

# Northwest Rural Public Power District

Hay Springs, NE 69347

March 2023

## Raising Sheep a Century Long Family Tradition

A rural Hay Springs family is approaching a century of raising sheep. Brant Binger, together with his father Gary are carrying on a tradition that began in the 1920s starting with the late Bill Binger (Gary Binger's grandfather) together with Max Kutschara, who's place is still owned by his daughter Naomi Rezek. The trio went into partnership back in the 1920s raising sheep about five miles southwest of Hay Springs.

Today, the five Binger grandchildren get involved especially with the annual shearing. Once a year the Rambouillet sheep are sheared typically in December right before lambing. This year it was pushed back because of the blizzard.

For approximately 12 years, the sheep have been sheared by Opstedahl Sheep Shearing Crew based out of Union Center, S.D. The crew of five set up their semi-bed and went to town shearing about 250 head in less than six hours. The sheep are sheared right before lambing season allowing more space in the shed for birthing. It is also alot easier for the lambs to nurse with less fleece as well. The owner of the



Tyler Opstedahl from Union Center, S.D. is part of the shearing crew that the Bingers hire each year to shear their sheep southwest of Hay Springs.

crew, Loren Opstedahl, is teamed up with his three sons... Tyler, Tayler and Tadlee, in addition with two more employees, Rowdy Thompson and Owen Johnson. Loren is an established sheep shearer with 34 years under his belt and 30 as a business owner. "I have been contracting sheep for a crew of up to eight men or women working at any given time over the years," said Opstedahl. "My dad taught me how to shear when I was 17 years old. And then many years of practice," he added. He noted he has also taken a few courses over seas. He is certified in South Dakota, Nebraska, Wyoming and North Dakota. "To be a certified sheep shearer you must qualify as a competent shearer according to the American Sheep Industry. Being able to handle sheep safely and shear a sheep to produce a fleece that is ready for sale," explained Opstedahl. Most of his business comes from northwest Nebraska and in South Dakota. They shear for approximately 150-200 clients over a year's time.

The ewes are larger than a few decades ago, with weights of approxi-  
(Continued on Page 2)



**Shearing Day**  
Left, Gary Binger rounding up the sheep to go onto the trailer to be shorn. Right, The Bingers, front from left grandchildren, Rowdy, Kya, Rigger holding Colt; back, Gary, Brant and his son, Brayden.



## Sheepherders--

(Continued from Page 1)

-mately 250 lbs. making it a physically demanding job. The sheep need to be in the correct position beginning on it's back, leaving the belly exposed and four legs in the air. The more comfortable the sheep are during the shearing process, the less it will struggle, making the shearing much easier. They start with the belly, then the legs, before moving them to their sides for the long "blows" in order to remove the entire fleece in one piece.

Loren Opstedahl has earned several awards for



**Loren Opstedahl after winning the National awards in 2016 at the Black Hills Stock Show.**

his quick shearing times. "I have won the national championships six times, two times it was at the National Western Stock Show in Denver, and four times at the Black Hills Stock Show in Rapid City. He was a National Champion in the hand blades two times in addition to winning state fair competitions in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. "I have also qualified to represent the USA at the world

championships in Norway, Ireland, Wales, and Twice in New Zealand, once representing for the hand blades and the machine shearers," noted Opstedahl.

After the sheep are sheared, the wool is processed in Belle Fourche, S.D. at "Center of the National Wool" before it is sold to wool mills on the east coast.



**The Opstedahl brothers, Tyler, Tayler and Tadlee have followed in their father's footsteps as sheep shearers.**

According to post on the Center of the National Wool site, United States produces about 25 million pounds of wool a year. At the Belle Fourche site, they market between four and a half and five million pounds, roughly 20 percent of the wool produced in the United States.

Although, the Bingers continue to enjoy raising sheep, it's always a sigh of relief after shearing day. Brant is hoping the tradition will continue down thru his children, Braydon and Kya, and possibly his nephews, Riggen, Rowdy and Colt.

