



# North Central's News

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



General Manager Doyle Hazen

## Employment Opportunities Await

Over the past few years, there

has been a shortage of employees throughout the business world. Whether it is your local café looking for people to wait tables or engineering firms looking for engineers, it has been a constant battle for companies looking for employees. Meeting the employment needs of the energy industry is tough, but some of the issue is matching the demand with the supply.

The seniors in high school have been looking to find their path and it is a daunting decision. What will I do for the rest of my life? What is a good path for me to follow? They have guidance from friends and family to start, but it generally is a narrow exposure of what is actually available.

Recently, North Central Public Power District (NCPD) has made an effort to expose area high schoolers to the opportunities that are available in the electric utility business. Although NCPD does not currently have positions available, we want kids to be aware of the opportunities available to them in the electric utility industry. NCPD Operations Manager Todd Zimmerer has been engaging schools and providing pre-

sentations for their students. As the industry's workers retire, there are many positions available.

With a quick check into Zip Recruiter.com, it shows over 18 jobs for Journeymen Linemen in Nebraska. Nationally, the average Journeyman Lineman earns \$79,979. By pursuing a two-year associates degree and building upon that degree later in their career, those same linemen have opportunities to move up into the management of electric power utilities. Generally, over half of the upper management in this industry started their career as a lineman.

This year, NCPD was unable to award the Peter E. Thomassen annual scholarship for youth wanting to pursue a degree to become a utility lineman. There were no qualified applicants. An applicant merely needs to reside within NCPD's service area and be enrolled in a utility line program to qualify for the scholarship.

NCPD encourages the local youth to pursue careers that enable them to stay in Nebraska. There are many opportunities that provide for a fulfilling and prosperous life in Nebraska. If you are considering, or know of youth that are interested in what opportunities lie within this industry, please contact NCPD. We look for-

ward to supporting our greatest asset in Nebraska, the youth.



NCPD's Office  
will be CLOSED

May 30, 2022  
- Memorial Day

July 4, 2022  
- Independence Day



# REMEMBER ELECTRICAL SAFETY



As you prepare for planting season, don't forget to plan for safety. There are many aspects to safety on the farm, but electrical safety is often overlooked. Keep these safety tips in mind as you prepare for planting:



## TRAIN OTHERS

Train anyone working on your farm, including family members and seasonal workers, about electrical hazards.



## SAFETY FIRST

Have daily meetings to review the day's work and discuss safety implications. Know and review where the power lines are, the clearance required, and the proper position of extensions as they are transported.



## WAIT TO UNFOLD

Remind workers to fold or unfold extensions well into the field, not close to the field's edge where power lines are typically located.



## USE A SPOTTER

When working in the vicinity of power lines, always have a spotter on the ground, who can direct you away from power lines or poles if you are getting too close.



## DO NOT EXIT YOUR CAB

If your machine or truck makes contact with a power line, pole, or guy wire, you could become electricity's path to ground and become electrocuted if you step out of the cab.



## CALL 9-1-1

Call 9-1-1 to have your electric utility dispatched to deenergize the power source.



# School Electrical Safety Program



Linda Sokol,  
Energy Advisor

Every year North Central Public Power District (NCPD) provides an Electrical Safety Program for the 4th & 5th graders at the local schools. This year Assistant Operations Manager/Safety Director Tim Hoffman and Energy Advisor Linda Sokol went to St. Ludger's, Creighton Elementary, Plainview Elementary, Verdigre Elementary, Summerland Elementary and Niobrara Elementary. *The Shocking Truth* video was shown followed by a discussion on the dangers of electricity. Students were shown the equipment that the linemen use for safety and even got the chance to see and feel sand that was turned into glass by a live wire. NCPD has an energized farm

display that shows what could happen if contact is made with an energized power line while flying a kite, climbing a tree or working with large farm equipment. With the energized farm set we can simulate with a hotdog what could happen if someone or something came in contact with an energized power line. It is a real eye opener for the kids when an electrical arc is created using the hotdog as part of the electrical circuit. Hopefully, what the kids learn in this safety program stays with them so if they are ever in a situation where electrical wires are present, they will remember what to or not to do. The students are then given the opportunity to enter a poster into an electrical safety poster contest. Posters will be judged and the winners will receive a \$25 check and be invited to a NCPD Board of Directors meeting.



