

Northwest Rural Public Power District

Hay Springs, NE 69347

December 2025

Northwest Nebraska 2025 Holiday Activities Abundant

Northwest Rural Territory residents can find plenty of Christmas activities to attend to up and down Hwy. 20 during the month of December.

In Crawford on Friday, Dec. 4, the Jingle Bell Parade will kick off at 5:20 p.m. Participants will need to meet at Gibbons Honey Farms on Main Street where they will walk to the Post Office corner and then head south on Second Street to the Security First Bank corner where the Crawford Elementary will perform Christmas Carols. Pastor Steve Mallery with Christ Community Church will speak following with the light of the Christmas tree approximately at 6 p.m. Santa will meet with the young and young at heart at the Second Street Baker.

Chadron is excited to announce that Santa will be returning on the Northwestern Railroad a train on Dec. 4 at 6 p.m. Children are invited to come to Railroad Park on Main Street to meet Santa and then migrate one block south to the Downtown Plaza. At 5 p.m. hot chocolate, chili and live entertainment will get underway with the Community Christmas Tree lighting at 6, followed by the Parade of Lights. The parade will start at the corner of 1st & Main Streets and end at 5th Street. Participants should line up at the northeast corner of First Street at 6 p.m. Three prizes will



This John Deere chopper had to be one of the many high-lights of the Gordon Parade of Lights in 2024. This year's event is set for Saturday, Dec. 13 at 6 p.m.



A cruise through Fort Robinson during the holiday season is a must.

be awarded, 1st (\$100), 2nd (\$75) and 3rd (\$50).

That same evening and also a popular favorite, is the Festival of Trees Open House at the Dawes County Courthouse from 5:30--7:30 p.m. and the Chadron State Holiday Concert at Memorial Hall at 7 p.m.

The Kris Kringle Christmas Boutique is slated for Saturday, Dec. 6 at the Dawes County Fairgrounds from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

That same evening, Fort Robinson will "Light Up" from 6-9 p.m. The Historical Christmas Dinner will be underway. Tickets go on sale in November and typically sell out immediately.

The following Sunday, Dec. 7 Kids Christmas Shopping will be offered from 1-3 p.m. at the Assumption Arena in Chadron.

On Thursday, Dec. 11, Hay Springs will host their 23rd annual Santa Soup Cookoff and Craft Fair at Lister-Sage Community Building. The Craft show begins at 4 p.m. with the Cookoff getting underway at 5 p.m. Those in attendance will get to sample at least a dozen soups then place their vote for their favorite when they fill their bowl with their selection. Hay Springs Music Dept. will host their "The Night, the Lights, the Music at 7 p.m. in the high
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NRPPD FEATURE

Christmas in Northwest Neb. --

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school auditorium.

Also on Dec. 11, Viaero in Chadron will host their Open House from 4 to 6 p.m. in which Santa will make his appearance.

At Crawford Public Schools on Dec. 11, students K-12 will perform at 7 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.

It's a full day in Gordon on Saturday, Dec. 13 beginning with the annual CARE Christmas Show from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Gordon City Auditorium. The food vendor will be Piece of Cake. Activities will include dozens of vendors and crafters, a Bingo Board with lots of prizes and don't forget to sign up for the door prizes. At 6 p.m. the 15th Parade of Lights will get underway on Main Street. To enter a float please contact Jonii Elwood at 308-360-1097 by Wednesday, Dec. 10. Individuals, businesses, churches etc are all welcome.

ON SUNDAY, DEC. 14, Consuming Fire Ballet will present "The Nutcracker" at 2 p.m. at CSC Memorial Hall. Ages 0-3 are free, children 4-12 \$12 at the door and adults \$17. Save \$2 in advance.

On Saturday, Dec. 20 at Cozy Corner in Rushville, located at the corner of Hwy. 20 and Main Streets, will

be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Vendors will offered hand craft-ed leather products, earrings, handbags, boutique clothing, locally made jellies, janes, honey and other other handmade crafts. They will be serving chimichangas and chicken tortilla soups for lunch in addition to their gourmet cheesecake, mini pies, cookies, candy, breads, cinnamon rolls, etc.

On Friday, Dec. 19. Santa will host a Meet and Greet at the Crawford fire Hall from 6-8 p.m.



**Just a sample of
the delicious fresh
baked goods at
Cozy Corner in
Rushville.**



The evening of December 4 is a favorite in Chadron with the lighting of the tree at the Downtown Plaza with the Parade of Lights following. Santa is scheduled to return on the train this year.



