

Hay Springs, NE 69347

# **Baking Becomes a Creative Outlet/Income**

Camie Johnson found baking to be "a sense of freedom after working for someone else and getting to come home and be creative in your own work!"

The new mother of rural Hay Springs was working as a medical coder at Chadron Medical Clinic last fall when she thought she would offer her baked cooks for sale at an upcoming craft show, the Harvest Moon Festival in Chadron. The festival is huge and very popular and the was the perfect time to put her feelers out.

"I come from a long line of crafters, and to anyone who



knows my grandma Barb Bernard they know that's true! My grandma Barb, my mom Brooke and my aunt Laura were a big help in learning how to do it," explained Johnson. "My grandma has always had baked goods in her house when I was younger and you could always count on having something good when going over to her house!"

Camie Johnson with daughter Taite

Johnson's first craft show all four of her family members piled together at her grandma's to put everything together for the Harvest Moon Festival!

"The first items I ever sold were caramel apples, truffles and chocolate dipped Oreos," noted Johnson, who grew up in Chadron. "Cam's Creations" had been launched and expanded rapidly. She wasted no time signing up for Kris Kringle, another popular craft fair. "I am trying to do as many craft fairs as I can enroll in! It is a great time to see



Cam's Creations offered special Valentine's Boxes filled with a variety of chocolate treats including dipped strawberries.



Camie Johnson busy decorating graduation cakes the week that most all the Northwest territory schools graduating. She baked and decorated hundreds of cupcakes.

everyone you don't get to usually see," said Johnson, who is looking forward to a two-day show in June with Kodi Olson at her Junkyard Jezebelle.

Since then she has been taking special orders and has been able to offer her sweet treats in a couple of Hay Springs businesses. "My custom orders have really taken off. I couldn't be more blessed. Since the first of the year, I have done over 50 custom cakes! I do custom cakes, cookies, cupcakes, and cake pops," said Johnson.

Cam's Creations off a variety of cakes ranging from full size sheet cakes, half sheets, cupcake cakes, cupcakes and smash cakes for babies. "When my daughter turned one I found a recipe to make a sugar free smash cake and frosting. No one needs a sugar rushed one year old," she laughed. Flavors vary to chocolate, Oreo, strawberry, lemon, red velvet, and vanilla. She can make any of those (Continued on Page 2)

# **NORTHWEST RURAL NEWS**

#### Cam's Creations -

#### (Continued from Page 1)

into cake pops as well! Johnson believes she averages about two hours labor per cake.

So what's her favorite to make? "My favorite items to make are definitely the tall two-tier cakes. Those are the best, it is so much fun to watch them come to together in the end," explained Johnson. The biggest order she ever filled was for a 50th Anniversary Party/ Branding. "It was a two-tier chocolate and vanilla cake with 10 dozen cupcakes! The cupcakes were a mix of chocolate with fudge frosting and vanilla with vanilla butter cream," said Johnson, who prefers a two week notice or at least a week.

Johnson is very appreciative of the community of Hay Springs for the amazing support. "Everyone has been so supportive in helping me start and make my business flourish. Jen Young at Farm to Family Cooperative and Kelsey Opitz at The Main Street Grind have helped me tremendously in putting my name out



A 50th Anniversary cake with coordinating cupcakes.

there. I honestly can't thank them enough," added Johnson.

Cam's Creations is a home based business south of Hay Springs on the family farm-ranch.. "I obtained my cottage law certification as a home baker in the state of Nebraska. One day I hope to have my own shop, but for now I do it all from home," said Johnson. Her husband, Jake, and his brother Joey run cows along side their grandpa and uncle. They also have corn, wheat and beans.

She gave Jake credit for being helpful and supportive of her baking business. "My husband is a huge help, whether it's wrangling the kids so I can have alone time to bake or he has helped me bag up all my goodies before a craft show!" she added.

