

# Northwest Rural Public Power District

Hay Springs, NE 69347

December 2022

## Christmas Festivities Galore in Northwest Nebraska

There will be lots of festivities to see and do up and down Highway 20 during the Christmas season in December. Below are many of the activities planned.

### Chadron

- Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m. in the Community Plaza Downtown Chadron. Following the lighting ceremony, a Pet Parade sponsored by Chadron/Crawford Companion Animal Clinic will lead the Annual Parade of Lights that will start at the corner of First and Main Streets and end at Fifth Street. Participants should line up at the northeast corner of First Street by 5:30 p.m. The parade will proceed in the order in which participants arrive to line up. There will be first (\$100), second (\$75) and third (\$50) place prizes for the best floats.

There will also be local entertainment, Christmas Carols, Hot Chocolate and Chili compliments of the Ridge at 5 p.m. Festival of Trees and Hand Bell Choir at Dawes County Court House directly following the parade at 8 p.m.

- On Friday, Dec. 2, the Mari Sandoz Center Art Show & Sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Visit Santa at Nebraska Bank on West Third from 4-5 p.m.
- The KCSR-KBPY Christmas Cruise will take place on Third Street and be broadcast from the FNOB Parking Lot.



Cravath Memorial Library sponsors a craft table for kids at the Santa Soup Cookoff in Hay Springs.



Santa goes over his wish list with a couple of curious girls at the Kris Kringle Christmas Boutique in Chadron.

- Saturday, Dec. 3 - The Kris Kringle Christmas Boutique will be open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Dawes County Fairgrounds. There will be numerous vendors with hand-made crafts and gifts in addition to delicious goodies for breakfast and lunch served by Panhandle Gymnastics. Also on Dec. 3, Santa will be at the Stateline Casino from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. while Casino Kids Christmas Shopping Sale will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Saturday, Dec. 3 - The Circle of Light Giving Hearts will take place from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Chadron Arts Center. Fort Robinson will host their Historical Christmas Dinner (sold out) along with "Light Up the Fort".
- The Nutcaker by Consumer Fire, is slated for Sunday, Dec. 18 at 2 p.m. in Memorial Hall at CSC.

### Rushville

- Saturday, Dec. 3, Light Up the Park Celebration is set for 6 p.m. in the Rushville City Park. Enjoy the season with hot cocoa, cookies, music, friends and beautiful Christmas Lights. Community members join in to decorate the trees.

(Continued on Page 2)

## Christmas Season Activities--

(Continued from Page 1)

- 12 Days of Joy - Events can be found on the Rushville Chamber of Commerce Facebook page that are sponsored by members.
- Breakfast with Santa is set for Sunday, Dec. 18 at the American Legion.

### Gordon

- Christmas for CARE Holiday Gift Show is slated for Saturday, Dec. 10 beginning at 9 a.m. running thru 2 p.m. at the Gordon City Auditorium.
- Gordon Parade of Lights is also set for Saturday, Dec. 10 beginning at 6 p.m.

### Hay Springs

- The 19th Annual Hay Springs Santa Soup Cookoff and Craft Fair "Extravaganza" is set for Thursday, Dec. 8 at Lister-Sage Community Center. The Craft Fair will run from 4 to 7:30 p.m. and the Cookoff will start at 5 p.m. sharp. Typically a dozen or more will compete for the Golden Ladle and People's Choice Awards.

Soup contestants include various businesses, organizations and individuals. A large array of vendors are on hand with hand made crafts, local products and fundraisers by organizations and school groups.



**The KCSR Christmas Parade is always a local favorite slated for Dec. 1 in Chadron.**

Soup tickets are available for \$5 each. The proceeds are awarded for prize money and will go towards FFA activities and projects. The High School Music Dept. will be presenting the "The Night, the Lights and the Music" Concert following the cookoff at 7:30 p.m. in the High School Auditorium.



**The Festival of Trees and Hand Bell Choir at the Dawes County Courthouse is set for Dec. 1.**



**The 2021 Hay Springs Santa Soup Cookoff Winners for Judge's Choice and Golden Ladle (People's). This year will be the 19th year for the popular event.**



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**If the lights go out momentarily, your auto-restart equipment will restart the well and this could be you!**

Northwest Rural recommends that all disconnects on your irrigation system be shut off during the off-season. Temperature shutdown safeguards may protect you “providing they work”.

