

# North Central's News

*Delivering a difference to parts of Knox, Antelope, Pierce, and Holt Counties Since 1945*



*Thoughts and Comments from General Manager Keith E. Harvey*



## Cleaning Up My 2018 Desktop Flotsam and Jetsam

Welcome to the last edition of the North Central PPD newsletter for 2018. In this article, I would like to share some information from articles that I have read and put aside for some later use such as this. Then I would like to discuss some of the projects going on and planned by the District and other changes coming that will affect you as customers.

The first thing I would like to share comes from the February 13, 2018 Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry's "NEWS UPDATE" that discusses the top private industries in Nebraska in 2016 based on contributions to the State's GDP (Gross Domestic Product). They are as follows:

1. Manufacturing at \$13.21 billion
2. Finance & Insurance at \$11.35 billion
3. Real Estate at \$11.28 billion
4. Professional & Business Services at \$10.82 billion
5. Transportation and Warehousing at \$9.04 billion

6. Health Care & Social Assistance at \$8.57 billion
  7. Wholesale Trade at \$6.43 billion
  8. Retail Trade at \$6.43 billion
  9. Agriculture at \$6.37 billion
  10. Construction at \$4.22 billion
- (Source: Nebraska Dept. of Economic Development, 2017)

I have three other pieces of information from the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry's "NEWS UPDATE" with the first one coming

from the October 19, 2018 edition. This particular article shows where the state sales tax exemptions are and the dollar amount of each category. It should be noted that Nebraska collects approximately \$4.4 billion a year for the General Fund with 95% of that being from state income tax and state sales tax. In order to make the state more competitive and to offset some of the high income and property taxes, the Nebraska Legislature

*continued to page 2*

## North Central PPD's Office will be closed for the Christmas and New Year's Holidays December 24-25, 2018 and January 1, 2019

Payments can be placed in the payment drop box at the District's office or paid online.

## Cleaning up....

*continued from page 1*

has authorized numerous sales-tax exemptions. Here they are by category and the amount of sales tax legally avoided by the exemption:

1. More than \$1.7 billion in sales tax exemptions for agriculture (including energy and repair parts)
2. Approximately \$1.7 billion in general business exemptions (including component/ingredient parts)
3. About \$470 million in exemptions for services purchased for non-business use
4. About \$380 million in exemptions for non-profits, governments, and other exempt entities
5. Nearly \$240 million in exemptions in consumer goods (including medicine and medical equipment)
6. Approximately \$200 million in exemptions for food

I would like to note that while power districts are a subdivision of the State of Nebraska, they all pay state and local sales tax on everything that they purchase. Another interesting thing I noticed is that the exemptions above total \$4.69 billion, which is more than the \$4.4 billion collected as revenue annually from both sales tax and state income tax.  
(Source: Nebraska Department of Revenue)

The second article from the State Chamber was printed on October 9, 2018 and was showing the state income taxes for a single filer with an annual income of \$100,000 and comparing the taxes for each of the states in the Big Ten Conference. Here they are from lowest percentage to highest:

	<u>Amount Owed</u>	<u>Effective Rate</u>	
1. Ohio*	\$2,962	2.96%	
2. Pennsylvania*	\$3,070	3.07%	
3. Indiana*	\$3,198	3.20%	
4. Michigan*	\$4,080	4.08%	*Local income tax allowed
5. New Jersey	\$4,180	4.18%	
6. Maryland*	\$4,451	4.45%	
7. Iowa*+	\$4,669	4.67%	+Deduction of federal taxes paid allowed
8. Illinois	\$4,842	4.84%	
9. Nebraska	\$5,564	5.56%	
10. Wisconsin	\$5,912	5.91%	
11. Minnesota	\$5,943	5.94%	

I do not know how this translates into wins and losses, but I think it does show an interesting comparison.

The last article that I wish to share with you was from the State Chamber "NEWS UPDATE" of October 12, 2018 and caught my eye because the data was interesting to me. The article is showing how parents today are sacrificing their retirements to pay the expenses of their adult children (defined as being from 18-34 years old). In the U.S., it is estimated that this amount totals about \$500 billion annually – about twice what the parents are contributing to their own retirement accounts. Here are the findings as reported:

- 60% of parents are paying for their adult child's food and groceries
- 54% are paying for their adult child's phone expenses
- 47% are paying for their adult child's car expenses
- 44% are paying for their adult child's school expenses
- 44% are paying for their adult child's vacations
- 36% are paying for their adult child's rent and/or mortgage
- 27% are helping to pay their adult child's student loans
- 25% are helping fund an adult child's first home purchase

Looking at the ages being considered as adult children, I can begin to understand these numbers. In any event, in this great nation a person should be able to do with their money as they see fit. And family really does matter.