The couple have two children, Ryder, 4, and a daughter named Taite who (Continued on Page 3)





A variety of Cam's Creations cupcakes and cake pops

# **NRPPD FEATURE**

#### Cam's Creations -

#### (Continued from Page 2)

just turned 1 in March! "Jake and I met less than a year after he returned from the Marine Corp. I was working at the Favorite Bar when he and his buddy Clint came in! I knew of Jake but never met him until Clint introduced us. After a month of him just coming in to say hi, we started going out in April of 2021!," explained Camie.

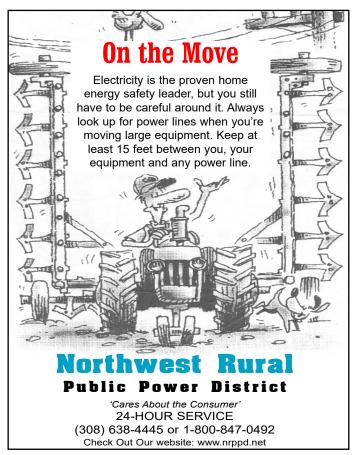
The first of the year, Camie went to work for Julie's Hay Town Grill, Hay Springs' new steakhouse. She typi-

cally works days, which allows evenings and a couple of full days for baking and her family.

You can contact Camie at 308-430-3156 or find her on Facebook. She delivers to Hay Springs and can typically deliver to Chadron.



A cute Ninga Turtle cake made for a customer.





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# **NRPPD NEWS**



Countryroad Shot: Sheridan County "Day Is Done" Near Hay Springs Nov. 2008

~ by Jim Manternach

If you are interested in a print, you can contact Jim at jmm@millcomps.com or his website www.jimmphoto.com



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# **NRPPD NEWS**

# The Winner is Maria Prokop of Mirage Flats

Masterbuilt 40-inch Electric Smoker



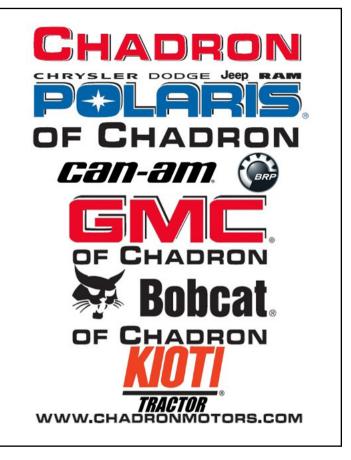
In addition to the Masterbuilt 40-inch Digital Electric Smoker it included BBQ accessory kit and BBQ Sauces to go with the Smoker.



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# **NORTHWEST RURAL ACTIVITIES**

# **POST PLAYHOUSE**

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Performance Times: \*Sundays/Matinees 2 p.m., \*\*Mornings 10 a.m. Tuesday-Saturday 8 p.m. For ticket information call 308-665-1976 or tickets@postplayhouse.come

### The Spongebob Musical



**Opens Friday, May 24, 2024** Rating: G *MUSIC & LYRICS BY: xxxx* BOOK BY: xxx

Plunge into this stunning all-singing, all-dancing, dynamic stage show. When the citizens of Bikini Bottom discover that a volcano will soon erupt and destroy their humble home, SpongeBob and his friends must come together to save the fate of their undersea world. With lives hanging in the balance and all hope lost, a most unexpected hero rises up. The power of optimism really can save the world. A terrific show for the entire family and one that many ages will enjoy.

Rated: G Sponsored by WESTCO MAY: 24, 25,26\*, 28. JUNE: 5, 7, 12, 18, 21 JULY: 2, 10\*, 13\*\*, 18,17\*\*, 30 AUGUST: 3\*, 7, 11\*



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### **Jersey Boys**

#### Opens Friday, May 31, 2024

Rating: H

\*There is some adult subject matter and language.

This behind-the-music story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons will take you from the streets of Newark to the heights of stardom. Follow the incredible journey of four guys bound by one dream to make it to the top without giving up, selling out or forgetting where they came from. Experience electrifying performances of golden greats that took these guys all the way to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame: "Sherry," "Big Girls Don't Cry," "Can't Take My Eyes Off You," "My Eyes Adored You," and more. *Sponsored By Anne Armstrong Sellman* 

MAY: 31

JUNE: 1, 2\*, 4, 6, 8, 11, 19, 22, 25 JULY: 9, 12\*, 17, 20\*\*, 25, 28\*\* AUGUST: 1, 3\*\*, 8\*, 10\*

# The Wizard of Oz

**Opens Friday, June 14, 2024** Rating: G



ERSEY BO

Follow the yellow brick road in this delightful stage adaptation of L. Frank Baum's beloved tale, featuring the iconic musical score from the MGM film. The timeless tale, in which young Dorothy Gale travels from Kansas over the rainbow to the magical Land of Oz, continues to thrill audiences worldwide.