Shutting your system off is the only truly dependable safeguard. This will prevent systems equipped with auto-restart switches from inadvertently starting should a bump or surge occur on the main power line. Besides preventing unwanted system startup, this may also prevent electrical equipment damage.

## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Is your home heating system ready for the winter chill? One of the easiest ways to keep your system running efficiently is to regularly replace filters. If your central air system has a furnace filter, it should be replaced about every 90 days.

If your home is heated through warm-air registers, baseboard heaters or radiators, remember to clean them regularly to boost efficiency.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)





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## Winter Safety Tip Reminders

Snow and ice storms are an inevitable part of the winter season. However, they can lead to downed power lines and outages. Remember the following tips to stay safe and warm should you find yourself in the dark after a severe winter event:

- Never touch a fallen power line, and assume all wires on the ground are electrically charged. Call Northwest Rural to report it immediately. Avoid contact with overhead lines during cleanup and other activities.
- In the event of an outage, an alternate heating source—such as a fireplace, propane space heater, or wood stove—may be used. Extreme caution should be taken.
- Plan to stay in an area of the home where the alternate heat source is located.
- Fuel- and wood-burning heating sources should be vented. Be sure to follow manufacturer's directions.
- Make sure carbon monoxide detectors and smoke detectors are working properly.
- Do not use a gas-powered oven for heating. A gas oven may go out or burn inefficiently, leading to carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Do not use a gas or charcoal grill inside the home. Do not use charcoal briquettes in the fireplace.
- If you use a portable generator to power a heating source, be sure the generator is located outside your house for proper ventilation. Do not use a generator in an attached garage. Follow manufacturer's directions for operating the generator.
- Take special care not to overload a generator. Use appropriately sized extension cords to carry the electric load. Make sure the cords have a grounded, three-pronged plug and are in good condition.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpets.
- Never connect generators to power lines. The reverse flow of electricity can electrocute an unsuspecting utility worker.

Ideally, your family will stay warm until the power comes back on. But keep an eye on family members for signs of hypothermia, which include shivering, drowsiness, and



mental and physical slowness. The elderly and young children are particularly vulnerable to hypothermia. Call 911 immediately if you notice these symptoms. At least one telephone in the house that does not depend on electricity should be available in the case of a power outage.

Sources: Consumer Product Safety Commission; Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; National Ag Safety Database)

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# Northwest Rural Territory Activities

## Gordon-Rushville Mustangs

Thurs., Dec. 1 GBB (MS) vs. Cody-Kilgore, 3 p.m.  
 WR (MS) at Bennett Co. Invite, 3 p.m.  
 Fri., Dec. 2 G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Hemingford, 2 p.m.  
 Sat., Dec. 3 WR (JV-V) at Broken Bow, 8:30 a.m. MST  
 G-B BB (JV-V) at Ainsworth, 12 p.m.  
 Mon., Dec. 5 State Unified Bowling at Lincoln  
 WR (MS) at Mitchell Invite, 12 p.m.  
 Tues., Dec. 6 G-B BB (V) vs. Crawford, 4:30 p.m.  
 Thurs., Dec. 8 NSAA Play Productions Championship  
 WR (V) at Chadron Tri (Valentine), 4 p.m.  
 Fri., Dec. 9 G-B BB (JV-V) at Chadron, 3 p.m.  
**Sat., Dec. 10 G-R WR Invite, 10:45 a.m.**  
 Tues., Dec. 13 G-B (V) BB at Hyannis, 5 p.m.  
**Cheer Camp at GES, 5:45 p.m.**  
 Thurs., Dec. 15 GES, K, 2, 4 Christmas Concert, 6:30 p.m.  
**Fri., Dec. 16 WR (JV-V) at Valentine Invite, 11 a.m.**  
 G-B BB (JV-V) at Bennett Co., 2:30 p.m.  
 Sat., Dec. 17 WR (JV-V) at Valentine, 9 a.m. CST  
**G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Torrington, 1 p.m.**  
**Mon., Dec. 19 GES Christmas Store**  
**RES Christmas Program, 6 p.m.,**  
**GRHS Winter Program, 7:30 p.m.**  
**Tues., Dec. 20 MS Holiday Concert, 6 p.m.**  
**Wed., Dec. 21 RES Christmas Store**  
**Dec. 22-Jan. 3 Christmas break**  
 Dec. 29-30 G-B BB (V) Holiday Tourney at Sidney