His former neighbor and longtime family friend, Naomi Rezek, now 99, still displays interest in the sheep with the Bingers. She remembers days long ago when her father was raising sheep. "It was 1922 when my mom inherited the place. I remember back then shearing was done later in the spring because we lambbed in the spring," recalled Rezek. She noted that a crew was typically hired for the shearing. After that, her

**(Continued on Page 3)**



**Employee Owen Johnson gathers the wool for the bin as fast as the fleece is shorn.**



These sheep may have felt a little cool after loosing their fleece, but have more room in the warm sheep shed.

## Shepherders--

(Continues from Page 2)

dad, Max Kutschara, would often rent land up around Porcupine, S.D. where the sheep could summer graze. "Sheep incline to trail, if you get one going in the right direction, the others will follow," she explained. "In the 30s after they were sheared, they got caught in a spring storm in South Dakota and there was no shelter, a lot of the sheep froze. Everyone headed up to bring back the bum lambs, we lost a lot of ewes," said Rezek.

She recalled a more fun incident even though her father found no humor in it. "My brother Rex and I found a bunch of bucks in their yard. We rode them like they do at the county fairs. My dad had a fit because we could have got hurt. We never did it again," chuckled Rezek. She also remembers selling the sheep in South Dakota where they were butchered. In later years, she recalls attending a state fair and saw sheep that were sheared with colored patches of wool flowers.

Nearly a centenarian, she still enjoys hearing about the sheep especially from the Binger granddaughter. "I think Kya treats the sheep like they are all her's." ... who knows maybe she will carry that tradition on to a sixth generation.

*In Like a Lion,*

*Out Like a Lamb?*

*According to the Farmers' Almanac, the weather folklore stems from ancestral beliefs in balance, meaning if the weather at the start of the month was bad (like a roaring lion), the month should end with good weather (gentle, like a lamb).*

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## Northwest Rural Welcomes New District 2 Board Member

Northwest Rural Public Power is pleased to introduce their newest board member, Kevin Christy, who represents District 2. He hit the ground running after his first Board Meeting on Jan. 24 followed by a week's training in Lincoln.

Christy noted, "I was helping Bruce Troester one day and he brought up the idea that I might be a good fit for the board. I didn't know much about it and so we talked a bit more. It sounded interesting so I attended a meeting last summer to get a feel of things. Out of that meeting I felt with my background I could be an asset so I decided to run."

Christy was born in Moberly, Mo. and grew up in the little town of Peculiar, Mo. from second grade



**Kevin Christy**

through high school. He graduated from Raymore-Puculiar High School in 1984 and began college at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Ark. He finished his studies at William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo. graduating in 1988 with a degree in Data Processing/Computer Science and a second degree in Business Administration Management. Following college he went to work for a very small, at that time, Healthcare Information Technology Company at which he remained at until 2014 when he retired

As a Board member Christy hopes to gain insight and knowledge of how Northwest Rural operates as a public utility today and what that looks like in the future. "It will allow me to become more involved with my broader community and residing over issues that affect them.

Christy lives south of Crawford, just a few miles east and south of Belmont. "I knew I wanted to move "West" when I retired. So I started looking around in 2008 and found Crawford/Pine Ridge by accident," said Christy, who loved the area and ended up buying some land in 2009.

"I started building my house in 2012 and moved here in 2014. He currently runs a herd of stocker calves every year and spends some of his free day time helping other ranchers/neighbors as needed.



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Former Chadron resident Jim Manternach will be sharing a photo each month in the insert of a Dawes or Sheridan County weathered structure. Jim, a self-taught photographer, has been capturing pictures like these all across the State of Nebraska for many years and has a large collection. This picture was taken in Sheridan County. Read more about his bio in the April issue.



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# Northwest Rural Territory Activities

## Gordon-Rushville Mustangs

March 2-4 Girls State BB at Lincoln  
 March 8-10 Elementary Spring Break  
 March 9-11 Boys State BB at Lincoln  
 Tues., Mar. 14 WTC Honor Band at Bridgepot  
 Thurs., Mar. 16 NSAA State Speech Championship  
 Sat., Mar. 18 GRHS Prom  
 March 24-25 9' Basketball Tournament  
 Fri., Mar. 23 Track (V) at Scottsbluff  
 March 29-31 State FFA  
 Thurs., Mar. 30 WTC Quiz Bowl at Bridgeport  
 Sat., Apr. 1 Track (V) at Bayard  
 Tues., Apr. 4 Juniors ACT Test  
 Thurs., Apr. 6 Track (V) at Mitchell  
 April 7-10 Easter Break - NO SCHOOL  
 Wed., Apr. 8 Track (MS) at Chadron Invite, 9 a.m.

