acre vineyard includes a bevy of grape varieties including Edelwiess, Seyval, Reisling, LaCrosse, St Pipen, Marechal Foch, Frontanec, St. Croix, and Marguette. Feather River Vineyard will be open daily during the Passport program from 1:00pm-6:00pm, and until 8:00pm on Fridays. They are located at 5700 SE State Farm Rd, North Platte.

The 2023 Nebraska Passport had 1,014 participants visit all 70 stops. In 2019, the Passport program generated \$23.7 million in traveler spending. The 2024 Nebraska Passport program will run from May 1st through September 30th, 2024. At each Passport stop participants visit they will receive a stamp, either in a Nebraska Passport booklet or a digital stamp on the Nebraska Passport app. Participants then turn in their stamps and receive prizes. 2024 Nebraska Passport booklets are available for pre-order at <u>NebraskaPassport.com</u> or you can download the app starting May 1, 2024, by searching for "Nebraska Passport 2024" in your app store for both iPhones and Androids. They will also be available at the Visit North Platte office at 101 Halligan Dr starting May 1, 2024.