## Crawford Rams

**Thurs., Dec. 1 GBB (JH) vs. Sioux County, 2 p.m.**  
**G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Sioux County, 3 p.m.**  
 WR (V) at Hemingford, 4 p.m.  
**Fri., Dec. 2 G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Bayard, 4 p.m.**  
 Sat., Dec. 3 WR (V) at Mullen, 9:30 a.m.  
 WR (JH) at Mitchell, 1 p.m.  
 Tues., Dec. 6 G-B BB (V) at Gordon-Rushville, 5 p.m.  
 Sat., Dec. 10 WR at Gordon-Rushville, 9:30 a.m.  
 GBB (JH) at Hay Springs, 10 a.m.  
**G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Garden County, 3 p.m.**  
 Mon., Dec. 12 G BB (JH) at Hay Springs Tourney, 9 .m.  
**Tues., Dec. 13 G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Minatare, 4 p.m**  
 Fri., Dec. 16: G-B BB (JV-V) at Lusk, 4 p.m.  
 Sat., Dec. 17: WR at Hot Springs, 9 a.m.  
 Dec. 19-20 G-B BB (V) at Sioux Co. Holiday, tba  
**Thurs., Dec. 22 End of 2nd Quarter, Early Dismissal 12:30**  
**Fri., Dec. 23 No School - Christmas Break**  
 Dec. 29-30 G-B BB (V) Holiday Tourney at Cambridge  
**Tues., Jan. 4 School Resumes**  
 Thurs., Jan. 5 G-B BB at Edgemont, 4 p.m.  
 Sat., Jan. 7 WR at Garden County  
 G-B BB (JV-V) at Morrill, 1 p.m.  
 Tues., Jan. 10 B BB (JH) at Hemingford, 5 p.m.



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# NORTHWEST RURAL ACTIVITIES

## Hemingford Bobcats

**Thurs., Dec. 1** GBB (JH) vs. Minatare, 2 p.m.  
**WR (V) Hemingford Tourney, 3 p.m.**  
**Fri., Dec. 2** WR (V) at Custer Invite  
 G-B BB (JV-V) at Gordon-Rushville,  
 3, 4:30, 6, 7:30 p.m.  
**Sat., Dec. 3** G WR at Southwest Schools  
**G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Hyannis, 1, 2:30, 4, 6 p.m.**  
**Mon., Dec. 5** GBB (JH) vs. Alliance St. Agnes, 4:30 p.m.  
**Tues., Dec. 6** HPS 5-12 Instrumental Music Concert, 6 p.m.  
**Thurs., Dec. 8** GBB (JH) vs. Bridgeport, 2 p.m.  
**Fri., Dec. 9** G-B BB (JV-V) at Bridgeport, 3, 4:30, 6, 7:30  
 WR at Niobrara Invite, 9 a.m.  
**Sat., Dec. 10** WR G at Sandhills Valley Invite  
 WR (V) at Gordon-Rushville Invite, 10:30 a.m.  
 G-B BB (JV-V) at Mitchell, 1, 2:30, 4, 6 p.m.  
**Mon., Dec. 12** G BB (JH) PanCo at Hay Springs  
**Tues., Dec. 13** G-B BB (JV-V) at Hay Springs,  
 3, 4:30, 7:30 p.m.  
**Wed., Dec. 14** FCCLA Big Brother/Big Sister Activity, 2 p.m.  
**Thurs., Dec. 15** HPS K-12 Vocal Music Concert, 6 p.m.  
**Fri., Dec. 17** G WR at Bridgeport  
 B WR at Sidney Invite  
 G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Leyton, 1, 2:30, 4, 6 p.m.  
**Tues., Dec. 20** FFA Gift Exchange, 6:30 p.m.  
**Thurs., Dec. 22** End of 2nd Quarter  
**Dec. 23-Jan. 4** NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break  
**Thurs., Dec. 29** G-B BB (V) at Custer Invite  
 G WR at Winnebago High, 9 a.m.  
**Fri., Dec. 30** G-B BB (V) at Custer Invite, tba  
**Mon., Jan. 2** G-B BB (JV-V) at Niobrara County, 1, 2:30, 4,

5:30 p.m.  
**Thurs., Jan. 5** G-B BB (JV-V) at Garden County,  
 3, 4:30, 6, 7:30 p.m.  
**Sat., Jan. 7** G-B WR at Garden County Invite, 9 a.m.  
**Tues., Jan. 10** G-B WR (JV-V) at Chadron, 3, 4:30, 5, 6 p.m.


