

# North Central's News

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



**General Manager  
Doyle Hazen**

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## **Carbon Conundrum**

For many years now, it has been proselytized, begged, threatened and warned that the global level of carbon is growing. Per Bernie Sanders, it will be the end of us as soon as 2031. Due to the need to reduce carbon emissions, there has been a big push to remove carbon heavy energy generation. Coal burning generation has been a big target for closure. This would be fine if we had the technology to replace these big base load generators, but we do not. The future and current energy needs must be met now.

Producing low carbon emission electric energy using solar or wind in conjunction with the use of energy storage, such as batteries, are good alternatives to reduce carbon-based energy. Currently, this type of energy generation is acceptable for some energy production, but it does not solve the carbon energy problem. Until the technology has caught up, we cannot continue to remove base load coverage by closing coal plants.

Everyday, the gap that is being created by shutting down base load generation is putting the reliability of the United States' grid system in peril. This is a completely avoidable situation, but it must be addressed. We can have all the laws and rules that control the production of energy, but if you break the laws of physics there is no appeals court, it is swift and absolute judgment. If the supply does not meet the demand on a second-by-second basis, the system will become unstable, and it will shut down.

There is good intention by people wanting to preserve our environment. The Paris Climate accord, in which the United States is currently participating, has a goal to keep the earth's overall average surface temperature from raising more than two degrees Celsius by 2030. Ideally, they would like to seek a less than one and one half degrees Celsius rise relative to preindustrial levels. To meet this goal, carbon emissions must be cut 50% by 2030. The Paris Climate accord is an entire story, but the accord is non-enforceable. However, some people are against what it represents in the sacrifice of each individual country's sovereignty by expecting all countries to abide by this agreement when some do not follow the recommendations or mandates. The billions of dollars spent on following the accord's recommendations put countries complying at an economic disadvantage because of the uneven playing field. It also calls to question the effectiveness of the accord. When a country complies with the accord, the cheaper carbon-based energy is used elsewhere only moving the carbon usage to another location on Earth.

There are many ways to approach this problem of energy shortage, but I don't think that this will be solved by some one hit wonder that provides the solution. We will have to work together in a multifaceted approach to come to a solution that is workable and sustainable.

# Three Substations Upgraded



North Central Public Power District (NCPD) has recently upgraded three substations. The Creighton 85-1 and Brunswick Rural 85-4 substations have been upgraded to 14-megawatt substations. This project has been in the works since the fall of 2022 when NCPD's board of directors authorized the purchase of these two new transformers from Virginia Transformer in Roanoke, VA. NCPD utilized the old 10-megawatt transformer from the Creighton 85-1 substation to upgrade the Knoxville 85-5 substation west of Verdigre. NCPD's Operation Department continually looks at load, data to recognize potential load issues at all of the Districts substations.

## Spencer Albers awarded NCPD's Peter E. Thomassen Scholarship

Spencer Albers, son of Todd and Brenda Albers, is the recipient of North Central Public Power District's Peter E. Thomassen Scholarship. The scholarship goes toward the recipient's academic tuition. Spencer is a second year Utility Line student at Northeast Community College in Norfolk. To be eligible to be considered for this scholarship applicants must be enrolled in the Utility Line Program at Northeast Community College and must be a North



Central PPD customer or a dependent of a customer. North Central PPD's board of directors established this scholarship in 1990 in honor of the late Peter E. Thomassen for his dedicated years of service. Thomassen served NCPD for 36 years before retiring from his position of general manager.





Linda Sokol,  
Energy Advisor

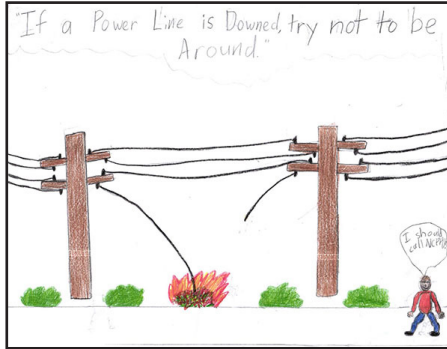
# Electrical Safety Poster Contest Winners

Every year, North Central Public Power District provides an Electrical Safety Program for the 4th & 5th graders at the local schools. The students are then given the opportunity to enter a poster into an electrical safety poster contest. This year's winners are: Faith Fuchtman, daughter of Jeremy and Ellison Fuchtman; Andrew Pavelka, son of Adam and Alison Pavelka; Maddox Tramp, son of Jack and

Alisha Janak; and Ashlynn Yunker, daughter of Bill and Dana Yunker. They each received a \$25 check from the NCPPD Board.



