

Northwest Rural Public Power District

Hay Springs, NE 69347

January 2026

Teen Acne Inspires Gordon Skincare and Massage Career

It had to have been a transition for a Colorado couple to relocate to Northwest Nebraska. Five years ago, Mckenzie Harrison and her husband Brandon moved from Brighton, Colo. to Gordon. The Harrisons had known each other since they were little because their families were great friends. "We didn't start dating until I was about 26. We have now been married 12 years," she explained. Following high school, Mckenzie went to massage school in 2007, then went on to aesthetic school in 2009. "I received my training certificate from Denver School of Massage Therapy. I received my certificate of aesthetics at Xenon International Academy in Aurora," she added.

Mckenzie has special licenses in microneedling and chemical peels, hot stone massage and injury work.

"I always wanted to help people feel their best. I suffered from acne as a teenager so that led me to finding resources to help people with their acne," explained Mckenzie, who worked at a few different day spas in Colorado before moving to Nebraska. She now owns and operates "Cherish: the Skincare Studio", based in Gordon at 101 W. 9th Street. She set up shop in October of 2021.

"I offer different variations of massage in 30 minute or hour sessions," said Mckenzie. Her services include: services



Mckenzie Harrison, owner of Cherish: The Skincare Studio in Gordon with her Aunt Julie Alcorn in front of her business sign.



Cherish Skincare Studio offers an inviting comfortable room for a variety of massages and treatments

to Massage Therapy, Waxing, Facials, Waxing, Eyelash lift & Tinting, Demarplaning, Eyebrow and Lash Tints, Microdeemabrasion & Chemical Peels. . Other services included a Dermaplanning, Deluxe Facial which removes the vellus (peach fuzz) hair from the face as well as resurfaces the top layer of the dead skin. Last but not least Jet Plasma. A Jet Plasma pen is a handheld plasma device that uses a cool atmospheric temperature to tighten and lift reduce sun damaged and discoloration.

Clients can book on line at www.cherishskincarestudio.com or by calling (720) 854-4769. She can also be reached by email: the2ndlayer@outlook.com. E-Gift Cards are also available.

The Skincare Studio's hours are as follows: Closed Mondays. Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-5; Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Thursday, 1 p.m.-5 p.m.; and Saturdays, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

"I love owning my own business because of the flexibility (Continued on Page 2)

NRPPD Announces Resignation of Manager Chance Briscoe

Northwest Rural Public Power District (NRPPD) announced that Chance Briscoe will resign from his position as General Manager effective at the end of the year. Briscoe will be relocating to Minnesota in January 2026 to assume the role of Chief Executive Officer of BENCO Electric, a rural, non-profit electric cooperative serving south-central Minnesota.

Briscoe has served as General Manager of NRPPD since 2014. He joined the District from Colorado, where he was serving as Chief Financial Officer of KE Electric, and succeeded long-time General Manager Rolland Skinner. During his 12-year tenure, Briscoe worked closely with the NRPPD Board of Directors and employees to guide the District through significant operational, financial, and regulatory challenges while maintaining a strong focus on affordability and service reliability for customers. Early in his tenure, Briscoe led a comprehensive rate

restructuring effort in collaboration with the Board of Directors at the time. As a result, NRPPD achieved meaningful long-term rate stability. In 2014, the average residential rate was 16.5 cents per kilowatt-hour. As of the end of 2024, the average residential rate stood at 13.8 cents per kilowatt-hour—lower than it was a decade earlier.

Briscoe also championed numerous technology advancements at NRPPD aimed at improving customer service and operational efficiency. These initiatives included the implementation of remote account reconnects, online and mobile account access, credit card payment processing, and an outage management system, among other enhancements.



Chance Briscoe

During Briscoe's tenure, NRPPD and other Nebraska Tri-State members faced significant challenges related to their power supply contract with Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association, which extended through 2050. Briscoe joined NRPPD following the loss of a lawsuit seeking to exit that contract. In 2019, when Tri-State became federally regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, NRPPD again elected to pursue an exit from the 2050 contract. That effort remains ongoing, and Briscoe has expressed confidence that NRPPD will successfully achieve an exit by the end of 2026.

The NRPPD Board of Directors has contracted with a national association to conduct a nationwide search for the District's next General Manager. The Board anticipates hiring a permanent replacement by the summer of 2026. In the interim, the Board has engaged Kory Johnson to serve in an interim leadership role. Johnson is a retired General Manager with extensive experience in rural, non-profit electric utilities. Most recently, he served as General Manager of Agralite Electric Cooperative and currently resides in Rapid City, South Dakota.

Reflecting on his time at NRPPD, Briscoe said, "I am grateful to the current and former Board Members for allowing me to serve as the General Manager for the past 12 years. I especially want to thank the employees of NRPPD who have supported me during my time at NRPPD and provide extremely dedicated service to the customers of NRPPD, day in and day out. I am excited to start the next chapter of my career but will miss working with the Board and employees and wish them nothing but the best as NRPPD continues into the future."

The NRPPD Board expressed its appreciation for Briscoe's leadership and service to the District and wished him success as he begins this next chapter in his career.

Cherish: Skincare Studio --

(Continued from Page 1)

ity and quality of time for each patient that I get to help.

The couple assist with Alcorn Outfitters south of Hay Springs. Brandon is also a ranch-hand for a cattle ranch owned by cousin Zac Alcorn.