Sponsored by Susan Sehnert Stuart Charitable Trust JUNE: 14, 15, 16\*, 20, 23\*, 26 JULY: 6\*, 12, 14\*, 19, 20\*\*, 24, 26\*, 27, 31 AUG.: 4\*, 7\*, 10



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# **NORTHWEST RURAL ACTIVITIES**

Honky Tonk Laundry

Opens Friday, June 28, 2024 Rating: G

Sponsored by Janell Visser and Jeanine Mohr

When Lana Mae Hopkins, owner and proprietress of the Wishy

Washy Washateria, hires Katie to help out in the laundromat, they soon find themselves up to their elbows in soap, suds, and cheatin' hearts. Watch these two country angels join forces to turn their good ol' laundromat into a bootscootin' honky-tonk and exact a touch of revenge against those that done 'em wrong, all while guaranteeing every customer a good, clean time. Honky Tonk Laundry features the music of Carrie Underwood, Trisha Yearwood, Martina McBridge, Reba McEntire, Sara Evans, the Dixie Chicks, Chely Wright, Dolly Parton, Pam Tillis, Gretchen Wilson, Terri Clark, Tammy Wynette, Loretta Lynn, & Patsy Cline *JUNE: 28, 29, 30\** 

JULY: 3, 10, 13\*, 16, 20, 24\*, 26 AUG.: 2\*, 3, 8, 9\*



Kiss Me, Kate! Opens June 30, 2023 Rating: G

Passions run high as leading lady Lilli Vanessi and her ex-husband, actor/director Fred



Graham, battle onstage and off in a production of Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew. With romance, comedy, explosive dance, sophistication, and behind-the-scenes high jinks, Kiss Me, Kate combines the irreverent humor of four brilliant writers: Sam and Bella Spewack, Cole Porter, and William Shakespeare.

Sponsored by Footprints - Your Birkenstock Store JULY: 5, 6, 7\*, 11, 13, 17\*, 19\*, 23, 27\*, 31\* AUGUST: 2, 6, 9

# Have a fun and safe Summer!



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# **NRPPD ENERGY SAVINGS**

# **Spring into Energy Savings With These Tips**

While you gear up for spring cleaning this year, don't miss the opportunity to increase your home's energy efficiency with some expert spring energy savings tips. Push your household toward maximum efficiency with these energy-saving tips for spring so you can take advantage of increased energy efficiency all year round.

#### Save energy on fans and your air conditioner

Stay cool and efficient by cleaning or replacing your air filters regularly. Additionally, consider installing a timer switch on your bathroom fan so that it runs only when necessary, avoiding unnecessary energy consumption. When using a ceiling fan, make sure it is running counter-clockwise during warmer months to push cool air downward. However, it's important to remember to turn off your fan when you leave the room. Remember that a ceiling fan cools people, but not the room itself, so leaving a fan on when you're not in the room only wastes electricity.

Another way to save energy in spring is choosing the right air conditioner. Before buying an air conditioning unit or system, find out its energy efficiency ratio (EER). Calculate the EER by dividing the unit's cooling capacity (BTUs/hour) by its energy requirement (watts). An EER of 10 or more is very good, and 6 or 7 is fair. Remember to buy the smallest capacity unit or system that will meet your needs.

#### *Energy-efficiency for doors and windows* Update your windows

If you have older single-paned windows, your home may not be well-insulated against the spring and summer heat. A simple fix would be to replace those windows with new, double-paned windows that are much more energy-efficient and



ardous crop chemicals. If you use dangerous chemicals in your fields, PLEASE FLAG THEM. We need your help to protect our employees and their safety. have an Energy Star label.

