



North Central's News

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



General Manager Doyle Hazen

Cyber Security

In looking at the news lately, there are many stories with examples of cyber ransom and cyber security breaches. North Central Public Power District (NCPD) takes these threats very seriously. Our personnel, especially our IT staff, have been on a constant watch for cyber threats, detecting and responding to each new threat. Updates and patches are constantly

executed to maintain security. Although all of these things are taking place, there is never 100% protection in security and procedures to mitigate risk. The integrity of NCPD's cyber security infrastructure is continually reviewed and tested, both internally and with third parties.

In response to the risks described, there have been some updates to the NCPD customer payment portal interface. As in the past, NCPD utilizes offsite servers to provide a

secure connection for customers to make payments. Please take a look at the new interface as described in "NCPD Launching New Online Payment Portal" in this edition of the newsletter.

You have put your trust in the integrity of the District and we take that trust to heart. NCPD is committed to providing you with the best customer service and the best value in your dollars spent. Keep safe.

NCPD Launching New Online Payment Portal

In late August 2021, North Central Public Power District (NCPD) will deploy a new version of its online payment portal. The new portal is being implemented to allow the site host content manager to better address cyber security concerns, now and into the future. Along with being more secure, the new site offers easier navigation, conforms to more electronic device platforms, allows for easier setup of billing alerts, and shows recent account activity.

IMPORTANT LOGIN INFORMATION

You may use the same username and password as long as your user name is alphanumeric. **Your username must contain a combination of letters and numbers. It may also contain special characters such as !, @, #, etc., but that's not required.** If your current username is only letters or only numbers, use your full member sep # (ex. 999999-001) for your username the first time you log in. Once you log in, click on your name and "My Profile" to change your username.

As always, if you are having issues or concerns while signing in or navigating the new payment portal, please call our office and we will be happy to assist you.



Annual Pole Testing to Begin

Global Utility Services will be performing distribution line pole tests starting in August. They will be testing poles in the villages of Center, Santee and Verdigre.

You will see the Global Utility Services pick-ups and ATVs along the roads. Please be aware of these workers and drive carefully.

Most utility poles are made of wood and their constant exposure to the environment takes a toll. Wind, moisture, and soil conditions all can distress or decay wood. Regular pole inspection and treatment helps to spot and take care of any problems before they become critical situations.

Global Utility Services is a professional firm out of Columbus, NE, that is an expert in pole evaluations. Employees from Global Utility Services will be identifiable by company logos, equipment, shirts and hard hats and will carry identification. For more information, stop in or call the Operations Department at NCPPD at 800-578-1060.



Hazen Awarded Peter E. Thomassen Scholarship

Thad Hazen has been selected by the Board of Directors of North Central Public Power District (NCPPD) to receive the Peter E. Thomassen Scholarship. Thad will receive \$500 per semester towards his academic tuition at Northeast Community College (NECC) in Norfolk, NE. He is the son of Doyle and LaDonna Hazen of rural Verdigre.

The Peter E. Thomassen Scholarship was established in 1990 in honor of the late Peter E. Thomassen for his dedicated years of service to NCPPD. Thomassen was NCPPD's first General Manager serving in this position for 36 years before retiring.

NCPPD has awarded this scholarship for over two decades to recipients who have selected the electric utility industry for their career. Ten of the recipients of this scholarship who have completed the utility line program are or have been employed at NCPPD. To be eligible to be considered for this scholarship, students must be enrolled in the Utility Line Program at NECC and must be a customer or a dependent of a customer of North Central Public Power District. North Central encourages individuals who are looking for a rewarding career, enjoy working outdoors, are safety conscious and who like a challenge to consider a career in the electric utility industry.



Thad Hazen

New Employees at North Central PPD

Tristan Sawyer-Kociemba

Apprentice Lineman



Tristan Sawyer-Kociemba - son of Ty Sawyer. Tristan graduated from Broken Bow High School and Mitchell Technical College with an Associates of Applied Science in Utility Technologies. He enjoys hunting, fishing, football, wrestling, boating and camping. He started working for NCPPD in May 2021.

Coltin Bauer

Intern



Coltin Bauer - son of Josh and Shauna Gossman, comes from Pierce, NE. He graduated from Pierce High School and will be starting his second year of the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College. His hobbies include boating, hunting, and working on the farm. Coltin plans to work in the utility line field after graduation.

Lukas Dougherty

Intern



Lukas Dougherty - son of Tina Dougherty and Andy Dougherty, comes from O'Neill, NE. He graduated from O'Neill High School and will be starting his second year of the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College. He enjoys hunting, fishing and being outside. Lukas plans to work in the utility line field after graduation.

Congratulations to Jayce Ellenwood Completes Merchant Job Training and Safety Program



Jayce Ellenwood, an employee of North Central Public Power District (NCPD), has successfully completed one of the world's most comprehensive training programs for power line personnel. The Merchant Job Training and Safety Program (MJTS) is administered to line personnel in 40 states throughout the United States. Jayce and the support staff with NCPD can be proud of their accomplishment. Each utility has an acting Training Coordinator assisting their Trainees by administering "closed book" testing. The coordinators manage their own people throughout the training process from rules set by the MJTS and the statewide association. Jayce joined NCPD as an apprentice lineman in 2019 and is currently a

journeyman lineman. Congratulations to Jayce Ellenwood, who can look forward to a very rewarding occupation.



(above) Brad Strobe and his family participated in the Verdigre parade during the Kolach Days celebration.

(right) Tristan Sawyer-Kociemba drove a NCPD truck in the Creighton parade during BerryPepper Days.



From our homes to yours . . . Red, White, and Blueberry Chex™ Bars

Ingredients

¼ cup unsalted butter
1 bag miniature marshmallows
6 cups Corn Chex™ cereal
1 cup mixed freeze-dried berries (strawberries, raspberries, blueberries), plus additional for topping
⅓ cup plus 2 tbsp white vanilla baking chips
1 tbsp coconut oil

Directions

Spray 8-inch square pan with cooking spray; line with cooking parchment paper, leaving an overhang of paper on two sides. In 4-quart saucepan, heat butter and marshmallows over medium heat, stirring frequently, until melted and smooth. Remove from heat; add cereal and freeze-dried berries, and stir to combine. Fold in 1/3 cup of the chips. They may melt a little, but that's okay. Press mixture evenly into pan. Sprinkle with additional berries. In small microwavable bowl, mix 2 tablespoons chips with the coconut oil; microwave uncovered on high in 30-second bursts until melted and smooth when stirred. Drizzle over top of bars. Let stand until firm before cutting, about 50 minutes. Cut into 4 rows by 3 rows.





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Customer Service: 402-358-5112 or 800-578-1060
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FOR SALE: Cummins 6 BTA reconditioned power unit 3810 hrs. Call 402-340-5253.

FOR SALE: 17 ft Canoe Coleman. \$295 or BO. Call 402-371-2060 and leave message.

FOR SALE: Creosote post. Call 402-371-2060 and leave message.

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.

Upcoming County Fairs

Pierce County Fair
-Pierce

July 28-Aug 1

Holt County Fair
-Chambers

Aug 9-14

Antelope County Fair
-Neligh

Aug 4-8

Knox County Fair
-Bloomfield

Aug 12-15

Energy Incentives Available!



Energy incentives given for electric lawn mowers

for more information

Contact Energy Advisor Linda Sokol
at 1-800-578-1060.