## Crawford Rams

Wed., Mar. 1 FFA Contest at Kimball  
 NO SCHOOL - Staff In-Service  
 March 2-3 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break  
 March 2-4 Girls State Basketball at Lincoln  
 Tues., Mar. 7 District Speech  
 March 9-10 Boys State Basketball at Lincoln  
 Fri., Mar. 10 End of Third Quarter  
 Fri., Mar. 17 PHC Quiz Bowl at Crawford  
 Sat., Mar. 25 Track (V) at Morrill, 9 a.m.  
 Mon., Mar. 27 PHC Music Contest at Hemingford

Thurs., Mar. 30 Golf at Chadron Dual, 4 p.m.  
 Sat., April 1 Track (V) at Bayard, 9 a.m.  
 Tues., April 4 FFA Meeting, 6:30 p.m. HS Commons  
 Wed., April 5 Golf at Sidney, 9 a.m.  
 Thurs., April 5 Track (V) at Mitchell, 9 a.m.  
 Fri., April 6 Track (JH) at Chadron, 10 a.m.  
 April 7-10 Easter Break - NO SCHOOL  
 Tues., April 11 Golf at Mitchell, 9 a.m.

## Hemingford Bobcats

March 1-4 Girls State Basketball at Lincoln  
 Wed., Mar. 1 FFA CDE at Kimball  
 Fri., Mar. 2 FFA RMO Feed & Labor Auction, 6 p.m.  
 Tues., Mar. 7 FFA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.  
 March 9-10 NO SCHOOL - Spring Break  
 Wed., Mar. 22 FCCLA Big Brother/Sister Activity, 2 p.m.  
 Sat., Mar. 25 Track (V) at Morrill, 9 a.m.  
 Tues., Mar. 28 Spring Sports/Activities Pictures/Sr. Group  
 March 29-31 FFA State Convention  
 Sat., Apr. 1 Track (V) at Bayard 9 a.m.  
 April 2-3 FCCLA Leadership Conf. at Lincoln  
 Tues., Apr. 4 Track (V) at Creek Valley, 8:30 a.m.  
 Thurs., Apr. 6 Track (V) at Mitchell Invite  
 Track (JH) at Chadron, 9 a.m.  
 April 7-10 NO SCHOOL - Easter Break

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# NORTHWEST RURAL ACTIVITIES

## Chadron Cardinals

March 1-4 Girls State Basketball at Lincoln  
 Wed., Mar. 1 FFA CDE at Kimball  
 Fri., Mar. 1 Musical Production, 7-9 p.m., HS Auditorium  
 Sat., Mar. 2 Musical Production, 7-9 p.m., HS Auditorium  
 Sun., Mar. 5 Musical Production, 2-4 p.m., HS Auditorium  
 Tues., Mar. 7 District Speech at Gothenburg  
 March 8-11 Boys State Basketball at Lincoln  
 Mon., Mar. 13 NHS Honor Induction, 5:30-7:30 p.m., HS Aud.  
 Wed., Mar. 15 State Speech at Kearney, tba  
 Sat., Mar. 18 Track at CSC Indoor Invite, 9 a.m.  
 Tues., Mar. 21 6-12 Band Concert, 7 p.m., HS Aud.  
 Wed., Mar. 22 NHS going to Rapid City  
 Sat., Mar. 25 Track (V) at Sidney Invite, 9 a.m.  
 Tues., Mar. 28 Golf at Alliance Quad, Skyview Course, 4 p.m.  
 March 29-31 FFA State Convention  
 Thurs., Mar. 30 Golf at Crawford Dual, 4:30 p.m.  
 Sat., Apr. 1 Track (V) at Ogallala, 10 a.m.  
 April 2-4 FBLA State Leadership Conf. in Lincoln  
 Tues., Apr. 4 Track (MS) at Scottsbluff Quad, 2:30 p.m.  
 1st-2nd Grade Concerts, 6-8 p.m. HS Aud.