Seal air leaks

If replacing windows is not an option for you, you can add caulking or weather stripping to reduce air leakage. Determine where the leaks are by inspecting windows and doors to feel any air coming through. Once leaks are located, apply caulk to fill in the gaps.

#### Install curtains or shades

One excellent spring energy tip is investing in some insulated, thermal-backed drapes for your windows. These drapes are designed with a special lining that helps to block out sunlight and reduce heat transfer. Keeping them closed during the hottest part of the day will help block out the sun and keep your room cooler.

#### Keep door tracks clean

Does your home have a sliding glass door? Make sure to keep its track clean. A dirty track can interfere with the door's seal, allowing outside air to enter and conditioned air to escape. Regular cleaning can help maintain an airtight seal, ensuring your home remains energy-efficient in spring.

#### Attic energy efficiency

Some spring energy tips for the attic include installing ventilation, adding insulation, and sealing air leaks. An attic ventilating system keeps hot air from crowding your attic and seeping into your home below. Consider installing attic vents and fans, or keep your existing ones free of debris. Next, adding insulation helps save energy because it acts as a barrier that keeps heat in during the winter and out during the summer. Finally, to maximize the efficiency of insulation, it's best to seal your attic to prevent air leaks first. You can do this by caulking, sealing and weather stripping all seams, cracks, and openings to the outside.

#### Energy-saving tips for lighting and electronics

An easy and effective way to improve your home's energy efficiency is by updating your lighting. Replace all your old incandescent light bulbs with LED bulbs. They use less energy and last longer - saving you money on your electricity bills now and in your replacement budget later. Remember to turn the lights out when you're done!

Another crucial step is to unplug or completely shut off electronics when you're not using them. Contrary to what you might expect, even in standby mode, those items still consume electricity unless they are completely shut off.

#### Energy efficiency in the kitchen

Maintaining your home appliances is key to improving energy efficiency. Start by cleaning your refrigerator's condenser coils, which can become clogged when dust and pet hair build up, making the motor work harder and use more electricity. As part of your spring-cleaning routine, make sure the coils are cleaned and air can circulate freely. Additionally check the seals on your refrigerator door to make sure they are clean and tight. If your seals are old or dirty, they could be letting refrigerated air out and room-temperature air in, causing your fridge to work harder and use more energy.

In the kitchen, consider using pressure cookers or a microwave oven instead of the stove to use less energy and avoid heating up your home.

### **NRPPD ENTERTAINMENT**



# Recipes

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

> Please send to hiphop@gpcom.net

#### Bacon, Cheddar & Spinach Strada

- 1 tablespoon bacon grease
- 1 (1 pound) loaf day-old bread, cubed
- 12 large eggs
- 2 teaspoons kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1 pinch cayenne pepper
- 1 pinch freshly grated nutmeg
- 2 1/2 cups heavy cream
- 1 pound sliced bacon, cut crosswise into 1/2-inch strips
- 1 pound fresh spinach, wilted, squeezed dry
- 12 ounces shredded extra-sharp Cheddar cheese, divided Oil bottom and sides of a 9x13-inch baking dish with about a tablespoon of bacon fat.Place bread cubes in a

about a tablespoon of bacon fat.Place bread cubes in a large mixing bowl.

Crack eggs into a separate mixing bowl. Season with salt, pepper, cayenne, and nutmeg. Add cream and whisk mixture thoroughly.

Pour egg/cream mixture over the bread cubes and mix to distribute ingredients evenly. Allow bread mixture to sit about 15 minutes to absorb the liquid.

Transfer half of the bread mixture to the baking pan; spread evenly over the bottom and press mixture down a bit. Top with half of the grated Cheddar cheese. Add cooked bacon pieces in an even layer over the cheese. Place the cooked spinach over the bacon; top with half of the remaining cheese. Finish with the rest of the soaked bread cubes, spread evenly and pressed down slightly. Sprinkle with the rest of the grated cheese. Cover and let strata sit at room temperature for 1 hour before baking.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.