## Chadron Cardinals

**Dec. 1-2** G-B BB Conf. Tourney, tba  
**Dec. 1-3** G-B BB Tourney, tba  
**Thurs., Dec. 1** Girls WR at Hemingford Invite, tba  
**WR (V) Dual vs. Gering, 6 p.m.**  
**Sat., Dec. 3** WR at Cozad Invite, 9:30 a.m.  
 WR (MS) at Torrington Invite, 9 a.m.  
 One Act Districts at Sidney, 9 a.m.  
 WR (MS) at Mitchell Invite, 1 p.m.  
**Tues., Dec. 6** GBB (7th) vs. Gering, 4 p.m.;  
 8th at Gering, 4 p.m.  
**Thurs., Dec. 8** G BB (7th) vs. Alliance, 4 p.m.  
 8th at Alliance, 4 p.m.  
 WR (V) Chadron Invite, 5 p.m.  
**Fri., Dec. 9** G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Gordon-Rushville,  
 4, 4, 5:30 & 7 p.m.  
**Sat. Dec. 10** G-B BB (C) at Sidney, tba  
 G-B WR at Gordon-Rushville, tba  
 G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Gering, 4, 4, 5:30 & 7 p.m.  
**Mon., Dec. 12** G BB (7th) at Mitchell Tourney;  
 G BB (8th) at Gering Tourney, tba  
 G-B BB (C) vs. Alliance, 5, 6:30 p.m.  
**Tues., Dec. 13** G BB (7th) at Mitchell;  
 G BB (8th) at Gering, tba  
**Thurs., Dec. 15** G BB (7th-8th) at Gering, tba  
 6-23 Vocal Music Concert, HS Aud., 7 p.m.



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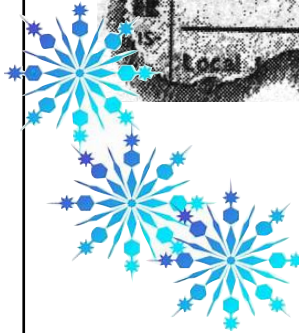
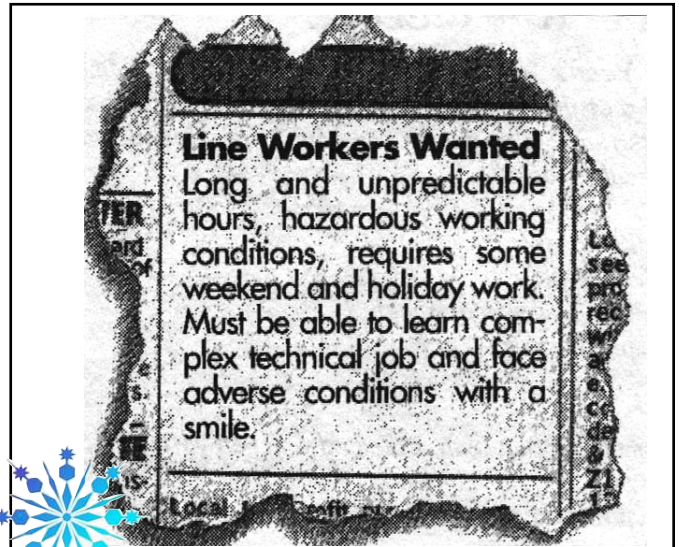