Currently, North Central is in the process of building approximately 7.5 miles of 69,000 volt sub-transmission line along Highway 13 from about four miles south of Creighton to our Brunswick rural substation southeast of Brunswick. There will be approximately four miles of three phase, 12,470 volt under built line to supply services along the route. This is to upgrade the line which currently is located on the half-mile line to the west of the new line with larger conductor and to locate it near a highway for maintenance accessibility. At this time, the smaller line is a "bottleneck" in our sub-transmission system and creates operational issues within this system. Also, the 115,000 volt NPPD substation located south and west of Creighton is scheduled by NPPD to have a larger transformer installed to increase capacity and system reliability for North Central and surrounding areas. Unless this new sub-transmission line was built, the substation could not be upgraded due to the current lines being too small to move the increased power output. The scope of this project

*continued to page 3*

## Cleaning up....

*continued from page 2*

also includes the removal of the old line when the new line is in service. The overall cost of this project is expected to be near \$1,250,000. A second major project that is being built at this time is a new distribution substation southeast of Page, Nebraska, and 10 miles of three phase distribution lines. The distribution lines are built with approximately five miles going east of the substation to tie into the rural Page substation, and five miles going west to tie into the Kennedy substation. This will be fed by a 34,500 volt sub-transmission line, but will have a dual voltage transformer that can be connected to 69,000 volts if an upgrade is ever required. The substation was contracted and should be completed for around \$1,100,000 and be energized sometime in the spring of 2019. The 10 miles of distribution line should cost about \$625,000 for a total cost of \$1,725,000. This substation was built in order to tie two of our main irrigation substations to it and to provide three phase power to under-

served customers in the southwestern part of our service territory. The combined cost of these two projects is close to \$3 million and none of it is borrowed money. The funds for these very critical projects were saved over several years to be able to avoid borrowing money while being able to return significant value to the customers of this district.

Another major undertaking that is currently underway is the addition of the City of Plainview to the North Central family of leased electric systems. With approximately 850 meters, Plainview will make our system total about 6,600 meters and will spread costs over a larger customer base which will be beneficial to North Central's existing customers and to Plainview's customers that are becoming part of North Central's customer base. The load profile of a city like Plainview, that has relatively predictable electric usage throughout the seasons of the year, will help North Central by increasing our winter load. Our distribution system is built to operate at levels of 70 megawatts or more during the summer season with irrigation and air-

conditioning loads. North Central's winter loads are much lower and Plainview will help increase the use of our infrastructure with its steady load characteristics. We welcome all of Plainview's customers into North Central's system and will strive to make their experience a good one for years to come.

We here at North Central want to wish all of you a joyous holiday season that is both safe and rewarding. May you have a chance to reflect on the past year and find hope and happiness in the upcoming year. North Central will continue to strive to keep your electricity at your command and your rates as affordable as is fiscally possible while maintaining your electric system. Reliability is our most important goal and when you have forgotten about us in your holiday festivities, then we are doing our jobs well. Take care and enjoy the season.

Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry's "NEWS UPDATE", February 13, October 9, and October 12, 2018.

Nebraska Department of Economic Development, 2017.

Nebraska Department of Revenue.

# Welcome

As of December 1, 2018, the residents of Plainview will be joining the North Central PPD family and we are happy to welcome them. As we implement the systems and policies necessary to bring everyone online, we hope that you will be patient with the changes you will experience.

## Plainview Residents!

We will be billing Plainview for the first time on December 28th. Because of the weekend and the holiday on the 1st of January, all customers should expect to see the bills in the mail around the end of the first week in January. If you have not received a bill by January 8th, please give the office a call.

Your first bill will be due on the 15th of January. If you anticipate having problems meeting the Janu-

ary 15th deadline, please call our office to make arrangements. We are always willing to work with our customers when you have difficulties paying your bill in a timely manner. Communication is key.

To reach our office, you may call **800-578-1060** or for outages **888-358-5112**.

Again, North Central PPD would like to welcome our new Plainview customers!



## North Central PPD hosts the Nebraska Forestry Service

North Central Public Power District (NCPD) hosted the Nebraska Forestry Service (NFS) on October 4, 2018. The instructors from the NFS were Graham Herbst and Rob Dein. This is the second time NCPD has hosted the Nebraska Forestry Service. Continuing education for NCPD employees is a top priority for the Operations Department. Rob Dein has been all over the country training employees on safety, tree trimming and felling techniques. Rob also covered hazard recognition, limbing a felled tree and many rigging methods. NCPD Operations Department takes great pride in communicating with customers on trees that need to be trimmed or removed from power lines. We will be focusing on the City of Plainview this winter and look forward to visiting with the customers in this community.



# WE ARE PUBLIC POWER

North Central Public Power District  
customers can always  
depend on the District's  
hard-working, dedicated  
and efficient linemen.