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Bake strata in preheated oven until set, about 45 minutes. Optionally, you can broil the strata for a minute or two to brown the top.

#### Strawberry French Toast Casserole

• 12 slices home-style white bread, cut into 1-inch cubes, divided

• 2 (8 ounce) packages cold cream cheese, cut into 1-inch cubes

- 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cups sliced fresh strawberries
- · 2 cups half-and-half
- 12 large eggs
- 1/3 cup pure maple syrup

#### Sauce:

- 1 cup white sugar
- 1 cup water
- 2 tablespoons cornstarch
- 1 cup sliced fresh strawberries
- 1 tablespoon butter

Generously grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Arrange half the bread cubes in the prepared baking dish. Evenly distribute cream cheese cubes over the bread cube layer; sprinkle 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  cups sliced strawberries atop cream cheese layer. Layer the remaining bread cubes over strawberry layer.

Pour half-and-half into a blender; pulse for a few seconds. Blend eggs into half-and-half until fully incorporated. Add maple syrup and blend until smooth. Pour mixture evenly over bread mixture. Cover the baking dish with aluminum foil and refrigerate 8 hours or overnight.

Remove baking dish from refrigerator 45 minutes before baking.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).

Bake the covered casserole in the preheated oven for 30 minutes. Remove aluminum foil and continue baking until French toast is puffed and golden brown, about 30 more minutes.

Stir sugar, water, and cornstarch together in a small saucepan. Cook, stirring occasionally, over medium heat until mixture has thickened, about 5 minutes. Mix in 1 cup sliced strawberries; cook and stir until strawberries have softened, about 10 minutes. Add butter; stir until melted. Serve hot over French toast.



# **NRPPD ACTIVITIES**

### **2024 Security First Regulators Juniors**

May 31-June 2 GI Tourney at Ryder Park, tbd at Chadron, 5 & 7 p.m. Tues., June 4 vs. Bridgeport, Modisett Ballpark, 5 & 7 Wed., June 5 p.m. June 7-9 at Gering Tourney, tbd Tues., June 18 vs. Gering, Modisett Ballpark, 5 & 7 p.m. Wed., June 19 at Bridgeport, 5 & 7 p.m. June 21-23 at Chadron Wood Bat Tourney, tbd Sat., June 29 at Hot Springs, 1 & 3 p.m. Tues., July 2 at Gering, 5 & 7 p.m. at Martin, 1 & 3 p.m. Sun., July 7 July 12-15 at Valentine Tournament, tbd

### **Chadron Nationals Juniors & Seniors**

Seniors at Chadron Wood Bat. tbd Sat., June 1 Sat., June 1 Juniors at Douglas, S.D., 1 & 3 p.m. Mon., June 3 Seniors at North Platte, 4 & 6 p.m. Tues., June 4 Juniors at Gordon, 5 p.m. Thurs., June 5 Seniors at Torrington, 5 & 7 p.m. Tues., June 11 Seniors at Torrington, 5 & 7 p.m. Fri.. June 14 Seniors at North Platte, 5:30 p.m. Sat., June 15 Seniors at Elkhorn, 4 & 6 p.m. Mon., June 17 Juniors at Torrington, 5 p.m. Tues., June 18 Seniors at Sidney, 7 p.m. Wed., June 19 Juniors at Gering, 5 p.m. Seniors at Gering, 7 p.m. Fri., June 21 Seniors at Alliance Tourney, tba Sat., June 22 Juniors at Chadron Wood Bat, tbd Tues., June 25 Seniors at Spearfish, 1 & 3 p.m. Wed., June 26 Juniors at Scottsbluff, 5 p.m. Seniors at Scottsbluff, 7 p.m. Tues., July 2 Juniors at Sidney, 5 p.m. Seniors at Sidney, 7 p.m. Wed., July 3 Juniors at Alliance (Parent's Night), 7 p.m. Juniors at Spearfish Tournament, tbd July 5-7 Juniors at Area Tourney in McCook, tbd July 12-15 Seniors at Spearfish, 1 & 3 p.m. Fri., July 12 July 20-24 Juniors State Tourney at Waterloo/Valley July 26-29 Seniors Area Tourney at Gering, tbd Aug. 3-7 Seniors State Tourney at Holdrege, tbd