# AREA SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

- Fri., Dec. 16 G-B WR (V) at Valentine Invite, 10 a.m., B-1 p.m. CT  
**G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Scottsbluff, 4, 4, 5:30 & 6 p.m.**
- Sat., Dec. 17 G-B WR (V) at Valentine Invite, B-9 a.m., G-10  
 G-B BB (JV-V) at Bridgeport, 2, 2, 3:30 & 5 p.m.  
**6-12 Band Concert, HS Aud., 7 p.m.**
- Mon., Dec. 19 **G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Torrington, 4,4, 5:30 & 7 p.m.**
- Tues., Dec. 20 **Cardinal Singers, 8 a.m.-12 p.m.**
- Thurs., Dec. 22 **G-B BB (V) CSC Holiday Tourney, tba**
- Dec. 29-30 G-B BB (C-JV-V) at Hot Springs -  
 3, 3, 3:30, 4:30, 6, 7:30 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 3 G WR at High Plains in Columbus, 9:30 a.m. CT  
 B WR at Alliance Dual, 6 p.m.  
**G BB (JV-V) vs. Lakota Tech, 5 & 6:30 p.m.**
- Thurs., Jan. 5 WR (V) at Douglas, 12 a.m.
- Fri., Jan. 6 G WR at Garden County, tba
- Sat., Jan. 7 B WR at Douglas, 9 a.m.  
**G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Mitchell, 2, 3, 3:30 & 5 p.m.**
- Mon., Jan. 9 GB BB (C) at Scottsbluff, 4, 5:30 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 10 **G-B BB (JV-V) vs. Hemingford, 4, 4, 5:30 & 7 p.m.**

## Hay Springs Hawks

- Thurs., Dec. 1 WR Round Robin at Hemingford, tba  
 WR (JH) at Bennet County, 4 p.m.
- Fri., Dec. 2 GBB (JH) at Cody-Kilgore, 3 p.m.  
 G-B (V) at Cody-Kilgore, 5 p.m.
- Sat., Dec 3 **G-B BB vs. Arthur County, 3 p.m.**  
 WR (V) at Mullen Tournament, 8 a.m.
- Tues., Dec. 6 **G-B BB (V) vs. Morrill, 3 p.m.**
- Wed., Dec. 7 Hawk Talk at Senior Center, 8 a.m.
- Thurs., Dec. 8 Santa Soup Cookoff,  
 The Nights, Lights & Music Concert
- Fri., Dec. 9 G BB (JV-V) at Hot Springs, 5 p.m.
- Sat., Dec. 10 **GBB (JH) vs. Crawford, 10 a.m.**  
 WR (V) at Gordon-Rushville, 9:30 a.m.
- Mon., Dec. 12 **G BB (JH) PanCo at Hay Springs, 9 a.m.**
- Tues., Dec. 13 **G-B BB (V) vs. Hemingford, 3 p.m.**
- Thurs., Dec. 15 G-B BB (V) at Creek Valley, 3 p.m.
- Sat., Dec. 17 WR (V) at Sidney Tounament, 9 a.m.
- Dec. 19-20 G-B BB (V) at Sioux County Tourney, 12 p.m.
- Tues., Dec. 20 **WR (V) vs. Lakota Tech (home), tba**
- Thurs., Dec. 22 **Christmas Break, Noon Dismissal**
- Thurs., Dec. 29 G-B BB (V) at Banner County, 5 p.m.
- Tues., Jan. 3 G-B BB (V) at Oelrichs, 5 p.m.
- Sat., Jan. 7 WR (V) at Garden County-Oshkosh, 9 a.m.  
**G-B BB (V) vs. Leyton, 2 p.m.**
- Tues., Jan. 10 **G BB (JV-V) vs. Gordon-Rushville, 5:30 p.m.**



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## Recipes



**Do you have a recipe you would like to share with our readers?**

Please send to [hiphop@gpcom.net](mailto:hiphop@gpcom.net)

### Caramel Corn

- 7 quarts plain popped popcorn
- 2 cups dry roasted peanuts (Optional)
- 2 cups brown sugar
- ½ cup light corn syrup
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup margarine
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Place the popped popcorn into two shallow greased baking pans. You may use roasting pans, jelly roll pans, or disposable roasting pans. Add the peanuts to the popped corn if using. Set aside.

Preheat the oven to 250 degrees F. Combine the brown sugar, corn syrup, margarine and salt in a saucepan. Bring to a boil over medium heat, stirring enough to blend. Once the mixture begins to boil, boil for 5 minutes while stirring constantly.

Remove from the heat, and stir in the baking soda and vanilla. The mixture will be light and foamy. Immediately pour over the popcorn in the pans, and stir to coat. Don't worry too much at this point about getting all of the corn coated.