## Now is a Great Time to Switch to E-Billing

With changes in the way the United States Postal Service is processing and delivering mail, we are aware that some of you may not be getting your monthly statement in a timely manner. One way to ensure you receive your statement promptly is by utilizing e-billing. At the end of each month, once billing is completed, you will be emailed a notification that your statement is available to view through your online account. You no longer need to wait by your mailbox and hope that your bill will arrive in time for you to get your payment returned. You can make the switch through your current online account or by calling the NCPD office and speaking with one of our friendly customer service representatives. As always, if you have questions regarding e-billing, we are here to help.



*From our homes to yours . . .*

## Broccoli-Bacon Salad

### Ingredients

- ½ cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 2 Tbsp sugar
- 2 Tbsp white vinegar
- 5 cups broccoli, cut into flowerets
- ¼ cup chopped red onion
- ¼ cup chopped yellow onion
- ¼ cup sunflower nuts
- 6 slices bacon, crisply cooked and crumbled

### Directions

Mix mayonnaise, sugar and vinegar in large bowl. Stir in broccoli and onion; toss until coated. Cover and refrigerate 2 hours to blend flavors. Sprinkle with nuts and bacon before serving.

## Cheesy Green Bean Casserole

### Ingredients

- 1 can condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese blend
- 1 tsp soy sauce
- 1 bag (12 oz) frozen cut green beans, thawed, drained
- 1 small red bell pepper, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 1 ½ cups cheddar crispy fried onions (from 6-oz can)

### Directions

Heat oven to 350°F. In 1 ½-quart casserole, stir together soup, cheese blend and soy sauce. Stir in green beans, bell pepper and 1 cup of the onions. Cover; bake about 30 minutes or until beans are tender and mixture is heated through. Stir; top with remaining ½ cup onions. Bake uncovered about 5 minutes longer or until onions are brown and crisp.



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



Powered by Integrity

PRSRT STD  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 NORFOLK, NE  
 Permit No. 125



**FOR SALE:** 24" Electric Range, apartment size, in good condition. Call 402-893-3693.

**FOR SALE:** Stair stepper exercise unit. Call 402-860-0317.

**GIVE AWAY:** Built-in Maytag dishwasher in good working condition. Ready to install. Call 402-860-0317.

**WANTED:** Paying top dollar for scrap metal, farm equipment, vehicles and anything metal. Will pick up. Please call 402-841-2242.

**FOR SALE:** Nordic Track Elite 10.7 Elliptical Machine 20" stride. Like new. \$1000.00 or Best Offer. Call: 402-893-3995

**FOR SALE:** Formal dining table & chairs. \$250. Call 402-389-1347.

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 Events

<b>Klown Days Festival</b> -Plainview	<b>June 3-5</b>
<b>Kolach Days</b> -Verdigre	<b>June 10-12</b>
<b>BerryPepper Days</b> -Creighton	<b>June 17-19</b>
<b>Appreciation Dayz</b> -Bloomfield	<b>June 17-19</b>
<b>Cedar County Fair</b> -Hartington	<b>July 13-17</b>
<b>Niobrara Bridge Days</b> -Niobrara	<b>July 16-17</b>
<b>Orchard Free Days</b> -Orchard	<b>July 22-24</b>
<b>Pierce County Fair</b> -Pierce	<b>July 27-31</b>

## Summer Rates Start June 1<sup>st</sup>

The summer electric rate schedule for North Central Public Power District (NCPD) will go into effect on June 1, 2022. These rates are effective for the four summer demand months: June, July, August and September. The wholesale, as well as retail, electric rates are higher because Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) charges NCPD higher wholesale rates due to its higher costs during this time. It is NCPD's goal to keep the summer electric peak demand down to prevent or lessen rate increases in the future.

NCPD encourages customers to reduce their electric usage during these months between the hours of 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. If everyone does their part to reduce usage, hopefully electric rates can continue at an affordable level.