### **Table Top Meats**

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### **Crawford Fourth of July Celebration**

Monday, July 1	
9 a.m.	Jr. King & Jr. Princess Contest, Old West Trails Rodeo Grounds
10 a.m.	
10 a.m.	OWTR Junior Fun Day, entries due June 30, Rodeo Grounds
11 a.m5 p.m	n. Crawford Volunteer Fire Dept.
·	Open House, free will donation lunch & activities
6:30 p.m.	Crawford High School Alumni Banquet
Tuesday, July 3	
9 a.m5 p.m.	Western Wildlife Art Show, Fort Robinson
• • p	State Park Vet Building
Wedneedey	•
Wednesday., July 3	
9 a.m5 p.m. Western Wildlife Art Show, Fort Robinson	
	State Park Vet Building
8 p.m.	Old West Trail Rodeo, Rodeo Grounds
Thursday, July 4	
7:30 a.m.	White River 5K Walk/Run; Registration
	6:45-7:15 a.m. (Fort Robinson Playhouse)
9 a.m5 p.m.	Western Wildlife Art Show, Fort Robinson
	State Park Vet Building
10 a.m.	Parade, Downtown Crawford
Following	Activities at Crawford City Park
U	,

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Control Status" button.



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# NRPPD ENTERTAINMENT Find Something to Celebrate in June

- June 1: National Game Show Day, Olive Day, Hazelnut Cake Day, Pen Pal Day, Go Barefoot Day.
- June 2: International Volkswagen Bus Day, Rotisserie Chicken Day, Bubba Day, Rocky Road Day.
- June 3: National Egg Day, Chocolate Macaroon Day, Repeat Day.
- June 4: National Hug Your Cat Day, Clean Beauty Day, Safe Day, Cognac Day, Cheese Day, Old Maids Day.
- June 5: National Ketchup Day, Start Over Day, Moonshine Day, Gingerbread Day, Running Day.
- June 6: D-Day, Gardening Exercise Day, Higher Education Day, Applesauce Cake Day, Drive-In Movie Day.
- June 7: World Caring Day, Oklahoma Day, Chocolate Ice Cream Day, Doughnut Day, VCR Day, Boone Day.
- June 8: National Dragonfly Day, Upsy Daisy Day, Name Your Poison Day, Best Friends Day.
- June 9: Children's Day, Earl Day, Strawberry-Rhubarb Pie Day, Donald Duck Day.
- June 10: National Frosted Cookie Day, Egg Roll Day, Herbs & Spices Day, Black Cow Day, Iced Tea Day.
- June 11: National Forklift Safety Day, Call Your Doctor Day, German Chocolate Cake Day, Corn on the Cob Day.

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- June 12: National Peanut Butter Cookie Day, Jerky Day, Loving Day, Red Rose Day.
- June 13: National Random Acts of Light Day, Weed Your Garden Day, Sewing Maching Day, Career Nurse Assistant's Day, Kitchen Klutzes of Amerida Day.
- June 14: National Cucumber Day, Movie Night, New Mexico Day, Army Day, Flag Day, Strawberry Shortcake Day.
- June 15: National Foam Party Day, Megalodon Day, Nature Photography Day, Martini Day, Smile Power Day.
- June 16: National Turkey Lovers' Day, Father's Day, National Fudge Day.
- June 17: National Mascot Day, Cherry Tart Day, Apple Strudel Day, Eat Your Vegetables Day, Root Beer Day.
- June 18: National Wanna Get Away Day, Splurge Day, Go Fishing Dav.
- June 19: World Sauntering Day, Juneteenth, Watch Day, Freebsd Day, Garfield the Cat Day.
- June 20: First Day of Summer, Ice Cream Soda Day, Vanilla Milkshake day, American Eagle Day.
- June 21: National Smoothie Day, Arizona Day, Selfie Day, Go Skateboarding Day, Day of the Gong.

June 22: International Being You Dasy, Kissing Day, Summersgiving, HVAC Tech Day, Onion Rings Day.