Bake for 1 hour, removing the pans, and giving them each a good stir every 15 minutes. Line the counter top with waxed paper. Dump the corn out onto the waxed paper and separate the pieces. Allow to cool completely, then store in airtight containers or resealable bags.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Chocolate Crinkle Cookies

- 2 cups white sugar
- 1 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
- ½ cup vegetable oil
- 4 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- 2 cups all-purpose flour

- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ cup confectioners' sugar

Mix sugar, cocoa, and oil together in a medium bowl. Beat in eggs, one at a time, until combined. Stir in vanilla.

Combine flour, baking powder, and salt in another bowl. Gradually stir dry ingredients into the wet ingredients until thoroughly mixed. Cover dough and refrigerator for at least 4 hours.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Line two baking sheets with parchment paper.

Roll or scoop chilled dough into 1-inch balls. Coat each ball in confectioners' sugar and place 1 inch apart on the prepared cookie sheets.

Bake in the preheated oven for 10 to 12 minutes. Let stand on the cookie sheet for a few minutes before transferring to wire racks to cool.

Repeat Steps 4 and 5 to make remaining batches.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Strawberry Pretzel Salad

- 2 cups crushed pretzels
- ¾ cup butter, melted
- 3 tablespoons white sugar
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 (8 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 2 (3 ounce) packages strawberry flavored Jell-O®
- 2 cups boiling water
- 2 (10 ounce) packages frozen strawberries

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F.

Stir crushed pretzels, melted butter, and 3 tablespoons sugar together until well-combined; mix well and press mixture into the bottom of a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Bake in the preheated oven until set, about 8 to 10 minutes; set aside to cool.

Place cream cheese and 1 cup sugar in a large bowl. Beat with an electric mixer until smooth; fold in whipped topping. Spread mixture onto cooled crust.

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Stir in still-frozen strawberries and allow to set briefly. Pour and spread over cream cheese layer; refrigerate until set, at least 2 hours.

\* \* \* \* \*

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## Five Winter Energy Saving Tips

Your heating and cooling system is the biggest energy hog in your home, accounting for almost half your total energy costs. The money you spend on utilities rises dramatically in the summer and winter months when temperature control sees the highest use. Winter can be especially problematic, as heating costs are a matter of survival. Fortunately, there are a few simple ways you can reduce your heating costs and save money on your utility bill while still staying toasty in the winter.

### 1. Let the Sun in During the Day

There's a reason the family cat likes to nap in sunbeams — the sun is a fantastic source of free heat. By opening your curtains and blinds during the daytime, you take advantage of the greenhouse effect and allow the sun to naturally heat your home.

### 2. But Close the Curtains at Night

Unfortunately, windows can also be a source of heat loss, as they are not as well insulated as your walls. Close your curtains and blinds when the sun goes down to prevent cold chills from cooling your home. Consider purchasing insulated curtains to maximize the energy efficiency of your windows.

### 3. Eliminate Air Leaks and Drafts

Air sealing your home is simple, effective, and relatively inexpensive. Caulking and weatherstripping will usually

pay for themselves in energy savings within a year. Use caulk for cracks and openings between stationary objects like door and window frames. You can use weatherstripping around anything that moves, like the door itself or window sashes.

Doors are a major trouble spot for drafts. If you have a drafty door, check the weather stripping and seals around the door frame. Replace any damaged or missing weather stripping and apply new caulk to any broken seals.

### 4. Close Doors and Vents in Unused Rooms

Have a guest room you don't use unless the in-laws are in town? A storage room? Maybe the kids are away at college. Whatever the reason, if you have a room in your house that people rarely enter, you're wasting valuable energy heating it in the wintertime. Close off all vents in the room and shut all doors. This will prevent you from paying to heat uninhabited space.

### 5. Stay Warm With Clothes and Blankets

It's much more cost effective to warm your body than your house. Keep the thermostat low and compensate by wearing a nice sweater and warm socks around the house. Stay toasty at night under a thick blanket, comforter, or duvet. If you're concerned about keeping your pets warm, consider buying a doggie sweater for your pooch. Sweaters are not recommended for cats. Not only do cats hate clothing, but they also seem to have a natural ability to find the warmest spot in the house anyway.

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## NRPPD ENTERTAINMENT

# Find Something to Celebrate in December!

Dec. 1: National Eat a Red Apple Day, National Pie Day, Rosa Parks Day, Day With(out) Art Day.