Photo courtesy of CIS Inc.

## NATIONAL AG DAY – MARCH 21, 2023

Our country's farmers care for the land—protecting and tending it for future generations.

They lead the way in preservation and innovation for the health of our planet ... and the health of our families.

The Agriculture Council of America proudly celebrates the dedication of America's farm families and the bounty they produce on National Agriculture Day.

Please join us as we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ag Day and share the amazing story of American agriculture on Ag Day 2023. Farmers are proud stewards of our land, water and air. Growing a Climate for Tomorrow!

## Hay Springs Hawks

Sat., Mar. 18 Track at CSC Meet, 9 a.m.  
 Sat., Mar. 25 Track (JH-V) at Morrill, 9 a.m.  
 Sat., Apr. 1 Track (V) at Bayard, 9 a.m.  
 Thurs., Apr. 6 Track (JH) at Bennett County, 10 a.m.

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## Look for the EnergyStar Label When Appliance Shopping

Your kitchen contains a host of energy-using appliances and there are ways to reduce their energy use. First, buy the most efficient units possible. This includes refrigerators, dishwashers, and stoves. (There isn't much difference in microwave oven efficiency.) Identifying the most efficient models is simple: just look for the EnergyStar label. This assures you that it's among the top efficient models.

For refrigerators avoid the automatic ice maker and drink dispenser because they cause more breakdowns and leaks, in addition to increasing energy use. Can you consolidate one refrigerator for two that you already have? A second refrigerator freezer, especially an older one, greatly increases your energy costs.

Selecting the most efficient stove is also important. Induction stoves are now the most efficient and provide features not available with traditional electric or gas stoves. Induction stoves are still more expensive but the energy savings can repay the extra cost (especially if you cook a lot).

### Energy-Saving Kitchen Tips

If you aren't buying any new appliances, you can still practice energy-saving behaviors. Those can cut your energy use in half in some cases. Some of the most efficient conservation practices are

- Covering cooking pans/pots
- Using an electric kettle instead of running hot water
- Loading the dishwasher fully before washing
- Relatively small measures, such as reducing the number of times the refrigerator is opened
- Removing extra refrigerators/freezers
- Placing the faucet lever on the kitchen sink in the cold position when using small amounts of water; placing the lever in the hot position draws hot water even though it may never reach the faucet.
- Looking for blue flames in natural gas appliances; yellow flames indicate the gas is burning inefficiently and an adjustment may be needed. If you see yellow flames, consult the manufacturer or your local utility.
- Keeping range-top burners and reflectors clean; they will reflect the heat better, and you will save energy.
- Using a covered kettle or pan or electric kettle to boil water; it's faster and uses less energy.
- Matching the size of the pan to the heating element when cooking.
- Using the microwave oven when possible
  - Using small electric pans, toaster ovens, or convection ovens for small meals rather than your large stove or oven. A toaster or convection oven uses one-third to one-half as much energy as a full-sized oven.
- Not setting your refrigerator or freezer too cold. Recommended temperatures are 35°-38°F for the fresh food compartment and 0° F for separate freezers for long-term storage.
- Making sure your refrigerator door seals are airtight. Test them by closing the door over a piece of paper or a dollar bill so it is half in and half out of the refrigerator. If you can pull the paper or bill out easily, the latch may need adjustment, the seal may need replacing, or you may consider buying a new unit.
- Regularly defrosting manual-defrost freezers and refrigerators; frost buildup decreases the energy efficiency of the unit. Don't allow frost to build up more than one-quarter of an inch.

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## Recipes



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

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### Slow Cooker Corned Beef & Cabbage

- 10 baby red potatoes, quartered
- 4 large carrots, peeled and cut into matchstick pieces
- 1 onion, peeled and cut into bite-sized pieces
- 4 cups water
- 1 (4 pound) corned beef brisket with spice packet
- 6 ounces beer
- ½ head cabbage, coarsely chopped

Place potatoes, carrots, and onion into the bottom of a slow cooker; add water and place brisket on top of vegetables. Pour beer over brisket; sprinkle over spices from the packet and cover.