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*Delivering a difference to parts of Knox, Antelope, Pierce, and Holt Counties Since 1945*

# The 12 Days of Christmas Safety!



Linda Sokol,  
Energy Advisor



- Clean your chimney. Dirty chimneys can cause chimney fires.
- Make sure your outdoor lights are meant for outdoor use.
- Use safe ladder practices when hanging lights.
- Turn off the electricity to the supply outlet before working on outdoor wiring.
- Turn off all indoor and outdoor lights before you go to bed.
- Place candles on steady, non-flammable surfaces and away from curtains and other flammable items. Keep them out of reach of children and pets. Blow candles out when you leave the room.
- Always have a working fire extinguisher in the house and keep it easily accessible.
- With so much holiday cheer, don't get distracted while cooking food and leave the stove unattended.
- Keep trees away from heat sources like radiators and fireplaces. Do not overload electrical circuits or extension cords.
- Always turn Christmas lights out before leaving home or going to sleep.
- Keep sidewalks & steps shoveled and de-iced to prevent slips and falls.

Santa's Tip: Don't drink and drive. Santa would call a cab.

According to the NFPA, U.S. fire departments respond to an average of 230 home fires that start with Christmas trees each year. Electrical failures or malfunctions are a factor in 1/3 of all Christmas tree fires. A little safety can go a long way for keeping the HAPPY in your HOLIDAYS!



Be sure to visit the  
NCPD booth at the  
Verdigré Farm & Home Show  
Jan. 19, 2019

*From our homes to yours...*

## Cheddar Bacon Chicken Tenders

### Ingredients

- 1 egg
- ½ cup plain panko crispy bread crumbs
- ½ cup finely shredded Cheddar cheese (2 oz)
- 1 package or jar (3 oz) cooked real bacon bits or pieces
- 1 package (14 oz) uncooked chicken tenders (not breaded)
- Chive and onion sour cream potato topper, if desired

### Directions

Heat oven to 400°F. Spray large cookie sheet with cooking spray. In shallow bowl, beat egg. In large resealable food-storage plastic bag, place bread crumbs, cheese and bacon. Dip chicken into egg. Place in bread crumb bag; seal and shake to coat. Place chicken on cookie sheet. Bake 15 to 20 minutes, turning once, until chicken is no longer pink in center and bread crumbs are golden brown. Serve with topper.







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1409 Main St • PO Box 90 • Creighton, NE 68729-0090  
www.ncppd.com • E-Mail: ncentral@ncppd.net  
Customer Service: 402-358-5112 or 800-578-1060  
**Reporting Power Outage: 888-358-5112**

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE

**PAID**  
NORFOLK, NE  
Permit No. 125



**FOR SALE:** 3 point hydraulic log splitter, heavy duty, 26 inch stroke. \$300 OBO. Call 402-360-1227.

**FOR SALE:** 3 irrigation motors: one 6BTA ReCon, 3800 hrs.; two 6BT motors; one 2000 gal. fuel tank, two 1000 fuel tanks; 3 Amarillo gear heads. Call 402-340-5253.

**WANTED:** Wanting to buy a good, used refrigerator. Call 402-360-1623.

**FOR SALE:** Four 10-20 tires and rims. \$40 each or \$120 for all 4. Also, four 12 SL-16 tires and rims. \$30 each or \$100 for all 4. Call 402-358-0113.

**FOR SALE:** 1974 HCl dual hyd, dual PTO, good tires, new batteries, good condition. Overhauled in 2004. Have owned for over 30 years. Quick Tach 235 Farmhand loader. \$8800. Call 402-288-4236, leave message if no answer.

**FOR SALE:** Wine colored Lazy Boy rocker/recliner. Very good condition. Asking \$100. Call 402-358-3619.

**FOR SALE:** 2001 Ford F150 Crew Cab, 4 wheel drive, 170,000(+) miles, some rust, well maintained. Newer ATM tires. Ready for winter. Call 402-640-0504.

**FOR SALE:** Paying top dollar for scrap metal. Any kind of metal, farm equipment, vehicles, etc. Please call 402-841-2242.

**FOR SALE:** John Deere B tractor. Very nice condition. Needs a little work. Very straight tin work. \$1000. Please call 402-841-2242.

**FOR SALE:** Allis WD tractor. Very nice antique. Has steel wheels. \$1000. Please call 402-841-2242.

**FOR SALE:** 3 Point Blade. Very nice condition. Hardly used. \$500. Please call 402-841-2242.

Do you have something to sell or are you looking for something in particular? You may call, send or email (bargain.barn@ncppd.net) your description of what's for sale or what you are looking for to our office. The ad will run in the Bargain

Barn section free for one month. Please include name and telephone number. No commercial ads will be accepted, personal items only.

**North Central PPD  
will be hosting  
Santa's Workshop  
at SantaLand  
in Creighton  
Dec. 23, 2018  
6 p.m. - 9 p.m.**