Dec. 2: National Fritters Day, National Mutt Day, Special Education Day, National Bartender Day.

Dec. 3: National Roof Over Your Head Day, National Play Outside Day, Skywarn Recognition Day.

Dec. 4: National Cookie Day, National Dice Day, National Sock Day.

Dec. 5: Bathtub Party Day, International Ninja Day, Repeal Day, National Sacher Torte Day.

Dec. 6: Miners' Day, National Gazpacho Day, National Microwave Oven Day, Pawnbroker's Day, St. Nicholas Day.

Dec. 7: National Cotton Candy Day, National Illinois Day, National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Dec. 8: National Brownie Day, Pretend to Be a Time Traveler Day.

Dec. 9: Christmas Card Day, National Pastry Day, Weary Willie Day, National Salesperson Day.

Dec. 10: Dewey Decimal System Day, Human Rights Day, National Lager Day, Nobel Prize Day.

Dec. 11: National Stretching Day, National App Day, National Noodle Ring Day.

Dec. 12: National Ambrosia Day, National Ding-a-Ling Day, Gingerbread House Day, Poinsettia Day.

Dec. 13: National Cocoa Day, Violin Day, Pick a Pathologist Pal Day, National Guard Birthday.

Dec. 14: National Bouillabaisse Day, National Alabama Day, Monkey Day.

Dec. 15: National Cupcake Day, Bill of Rights Day, Cat Herders Day, National Wear Your Pearls Day.

Dec. 16: National Chocolate-Covered Anything Day, National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day, Underdog Day.

Dec. 17: National Maple Syrup Day, Wright Brothers Day, National Wreaths Across America Day (Changes Yearly)

Dec. 18: National Twin Day, Roast Suckling Pig Day, Answer the Telephone Like Buddy the Elf Day, Chanukah Begins.

Dec. 19: National Hard Candy Day, National Oatmeal Muffin Day.

Dec. 20: Go Caroling Day, National Sangria Day, Mudd Day.

Dec. 21: Crossword Puzzle Day, Humbug Day, Maine Day, Winter Solstice, Homeless Persons' Remembrance Day.

Dec. 22: National Date Nut Bread Day, Forefathers Day, National Re-Gifting Day.

Dec. 23: Festivus, National Pfeffernusse Day, National Roots Day.

Dec. 24: Christmas Even, National Eggnog Day.

Dec. 25: A'Phabet Day or No "L" Day, Christmas, National Pumpkin Pie Day.

Dec. 26: Boxing Day (Canada), Candy Cane Day, National Thank-You Note Day, National Whiner's Day.

Dec. 27: National Fruitcake Day

Dec. 28: National Card Playing Day, Chocolate Candy Day, Short Film Day, Pledge of Allegiance Day.

Dec. 29: National Pepper Pot Day, Tick Tock Day.



Dec. 30: Bacon Day, Falling Needles Family Fest Day, National Bicarbonate of Soda Day, No Interruptions Day.

Dec. 31: Make up your Mind Day, National Champagne Day, New Years Eve, Universal Hour of Peace.



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## Bits 'n Pieces...

### Top 10 Rancher's Famous Last Words..

- Leave the gate open -- the cows won't bother it.
- That horse doesn't have an ounce of buck in him.
- Don't weaken and that ol' cow will turn back.
- This market still has some life in it -- believe I'll hold on selling for a few more days.
- Been driving thought this wet spot for 20 years and haven't gotten stuck once.
- There's no way in creation that bull can go over that fence.
- No rain in the forecast so just leave the pickup out in the field.
- You can run a good 20 miles after the fuel gauge says empty.
- Just stand your ground and that dog won't bite.
- Now watch -- if you get right up close behind a calf you won't get..^#\$\$%!

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Santa,

How are you? Well, enough chit-chat. Let's get down to business. This year I want..

1. A big Space Lego set
2. Some jelly beans

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Santa,

How are you and the reindeer doing? I am doing fine. I want a new football game and football because my little brother always try to steal mine. He may look sweet be his the devil. I also wan a remote control truck.

Love -- Evan

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Santa Claws,

I'm sorry of what I did in the past and thank you for the Christmas letter. I love it. But what I want for Christmas this year is 5.3 billoin dollers. Pleas rite another letter this year. I love you.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dear Santa,

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



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