- June 23: National Detroit-Style Pizza Day, Hydration Day, Pecan Sandies Day, Pink Day.
- June 24: National Patch Day, Take Back the Lunch Break Day, Pralines Day.
- June 25: National Strawberry Parfait Day, Leon Day, Catfish Day.
- June 26: National Barcode Day, Coconut Day, Parchment Day, Chocolate Pudding Day, Beatician's Day.
- June 27: National Sunglasses Day, Onion Ring Day, Ice Cream Cake Day, Handshake Day, Orange Blossom Day.
- June 28: National Logistics Day, Alaska Day, Insurance Awareness Day, Paul Bunyan Day.
- June 29: National Almond Buttercrunch Day, Waffle Iron Day, Camera Day.
- June 30: Social Media Day, Meteor Watch Day, National Ootd Day.

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# **NRPPD ENTERTAINMENT**

#### A Little Father's Day Humor...

- "You can tell what was the best year of your father's life because they seem to freeze that clothing style and ride it out." -- Jerry Seinfeld
- "When you're young, you think your dad is Superman. Then you grow up, and you realize he's just a regular guy who wears a cape." --Dave Attell
- "I gave my father \$100 and said, 'Buy yourself something that will make your life easier.' So he went out and bought a present for my mother." -Rita Rudner
- "My daughter got me a 'World's Best Dad' mug. So we know she's sarcastic." -Bob Odenkirk
- "Even though I'm proud my dad invented the rearview mirror, we're not as close as we appear." -Stewart Francis
- "Father's Day is important because, besides being the day on which we honor Dad, it's the one day of the year that Brookstone does any business." - Jimmy Fallon
- "Me and my dad used to play tag. He'd drive."

#### -Rodney Dangerfield

- "We wondered why when a child laughed, he belonged to Daddy, and when he had a sagging diaper that smelled like a landfill, 'He wants his mother.'" -Erma Bombeck
- "The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents, the second half by our children." -Clarence Darrow
- "Four-year-old: Tell me a scary story! Me: One time little people popped out of your mom, and they never stopped asking questions. Four-year-old: Why?" -James Breakwell
- "When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant, I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years." -Mark Twain.
- "Fatherhood is great because you can ruin someone from scratch." -Jon Stewart
- "Remember: What Dad really wants is a nap. Really." -Dave Barry



# **EVEN** HREE IS A CROWD

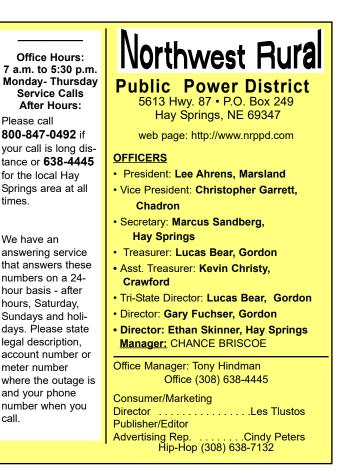
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- "I never got along with my dad. Kids used to come up to me and say, 'My dad can beat up your dad.' I'd say, 'Yeah? When?'" -Bill Hicks
- "Men should always change diapers. It's a very rewarding experience. It's mentally cleansing. It's like washing dishes, but imagine if the dishes were your kids, so you really love the dishes." -Chris Martin
- "I want my son to wear a helmet 24 hours a day. If it was socially acceptable, I'd be the first one to have my kid in a full helmet and, like, a cage across his face mask." -Will Arnett
- "When I was a kid, I said to my father one afternoon, 'Daddy, will you take me to the zoo?' He answered, 'If the zoo wants you, let them come and get you.'"

-Jerry Lewis

- "Having children is like living in a frat house. Nobody sleeps, everything's broken, and there's a lot of throwing up." -Ray Romano
- "Raising kids may be a thankless job with ridiculous hours, but at least the pay sucks." —Jim Gaffigan
- "A father carries pictures where his money used to be." -Steve Martin
- "To be a successful father, there's one absolute rule: When you have a kid, don't look at it for the first two years." -Ernest Hemingway



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