

# Northwest Rural Public Power District

Hay Springs, NE 69347

August 2025

## Former Rural Rushville Gal Opens Hair Salon in Hay Springs

"This is where I wanted to be at," said an excited Sissy Hinn, a 2023 Hay Springs graduate. Sissy together with her classmate Jackie Smith both enrolled at Salon Professional Academy in Rapid City, a year long program in which they completed in September 2023.

In order to provide service in Nebraska she need to complete an additional 300 hours in which she did last October to the end of this February at Uptown Hair & Nails in Hot Springs.

And on Monday, March 3, she announced she has opened "Hair by Sissy Hinn" in the former Cutting Edge Salon in Hay Springs.

Hinn commuted from Chadron to Hot Springs while she worked in South Dakota and will remain living in Chadron.

Sissy has had a passion for styling hair beginning with her own long locks. "I had always been into braiding, lash extensions and even cut my brother's hair. I used to paint their toenails too," she chuckled. However, she said she won't be doing manicures. She will primarily focus on cuts, colors, perms and select waxing such as eyebrows and lips. Later on she hopes to add eyelash extensions, lifts and tints. She is pleased to be in Hay Springs noting everyone has been so supportive. "Right after I posted I would be taking clients, I had about ten appointments immediately," said



**Sissy Hinn giving her brother Kaden Vincent's hair a trim during her first week in the "Hair by Sissy Hinn" shop.**

Sissy.

Prom season is one of her favorite times when she can work on "Up-Dos". She also said one of her favorite things to do are men's haircuts. She started with her brother, then on to his friends and is always more than happy to trim their hair. "I think they are not so afraid to say exactly what they want done which makes it easier for me," said Sissy. She welcomes clients of all ages, including children and will also do wash and sets.

Starting the first of August, she began doing lash extensions. Since she has opened she has offered her to shop to a view vendors including Little House on the Table products, honey products from McDonald's Apiary and Navajo pear jewelry by Wild Pearl Company.

She doesn't have any set hours as of yet, until she gets an established clientele list. However, when she is in the shop she is more than happy to have walk-ins.

To make an appointment, call or text Sissy at 308-360-2253 or email her at [sissyhinn@gpcom.net](mailto:sissyhinn@gpcom.net)



Northwest Rural's Tesla has participated in two of five parades this summer. The first one was in Crawford on the Fourth of July. The second appearance was in Chadron at Fur Trade Days passing out treats to the young and young-at-heart.

She continues to live in Chadron and enjoys spending time with her boyfriend Cooper Wild and in her spare time she does beadwork.

## History Center in Rushville Open To All Following Dedication

More than a hundred people packed the new "History Center" wing of the Rushville Armstrong House Museum on the afternoon of Saturday July 5, 2025, to celebrate the opening and dedication of the lovely new structure.

Phyllis Krotz, History Center Director, welcomed the crowd and introduced Becci Thomas, Director of the Knight Museum in Alliance. It was Becci who lit the fuse on this project seven years ago when she called Krotz to offer a very large trove of clippings, family histories and other archival materials that had been donated to the Heritage Room at the Knight Museum. Since most of that material pertained to Sheridan County families, not those of Box Butte County, Thomas felt they needed a home here. All of these materials had been collected by Clarabel Hunter (d. 2000) of Hay Springs who let no public record of family news slip past her notice. These materials served as the nucleus of the Sheridan County History Center which took up temporary residence in the office space that had once been the Riis and Trenkle Implement Company across Hwy 20 from the Armstrong House Museum.

Five years ago, a fund-raising committee, with the assistance of the Nebraska Community Foundation, established a building fund goal of \$500,000 for a new home. There was considerable concern that such a small community could not raise such a large sum, but they did, and on May 17, 2024, the community broke ground for the new structure.

Broc Anderson, Director of Historic Sites for the Nebraska State Historical Society spoke to the assembly on the importance of local history saying "if we don't know where we came from, then we don't know where we are



**Broc Anderson, Director of Historical Sites for Nebraska State Historical Society and Becci Thomas, Director of the Knight Museum of Alliance and key promoter of the new Rushville Armstrong Museum "History Wing" spoke during the dedication in Rushville July 5.**

going"

Fred Jungck, President of the Sheridan County Historical Society and a long-time resident of Hay Springs, spoke of knowing Clarabel Hunter as a customer of Security First Bank and opined that Clarabel would have heartily approved of the new History Center.