REGISTER TO WIN A
Vizio 65" Smart TV
from Northwest Rural PPD!
Drawing Jan. 5, 2026
(Sorry, only NRPPD customers are eligible)

Register by either stopping in
or on the Northwest Facebook Page



*Hope all is well with you
and your family.*

*Hope your Christmas is
merry and bright.*

*from the Board of Directors
and Employees at
Northwest Rural
Public Power District*

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Recipe Corner

Christmas Cheesecake Bars

Crust and Crumb Topping

- 3/4 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1/2 cup firmly packed light brown sugar
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 1/2 teaspoon almond extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/3 cup holiday jimmie sprinkles

Filling

- 2 (8-ounce) packages full fat cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup white sugar
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 pinch ground nutmeg
- 2/3 cup heavy cream, at room temperature
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 2 large eggs, at room temperature

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (180 degrees C). Line a 9x9-inch square pan with enough parchment paper to have overhang on all sides.

For the crust, combine butter, brown sugar, white sugar, salt, nutmeg, vanilla, and almond extract in a large bowl and beat with an electric mixer until light and fluffy, 2 to 3 minutes. Add in 1 cup of flour and mix until just combined. Add in remaining 1 cup flour and beat until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Pour in sprinkles and use your hands to mix the dough until it comes together in large clumps.

Measure out about 1 1/2 cups of the crumb mixture and place into the prepared pan; press firmly and evenly into the bottom of the pan. Reserve remaining crumbs for topping.

Bake in the preheated oven until edges of crust begin to turn golden, 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from the oven and allow crust to cool for 5 minutes. Keep the oven on.

While crust bakes, make the filling; combine cream cheese, sugar, flour, vanilla, salt, and nutmeg in a large bowl and beat with an electric mixer until smooth and well combined. Add in heavy cream and lemon juice and mix until smooth and combined. Add in eggs and mix on low speed until just combined.

Once crust has cooled for 5 minutes, pour filling over the crust and spread into an even layer. Sprinkle reserved crumbs over the top of the filling, breaking up any very large clumps of dough as needed.

Return pan to the oven and bake until edges of bars are slightly puffed and set; with just a slight jiggle in the center, 30 to 35 minutes. Allow bars to cool to room temperature, then refrigerate until chilled; at least 4 hours. Cut into 16 bars.

NRPPD ENTERTAINMENT

Dear Santas...

"Dear Santa if you want to grab a beer feel free to get the lot or Just one. PS the Fridge is near the door

From Flynn

* * * * *

"Dear, Santa me and my little Brother have been trying our Best to Be good! But first things first I would like to be a elf on the shelf. I have Ben practicing I can sit on a shelf for like a half hour so far, And my Brother Michael would love to Be a reindeer in fact he's practicing rite Now! he can fly two inches! But here's what I want for christmas,"

* * * * *

Dear Santa,

I think you are a fat man and I'm not leaving you any cookies, because Mrs. Clause said your on a diet. You need to stay away from junk food and don't eat to much on your trip around the world. That's why I'm leaving you vegetables this year with Ultra Skim Milk. I hope you lose some wait, because will all those toys and you I start to fill sorry for Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen, and Rudolph. I sure hope you brought everything I asked for. Well see you later since I didn't see you this year in person, I hope to see you next year."

* * * * *

"I want a rainbow unicorn that poops ice cream.
P.S. I better get it too!!!"

"Dear Santa please find me my Lizard I miss him so much to and I only had him for one day so please find me my Lizard I gave you and your reindeer some treats

p.s. that's all I want for christmas

p.s.s if you find him can you give him to me because I will put some thing over his Bucket so her or she can't get out and I'll clean out his or her bowl every time it get's dirty and I won't put him or her with the cray fish. So please find my lizard.

to Santa from Ross"

* * * * *

"I want a order of french fries, a computer, and a chicken nugget."

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A tip from a lineman working storm outages:

"When your power comes back on, flip your porch light on. It helps us see that your power has been restored without having to stop and check every meter. A little time goes a long way."

December Special Days....

December:

Naturally, Thanksgiving and Veterans Day are the stars of the 11th month of the year, given that both are federal holidays.

- Dec. 1: Rosa Parks Day
- Dec. 7: National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
- Dec. 13: National Guard Birthday
- Dec. 21: National Maine Day & Winter Solstice
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve & Eggnog Day
- Dec. 25: Christmas
- Dec. 31: New Year's Eve & National Champagne Day

December Birthstone: Blue Topaz is the primary birthstone for December. Through the ages, topaz has been popularly associated with wealth. Most blue topazes come out of the earth colorless or pale blue. A two-step heat and radiation laboratory treatment is then used to turn these stones visied greenish blue.

December's Birth Flower: Narcissus & Holly. The primary December birth flower is the narcissus (such as the paperwhite narcissus), and the secondary flower is the holly, which has small white berries that give way to the festival red berries that we see at the holidays.

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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Hay Springs, NE 69347

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

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