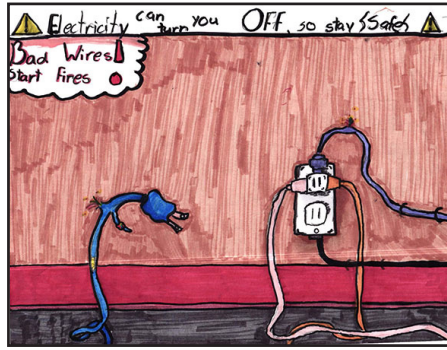
Faith Fuchtman



Andrew Pavelka



Maddox Tramp



Ashlynn Yunker

*From our homes to yours . . .*

## Easy 5-Ingredient Key Lime Pie Bars

### Ingredients

- 1 roll (16.5 oz) refrigerated Sugar Cookie Dough
- 1 container (16 oz) frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 2 cans (14 oz each) sweetened condensed milk
- 5 to 6 large limes ( $\frac{3}{4}$  cup lime juice and 2 tbsps grated peel)
- 2 containers (6 oz each) yogurt
- Key lime pie

### Directions

Heat oven to 350°F. Cut dough into 1/2-inch slices; place slices on ungreased large cookie sheet. Bake 18 to 20 minutes or until golden. Cool completely, then break cookies into gallon-size resealable food-storage plastic bag. Seal bag, and finely crush cookies with rolling pin. Pour finely crushed cookies into large bowl; stir in 1 cup of the thawed whipped topping. Press mixture into ungreased 13x9-inch (3-quart) glass baking dish. In large bowl, mix condensed milk and lime juice; beat with electric mixer on medium speed until thick and smooth. Fold remaining whipped topping and yogurt into milk mixture. Spoon onto cookie crust. Top with grated lime peel. Cover and refrigerate about 8 hours or until completely set. Cut into 5 rows by 4 rows. Cover and refrigerate.





**FOR SALE:** 200 sq. ft. vinyl siding (new), grey in color. \$195. Tire chains 15" to 16", new. \$20. Call 402-893-4570.

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's Office will be closed Monday September 2, 2024 in observance of Labor Day**

**Upcoming Events**

|                                       |                   |                                     |                       |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Cedar County Fair -Hartington</b>  | <b>July 17-21</b> | <b>Antelope County Fair -Neligh</b> | <b>July 29- Aug 4</b> |
| <b>Niobrara Bridge Days -Niobrara</b> | <b>July 19-21</b> | <b>Holt County Fair -Chambers</b>   | <b>Aug 5-10</b>       |
| <b>Orchard Free Days -Orchard</b>     | <b>July 26-28</b> | <b>Knox County Fair -Bloomfield</b> | <b>Aug 8-11</b>       |
| <b>Pierce County Fair -Pierce</b>     | <b>July 24-28</b> | <b>NE State Fair -Grand Island</b>  | <b>Aug 23-Sep 2</b>   |



**Sign up for E-statements and Automatic Payments!!**

**Make the Switch to Paperless Billing**

With changes to the way the Postal Service processes and delivers mail, and rising costs for postage, paperless billing (E-Bill) is an easy and convenient option to ensure you receive your electric bill in a timely manner. By switching to paperless billing, you can ensure you receive your bill on time, have less clutter in your mailbox, and help North Central Public Power District (NCPD) control and reduce costs. Each month, around the 29th of the month, you will be emailed a notification that your statement is available to view through your online account. You can sign up for paperless billing (E-Bill) through your online account or by calling the NCPD office and having one of our friendly customer service representatives assist you.

**Powered by Integrity**

1409 Main St, PO Box 90  
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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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