Jungck led the crowd in a hip-hip-hooray for all the volunteers and benefactors who made the moment possible, with a special hooray for Jerry Wellnitz the curator and full-time construction volunteer, cabinet-maker, plumber, electrician etc. etc. etc.

The History Center/ Museum is located on Highway 20 in Rushville and is open to the public weekday mornings or by appointment.



### Countryroad Shot: Dawes County May 2017

East of Crawford just north of Bethel Road on Betson Road. Almost in the shadow of Crow Butte. If you look straight south from the school house this is what you will see. The two-track is Betson Road.

~ by Jim Manternach

If you are interested in a print, you can contact Jim at [jmm@millcomps.com](mailto:jmm@millcomps.com) or at [www.jimmphoto.com](http://www.jimmphoto.com)



**Broc Anderson, Director of Historic Sites for the Nebraska State Historical Society, takes a group selfie of a packed room for the dedication ceremony on Saturday, July 5.**





## **Cranberry Spinach Salad**

- 1 tablespoon butter
- ¾ cup almonds, blanched and slivered
- 1 pound spinach, rinsed and torn into bite-size pieces
- 1 cup dried cranberries

### **Dressing:**

- ½ cup vegetable oil
- ½ cup white sugar
- ¼ cup cider vinegar
- ¼ cup white wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons toasted sesame seeds
- 1 tablespoon poppy seeds
- 2 teaspoons minced onion
- ¼ teaspoon paprika

Melt butter in a medium saucepan over medium heat. Cook and stir almonds in butter until lightly toasted. Remove from heat and let cool.

**Make dressing:** Whisk together oil, sugar, cider vinegar, white wine vinegar, sesame seeds, poppy seeds, minced onion, and paprika in a medium bowl.

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Combine spinach with toasted almonds and cranberries in a large serving bowl. Pour dressing over spinach mixture; toss well.

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## **Weekend Skillet Slaw**

- 1 tablespoon chipotle hot sauce (such as Cholula®)
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 ½ teaspoons minced ginger
- 1 teaspoon agave syrup
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon sesame oil
- 1 pound ground turkey
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ tablespoon ground black pepper
- 1 (8 ounce) package coleslaw mix
- ½ red bell pepper, diced
- 2 green onions, chopped, or more to taste
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds

Mix chipotle hot sauce, rice vinegar, soy sauce, ginger, and agave syrup together in a small bowl to make sauce.

Heat olive oil and sesame oil in a wok or large skillet over medium heat. Add ground turkey; cook, stirring to break up clumps, until juices run clear, about 6 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Transfer to a bowl, reserving juices in the wok.

Combine coleslaw mix, red bell pepper, green onions, and garlic in the wok; cook and stir over medium heat until slaw is slightly wilted, 1 to 2 minutes. Add sauce; mix to combine, about 1 minute. Return turkey to the wok and stir until heated through, 2 to 3 minutes.

Sprinkle sesame seeds over slaw before serving.



## **Four Grain Farm Risks and How to Minimize Them**

From machinery operation to chemical handling, taking safety seriously is crucial. Learn more about how to enhance safety on your grain farm.

Grain farmers experience a handful of unique risks on the job. While one of the biggest safety concerns is grain bin suffocation, there are numerous other risks on grain farms that deserve attention. From machinery operation to chemical handling, taking safety seriously is crucial. Learn more about how to enhance safety on your grain farm.

### **Fires and Explosions**

Grain farms produce large amounts of dust through handling and harvesting. Grain dust is highly combustible, meaning it burns or explodes very easily. Grain dust explosions are extremely dangerous, often resulting in fatalities and significant damage. According to the National Grain and Feed Association, dust Ignition requires three elements: fuel (dust), source (spark), and an oxidizing agent (oxygen in air). Dust explosions require these additional elements: confinement (leg, conveyor, tunnel), and dispersion in the air (first explosion).

To prevent these equipment fires while harvesting, be sure to regularly clean the engine, turbocharger, and exhaust systems. Eliminate build up on your farming equipment by blowing off excess dust and using power washing tools. Operate combines at appropriate speeds. Increased harvesting speeds puts additional stress on the engines significantly increasing the risk of fires. Allow equipment to cool before refueling or parking the equipment in a machine shed. Preventative maintenance and lubrication are crucial for reducing fire risk and having a smooth harvest season.