Cook on High for 7 hours; stir in the cabbage and cook for 1 more hour.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Deluxe Corned Beef Hash

- 2 tablespoons butter
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 5 large Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/4-inch cubes
- 1 large carrot, coarsely shredded
- 2 pounds cooked corned beef, cubed
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- ½ teaspoon ground black pepper, or to taste
- ¼ teaspoon dried thyme leaves
- 1 pinch salt to taste

Melt butter with olive oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Cook and stir onion until lightly browned, about 8 minutes. Stir in potatoes and carrot; cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, about 15 minutes.

Stir in corned beef, parsley, pepper, thyme, and salt. Cook, stirring often, until hash is crisp and browned, 10 to 15 more minutes.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Mustard Sauce for Corned Beef

- 1 ½ tablespoons salted butter
- 1 large egg
- 1/3 cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup white sugar
- ¼ cup prepared yellow mustard
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon ground black pepper

- ¾ cup cider vinegar

Melt butter in a saucepan over low heat; remove from heat.

Whisk egg, brown sugar, white sugar, mustard, salt, and pepper together in a small bowl. Whisk in vinegar. Stir mixture into the melted butter.

Stir sauce over medium heat until boiling. Reduce heat and simmer for 3 minutes longer.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Pistachio Ice Cream Dessert

Crust:

- 2 sleeves buttery round crackers, crushed
- ½ cup melted butter

Topping:

- ½ gallon vanilla ice cream, softened
- 2 (3 ounce) packages instant pistachio pudding mix
- 1 ½ cups milk
- 1 (12 ounce) container frozen whipped topping (such as Cool Whip®), thawed
- ¼ cup chocolate-covered toffee bits (such as Heath®), or to taste

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Combine cracker crumbs and melted butter in a bowl. Mix until evenly moistened; press into the bottom and sides of a 9x13-inch baking dish.

Bake in preheated oven until crust is lightly browned and smells toasted, about 15 minutes. Remove from the oven and cool.

Mix ice cream, pudding mix, and milk together in a bowl until combined; spread evenly onto prepared crust. Spread whipped topping over ice cream mixture; top with toffee bits. Place in freezer until hardened, at least 1 hour. 2 sleeves buttery round crackers, crushed

\* \* \* \* \*

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Tri-State's photo caption contest will launch Tuesday, March 7! This is your chance to win an outdoor electric power tool by commenting your best caption. Captions should be creative and go along with the space theme. You must follow Tri-State on Facebook@tristategt, all caption entries must be commented on the image posted by Tri-State to be qualified. Learn more here and may be the best caption win! URL: <https://tristate.coop/photo-caption-contest>

## YOUR FUTURE YOUR WAY CAPTION CONTEST

### MAY THE BEST CAPTION WIN

Switching to outdoor electric tools is about your personal journey. Participate in Tri-State's photo caption contest on Facebook launching March 7th for the chance to win some awesome outdoor electric tools. A new photo will be posted every Tuesday through March 28th. Two winners will be selected from each photo. May the best caption win! Full contest rules at: [www.tristate.coop/photo-caption-contest](http://www.tristate.coop/photo-caption-contest)



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### WHO CAN ENTER

Individuals must live within the service territory of a Tri-State member system and receive service from a Tri-State member system. Participants must be 18 years of age or older as of the date of entry, or 19 years of age or older if a resident of Nebraska. Each participant can comment as many times as they like on the post for a chance to win the electric item in that image. Caption entries must be positive and match the theme of the image. Negative comments will be removed.

Your local electric cooperative or public power district is a good resource to understand more about this technology, and potentially can help answer questions on contractors, financing, and incentives for energy-efficient options. Contact your co-op or public power district for more details.

## Preparation Key for Farm Electrical Safety

Farming is among the more dangerous occupations for several reasons, including potential for encounters with electrical hazards. Before taking to the fields, the Safe Electricity program urges farm workers to be aware of overhead power lines and to keep equipment and extensions far away from them.

Safe Electricity encourages farm managers to share this information with their families and workers to keep them safe from electrical accidents.

