



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



**General Manager
Doyle Hazen**

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WELCOME

Welcome to the new format of North Central's News. To continue to improve service to its customers, North Central Public Power District has moved its newsletter to be included in the monthly billing. This has created savings from postage and printing of about \$11,800 per year.

Prepare for Opportunities

Back in the May/June 2022 North Central New's, I wrote about the employment opportunities in the electric industry. These opportunities are still out there and can benefit the next generation of our communities.

Many times, people say about a career that "you sure are lucky" or "boy did you get a break". These might be true, but it is the preparation that brings people to be ready for opportunities that come along. Recently, we were visited by the Knox County Economic Development and their current class of Leadership Knox County. One of the questions that an individual asked generally was, "What should students do to ready themselves for getting into this industry as a lineman". The reply was they need to be prepared to do the math necessary for that job, but mainly go to a technical school that has a lineman's course study.

It does not matter what you want to pursue. Young people, my perspective, have the time and world for their opportunities. They only need to be prepared to take advantage. It may be overwhelming to contemplate this fact, but it should not be

the case. Having a plan that includes educating yourself and preparing your abilities gives you a wider base to work from. As you acquire more education, whether formal or informal, you expand your marketability in the job market. Along the way, specialized training helps you focus your appeal to employers. For those who have already found this fact to be true, help others by communicating your experience to them. Many do not know what they do not know.

Our youth are the future, and they are our greatest asset. Simply take the time to share. You will make it so that our youth do not have to bump their heads on the same things you did.

As I have aged, I read the obituaries of people that I thought I knew and many times I am amazed at some of the accomplishments that they have had over their lifetime. I regret not knowing and regret I wasn't able to share their experiences. We all have experiences that others can benefit from. Help our youth see the good in getting their education now and to be prepared for a lifetime of opportunities.

IMPORTANT

Winter Rates

On October 1st, winter rates will go into effect. These rates are lower than summer rates and will be in effect for the next eight months (October through May).

IRRIGATION SERVICE REMINDER



North Central PPD wants to remind all irrigation customers to open their main disconnect handle at the end of the season. This will isolate the irrigation customers' underground wires. If the irrigation is equipped with auto restart, it is also recommended to open the disconnect handle at the irrigation panel. Have a safe and productive harvest.

Annual Pole Testing Under Way

Global Utility Services began performing distribution line pole tests in July. They will be testing poles in part of the City of Plainview, and the Creighton and Valley Townships in Knox County.

You will see the Global Utility Services pick-ups, ATVs and 4-wheelers 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 of North Central Public Power District at 800-578-1060.



Safety Tip

The orange work zone sign is not a suggestion, it's the law. Slow down, move over, and use extra caution in work zones. Do your part to help everyone return home safely.



 Safe
Electricity.org®

DON'T DRIVE DISTRACTED

for your safety and the safety of
our roadside crews.





Linda Sokol,
Energy Advisor

Changes Announced for USDA REAP Grant



The USDA has announced they are currently taking quarterly applications for the REAP program with additional Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) grant funds that have been added to the program. We are currently accepting applications with quarterly application deadlines through September 30, 2024. For most Energy Efficiency (diesel to electric conversions, grain dryer replacement, and commercial building upgrades are the most common) and Renewable Projects (like Solar, Geothermal, and Wind), the grant that is available has been increased to 50%.

The Diesel Irrigation Engine Replacement Rebate program through the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy will open sometime in October with a January 17, 2024, deadline.

If you are interested in applying for these grants or have any questions, please call Linda Sokol at 402-358-5112.

2023 Youth Energy Leadership Camp



The 2023 Youth Energy Leadership Camp was held at Camp Comeca in Cozad, NE, from July 9 through July 13th. There was a lot of learning, plenty of fun and they all made new friends. Gage Vesely was named one of the "Good Eggs" and will be able to attend next year as a junior counselor. Congratulations! Students attending were Leah Sukup, daughter of Ron and Val Sukup; Izaak Vakoc, son of Brian and Zoe Vakoc; Gage Vesely, son of Jason and Angela Vesely; Jacob Pavelka son of Doug and Jean Pavelka.



From our homes to yours . . .

Bacon Cheeseburger Biscuit Bombs

Ingredients

8 oz lean ground beef
2 tsp steak grill seasoning
½ cup chopped cooked bacon
1 can refrigerated buttermilk biscuits
4 slices American cheese, cut in quarters
1 tbsp butter, melted
1 tsp sesame seed
Ketchup, mustard and pickle slices, if desired

Directions

Heat oven to 350°F. Line large cookie sheet with cooking parchment paper, or spray with cooking spray. In 10-inch skillet, cook beef and grill seasoning over medium-high heat 4 to 6 minutes, stirring occasionally, until beef is brown; drain. Cool 5 minutes. Stir in bacon. Separate dough into 8 biscuits; let stand 5 minutes. Gently pull each biscuit apart, leaving bottom and lower sides intact, forming deep pocket. Place 2 quartered pieces of American cheese inside biscuit pocket. Holding opened biscuit in hand; place about 1/4 cup of the beef mixture inside, pressing inside to fit. Gently stretch dough over filling, pressing and firmly sealing around edges of biscuit. Reshape into round, and place on cookie sheet. (Biscuit will be full.) Repeat for remaining biscuits. Brush melted butter on top of each biscuit; sprinkle tops with sesame seed. Bake 18 to 22 minutes or until biscuit tops are golden brown and inside mixture is heated through. Serve with remaining ingredients.



FOR SALE: Window 32"x22" slider double glazed. Window 28"x18" fixed double glazed. 3'x22" white vanity, composite top with faucets. Call 817-614-4230.

FOR SALE: 3 HD used 18" pickup tires. 1 good folding saw horse. Pickup inbox lift. Fertilizer or salt spreader. 2 HD high-test chains. Older odd chains w/binders. Couple propane heaters. Call 402-750-1663.

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.



Paperless Billing (E-Bill) Promotion Winner

Connie Engelbart is the winner of our Paperless Billing (E-Bill) Promotion. Connie received a \$50 credit on her account. North Central Public Power District (NCPPD) has many customers enrolled in paperless billing, which ensures customers receive their bills in a timely manner and helps NCPPD control costs. Thank you to all who have already signed up. If you would like to sign up for paperless billing, contact the NCPPD office at 800-578-1060 or 402-358-5112. Congratulations Connie!



DECORATE SAFELY

Avoid real scares, and decorate safely. Only use cords and lights rated for outdoor use.



Safe Electricity.org®

STAY SAFE OUT ON THE

HUNT



Take precautions to stay safe on your next hunting expedition.



Know the signs of a heart attack or other life-threatening condition.



Have a way to get in touch with the outside world.

Always implement firearm safety techniques.



Do not lean a tree stand against a utility pole.

Do not fire at power lines, insulators or conductor cans.



Carry a first aid kit.



Check the weather in advance and be prepared.

Check tree stands regularly for stability.

Survey the area for potential electrical hazards.



Be visible: Wear blaze orange.

Learn more at: Safe Electricity.org®



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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

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**NCPPD Office Closed
Sept. 4, 2023
Labor Day**