To reduce the risk of grain dust explosions, reduce sources of ignition and reduce dust accumulations. Develop and follow a regular cleaning and housekeeping schedule. Cleaning methods should not produce additional dust clouds unless all equipment is shut down and there are no ignition sources. Follow manufacturer guidelines for routine lubrication for bearings and periodically monitor bearing temperature. Strictly enforce no smoking on your grain farm. Farmers should regularly monitor dust levels and keep up on electrical equipment maintenance.

### **Falls from heights**

Grain farmers and workers perform various tasks that include working on platforms, ladders, buildings, machinery, and more. Falling from heights is a leading cause of farming injury and

## On the Lighter Side....

### Interesting Confusions:

1. Can u cry under water?
2. Do fishes ever get thirsty?
3. Why don't birds fall off trees when they sleep.
4. Why is it called a building when it is already built?
5. When they says dogs' food is new and improved, who tastes it?
6. If money doesn't grow on trees, why do banks have branches?
7. Why does round pizza come in a square box?
8. Why doesn't glue stick to it's bottle?

### It's So Hot...

- It's so hot my dream house in any house in Alaska.
- It's so hot, when the temperature drops below 95 I start to feel chilly.
- It's so hot cows are giving evaporated milk.
- It's so hot, chickens are laying hard-boiled eggs.
- It's so hot, I discovered my seat belt makes a pretty good branding iron.
- It's so hot granny broke wind just to have a little breeze.
- It's so hot, I started putting ice-cubes in my waterbed.
- It's so hot fire ants are really on fire.
- It's so hot, hot water comes out of both taps. (This one is actually true!)
- It's so hot I saw a bird pull a worm out of the ground with an oven mitt.

## August Special Days....

- **August 2** - National Sunflower Day
- **August 3** - National Georgia Day & Watermelon Day
- **August 6** - National Root Beer Float Day
- **August 8** - Sneak some Zucchini into your Neighbor's Porch Day
- **August 10** - National Connecticut Day
- **August 25** - Banana Split Day
- **August 26** - National Dog Day

**August Birthstone:** Peridot, spinel and sardonyx are the three birthstones for August. The peridot birthstone is known for being formed under extreme conditions, as it can be found in the hardened lava that carried it from deep within Earth's mantle as well as in meteorites that traveled from outer space. The spinel birthstone was underappreciated until recently, as today's consumers look for an alternative to ruby, a gem with which red spinel was mistaken for centuries. Sardonyx is the original August birthstone, with a history that dates back more than 4,000 years.

**August's Birth Flower:** The August birth flowers, the gladiolus and the poppy, are colorful, excellent cut flowers and share rich symbolism tied to remembrance. Gladiolus, a symbol of strength and love. The poppy, known best for it's red color and has been associated with those lost during times of war.

fatality. Don't let the risk of a fall get in the way of keeping your farming operations from running smoothly.

There are many ways to protect your safety without giving up on the tasks at hand. Take proper safety precautions such as installing sturdy guardrails, using fall arrest systems, and performing regular inspections. Always use three points of contact while getting into or out of equipment and when using ladders. Two hands and one foot, or one hand and two feet are appropriate contact methods that lead to safer farming.

### Equipment handling

Multiple forms of equipment are used daily on farms as a helpful tool. Though useful, mechanical equipment can be very dangerous. Equipment like augers and conveyors are important tools in grain storage, facilitating the movement and transfer of grain within storage structures. These helpful tools present serious entanglement and amputation hazards to workers if not handled properly. Workers can easily get their limbs caught in poorly guarded moving parts, causing serious injury.

Minimize injury by ensuring proper guarding of moving parts on tools like augers and conveyors. Providing comprehensive training for all workers including emergency procedures.

### Hazardous fumes

Another risk grain farmers face is airborne contaminants in storage facilities. Chemical hazards are typically most prominent in the spring and summer during pesticide and herbicide application. When pesticides and other chemicals are used on the farm for things like insect control, they create toxic risks for those exposed to it.

**Office Hours:**  
7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.  
**Monday- Thursday**  
**Service Calls**  
**After Hours:**

Please call  
**800-847-0492** if  
your call is long distance or **638-4445**  
for the local Hay Springs area at all times.

We have an answering service that answers these numbers on a 24-hour basis - after hours, Saturday, Sundays and holidays. Please state legal description, account number or meter number where the outage is and your phone number when you call.

## Northwest Rural

### Public Power District

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web page: <http://www.nrppd.com>

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