- Start each morning by planning your day's work. Know what jobs will happen near power lines and have a plan to keep the assigned workers safe.
- Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from power lines in all directions, at all times. Use a spotter when moving tall equipment and loads.
- Use care when raising augers or the bed of a grain truck. It can be difficult to estimate distance, and sometimes, a power line is closer than it looks. Use a spotter to make certain you stay far away from power lines.
- Always lower equipment extensions, portable augers, or elevators to their lowest possible level, under 14 feet, before moving or transporting them. Wind, uneven ground, shifting weight, or other conditions can cause you to lose control of equipment and make contact with power lines.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting larger modern tractors with higher antennas.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path. If power lines near your property have sagged over time, call your utility to repair them.
- Don't use metal poles when breaking up bridged grain inside and around bins.
- As in any outdoor work, be careful not to raise any equipment, such as ladders, poles, or rods, into power lines. Remember, non-metallic materials, such as lumber, tree limbs, tires, ropes, and hay, will conduct electricity, depending on dampness and dust and dirt contamination.
- Use qualified electricians for work on drying equipment and other farm electrical systems.

- If you are on equipment that contacts a power line, do not exit the equipment. When you step off the equipment, you become the electricity's path to ground and receive a potentially fatal shock. Wait until utility workers have de-energized the line and confirmed it is safe for you to exit the vehicle. If the vehicle is on fire and you must exit, jump clear of the vehicle with both feet together. Hop as far from the vehicle as you can with your feet together. Keep your feet together to prevent current flow through your body, which could be deadly.



Electrical work around the farm can also pose hazards. Often, the need for an electrical repair comes when a farmer has been working long hours and is fatigued. At such times, it's best to step back and wait until you've rested.

Source: Safe Electricity.org



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## Bits 'n Pieces...

### Top 10 Reasons Why Ranch Trucks are Never Stolen:

1. They have a range of about 10 miles before they over-heat, breakdown or run out of gas.
2. Only the owner knows how to operate the door to get in or out.
3. It is impossible to make a quick getaway with all the fence tools, grease rags, ropes, chains, syringes, buckets, boots, halters, coats, twine/wire, hats and loose papers in the cab.
4. It takes too long to start and the smoke coming up thru the floorboard clouds your vision.
5. The Border Collie on the toolbox looks mean.
6. They're too easy to spot. The description might go something like this : driver's door is silver, passenger door is green and the front fender is rust colored.
7. The large round bale in the back makes it hard to see if you're being chased. You can't use the mirrors because they are either cracked, hanging by a wire or covered with duct tape.
8. Top speed is only 35 mph.
9. Who wants a truck that needs a year's worth of maintenance, plus, u-joints, body work, tail lights and a new windshield.
10. It is hard to commit a crime with everyone waving at you.



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### Hmmm.... Nebraska, according to Jeff Foxworthy:

If your local Dairy Queen is closed from September through May, you may live in Nebraska. If someone in Home Depot stores offers you assistance and they don't even work there. You may live in Nebraska. If

you've worn shorts and a jacket at the same time, you may live in Nebraska. If you've had a lengthy telephone conversation with someone who dialed a wrong... number, you may live in Nebraska. If you know several people who have hit a deer more than once, you may live in Nebraska. If you have switched from 'heat' to 'A/C' in the same day and back again, you may live in Nebraska. If you can drive 75 mph through 2 feet of snow during a raging blizzard without flinching, you may live in Nebraska. If you install security lights on your house and garage, but leave both doors unlocked, you may live in Nebraska. If you carry jumpers in your car and your wife knows how to use them, you may live in Nebraska. If you design your kid's Halloween costume over a snowsuit, you may live in Nebraska. If driving is better in the winter because the potholes are filled with snow, you may live in Nebraska. If you know all four seasons: almost winter, winter, still winter and road construction, you may live in Nebraska. If you have more miles on your snow blower than your car, you may live in Nebraska. If you find 10 degrees "a little chilly", you may live in Nebraska!

## Northwest Rural P.P.D.

24-Hours-A-Day  
638-4445 or 1-800-847-0492

### Working with you to stay safe.

# Northwest Rural

## Public Power District

5613 Hwy. 87 • P.O. Box 249  
Hay Springs, NE 69347

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

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**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.

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