She explained Julie and Russ Alcorn are her Aunt and Uncle. Their mothers were sisters. Her grandparents were Jan and Joel Waddil. "We wanted a change of pace with different opportunities. We have lots of family that have lived here. So we decided to pick up and moved to Nebraska."

Mckenze assists with the hunting outfit where she is the main cook. The couple have one child, Gatlin, who is a fifth grader at Hay Springs Elementary.



Mckenzie, Brandon and Gatlin Harrison.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION MEMBER COOPERATIVE

Basin Electric Power Cooperative - Member Cooperative Scholarship Program

Scholarship Submittal Requirements

The student is responsible for submitting all materials on time. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

- ☐ 1. Complete this application (*attach additional sheets if necessary*). Your name and address should be on all attachments. Completeness and neatness ensure your application will be evaluated appropriately.
- ☐ 2. Recent academic transcript whether it is from a high school, college, university, or trade school. **CURRENT COLLEGE FRESHMAN** - Judges will screen and require more than one semester or quarter of grades. If this applies to you, submit your high school transcript.
- ☐ 3. Copy of your college entrance examination (*ACT and/or SAT*) scores. (*College Freshman Only*)
- ☐ 4. Essay - How does the electricity provided by your electric cooperative improve the quality of life in your community?
- ☐ 5. Applicant appraisal.
- ☐ 6. Send this application and all supporting documentation to your member cooperative. (*Each member cooperative will be responsible for selecting finalists in these categories*).
 - Cooperative applications **MUST** be sent to the cooperative.

DEADLINE: Submit Application to NRPPD by Feb. 12, 2026 by 5:30 p.m.

Member cooperatives' must submit their finalists to Basin Electric Power Cooperative by **March 1st**.

All scholarship entries are confidential and will only be viewed by the Basin Electric Power Cooperative or member cooperative selection committee.

Applicant Information

Applicant Name:		Home Phone:	College Phone:	Last 4 Digits of SSN#:
Permanent Address (Street/PO Box):		City:	State:	Zip:
Mother's Name:		Father's Name:		
Student's Parent is:		<input type="checkbox"/> Member Cooperative Employee <input type="checkbox"/> Member Cooperative Consumer		
Cooperative System Name:				
Cooperative Location (City, State, Zip):				
High School Name and Address from which you graduate or will be graduating this spring:				
Activities, Community Involvement, Achievements, and/or Honors:				

Sending a resume does not replace any part of this application. If space provided in any section is inadequate, you may continue on additional sheets. Attachments must follow the same format. **DO NOT** repeat information already reported on the application form. Your name, address, and name of this scholarship program should be included on all attachments.

Work Experience

Describe your work experience (e.g. food server, babysitting, lawn mowing, and office work). Indicate dates of employment for each job and approximate number of hours worked each week.

Employer/Position	From (Mo/Yr)	To (Mo/Yr)	Hours per Week

New Year's Resolutions...

- Try yoga - or at least learn how to touch my toes without toppling over.
- Experiment with new recipes, with a goal to cook something that actually looks like the recipe picture.
- Commit to finding a plant I can't kill in less than a week - a botanical challenge!
- Promise to resist the urge to start a new TV series until I finish at least one I've already started.
- "In 2026, I'll try to cook at home more, but only if 'cereal for dinner' counts as cooking."
- Embrace the chaos: aspire to make my bed at least once a month.
- Practice the fine art of remembering where I left my keys at least twice a week.
- Attempt to become fluent in emoji to communicate complex emotions more effectively.
- Promise to conquer the pile of unread books by turning them into stylish furniture.
- I vow to drink more water in 2025... as long as it's part of my coffee or cocktail.
- I will aim to learn how to eat ice cream without getting brain freeze - a true skill!
- We will practice becoming the reigning champion of

- blanket forts in the house.
- I will try to perfect the "dinosaur roar" and unleash it when least expected.
- I'll master the art of eating spaghetti without making it look like a sauce explosion - by December 31, 2026!
- I will try the "no vegetables left behind" policy at dinner; sneakily feed them to the dog instead.
- I will develop the ability to identify five different bird species in the backyard and give them secret agent names.

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."

January Special Days....

December:

- Jan. 1 - New Year's Day, National Bloody Mary Day!
- Jan. 4 - National Missouri Day, Spagetti Day, Trivia Day
- Jan. 6 - Pepe Le Pew made it's debut.
- Jan. 8 - Bubble Bath Day
- Jan. 9 - Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.
- Jan. 11 - Arkansas Day
- Jan. 18 - Michigan Day
- Jan. 20 - Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- Jan. 27 - Vietnam Peace Day

January Birthstone: Although garnet is commonly associated with the color red, these gemstones can be found in almost any color and are popular choices for jewelry of all types. Some believe garnets are a protective stone, shielding the wearer from injury which made them popular amongst warriors and royalty.

January's Birth Flower: Carnation & Snowdrop. The carnation is native to the Mediterranean area, the carnation (*Dianthus caryophyllus*) is a widely cultivated fringed-petaled flower with a spice fragrance. It was first imported to the United States in the 1850s, and within two decades, more than 50 varieties had been made available. The Snowdrop is native to the cooler mountains, wooded, and grassland regions of southern Europe and Asia Minor, they have since been naturalized in the U.S.

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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- NREA Director: **Kevin Christy, Gordon; Alternate, Manager Chance Briscoe**
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