



NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

WATTS NEWS

VOL 24 NO. 12

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

DECEMBER 2022



from your board and employees:

Merry Christmas and a happy and joyful New Year!

CEO Report

Good afternoon North Itasca!

Winter showed up in a blaze of glory. This shift in seasons happens yearly, I just haven't adjusted to the joys winter brings yet. Last month I told you my daughter and I were going hunting. I'm proud to say my daughter harvested a nice spike buck. I have one weekend left to hunt in the regular season. My skills as a hunter must be a little rusty, I haven't had a chance on a buck yet in my zone. I was fortunate to spend time with friends and family during deer season. Turns out, this is more of my "hunting" these days than dogging the woods for the big buck.

I presented the budget to our Board of Directors in October. This was the preliminary budget with a few numbers missing. Often, I must wait to see what insurance rates are going to do for the next year so I estimate what the increase will be. With a few check numbers in place, I suggested a five percent rate increase. This is what the board will be getting more information on in November and December. There are several pressures that influenced this suggested increase.

Our cost of purchased power from



Brad Dolinski, CEO

Great River Energy is going up six percent. GRE shared some information with me to use in this article.

Strategic decisions to stabilize wholesale electricity rates continue to serve Great River Energy's member-owners well, but broader economic challenges will impact energy costs in the year ahead.

Great River Energy's average 2023 wholesale rate is projected to increase by an average of 6.2% from the 2022 budgeted rate; however, many of Great River Energy's all-requirements member-owners will see smaller increases. This is Great River Energy's first budgeted increase to its average wholesale rate in five years.

CEO to p.2>

Why does my electric bill increase during the winter months?

by Jerry Loney

During the winter months, I receive several calls asking about electric bills. "Why is my bill so high?"

Many say that they haven't changed anything to increase their bill. Most of these inquiries are easily answered after just a few questions, reminding members of additional appliances being used or behavioral changes they may have made. Those that heat their homes on a load control program recognize why costs have increased. Here I will be speaking to those that do not heat with electricity.

Even though propane and fuel oil are used as heat sources, it can be easily forgotten that electricity is also needed for their operation. Flames are ignited with electricity and the distribution of the heat produced is dependent on blower fans and pumps. Take a normal 1/2 horsepower electric furnace blower fan motor for instance: since it takes 741 Watts of electricity to achieve one horsepower of work, it is easy math to divide that in half to find that your 1/2 horse blower fan consumes 370.5 Watts to distribute heated air through your

Winter to p.2>

New poles go up at Wirt Substation

Reliability and Resilience. Those are the goals of Great River Energy in maintaining and improving its transmission system.

To achieve this, GRE budgets for replacement or upgrades to its system each year, explained Vice President and Chief Transmission Officer Priti Patel, who visited the Bigfork area last summer for a ribbon cutting at the new Scenic Substation for North Itasca Electric.

This year GRE began a renewal of the line connecting the North Itasca Electric system with the grid in Deer River. In early November the

Substation to p.5>



Holiday Schedule:
 North Itasca Electric Co-op offices will be CLOSED:
 Friday, December 23 • Monday, December 26

• inside • inside • inside • inside • inside • inside • inside • inside •

Generators

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Christmas Sale flyer

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Appliance energy costs

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Office Hours

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7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
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CEO Report (continued)

>CEO from p.1

“There are significant external pressures on energy costs around the world, and we worked closely with our members to temper the regional effects of those as much as possible,” said Great River Energy President and Chief Executive Officer David Saggau.

Many of the local distribution cooperatives that purchase wholesale electricity from Great River Energy are facing their own cost pressures due to supply shortages and inflation.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), which closely monitors U.S. energy costs, reported that nationwide retail electricity costs increased 8% in 2022 and further increases are expected in 2023. According to EIA’s October Short-Term Energy Outlook: “Higher retail electricity prices largely reflect an increase in wholesale power prices, which are driven by higher natural gas prices.”

Our last rate increase was five years ago, but our rates will need to increase to absorb the six percent increase in cost of power. Since our cost of power is half of your bill, the increase that you

see on your bill would be three percent. Over the last five years, we have done a very good job at controlling the cost of operating the cooperative to maintain the same rates, but unfortunately the pricing pressures we see have won the fight. I am requesting an additional two percent increase to cover these increases so that we can maintain the financial stability of the cooperative. This means that you can expect your bill to go up a total of five percent.

Over the past year NIECI has also absorbed or collected the PCA (Power Cost Adjustment) charges and credits you may remember seeing on your past bills. This fall our PCA balance was a very large charge or expense that typically would have been spread to all Member-Owners. The past few months have been beneficial to the PCA and these credits have been reducing our expenses. I expect Great River will return a portion of their revenues to us by the end of 2022, essentially clearing out these PCA charges.

This matters for more than one reason. If the PCA charges would have continued to grow, I would have suggested collecting

them from our Member-Owners in 2023. I talked about this in articles at the end of last year and the beginning of 2022. This will not be the case, I foresee the PCA to be close to zero at the end of the year. This saved all our Member-Owners some money over the course of 2022. The other reason this matters, the PCA is calculated on the difference between GRE’s budget and actuals. If the cost of natural gas decreases from the budgeted rates, costs will decrease at GRE in 2023. This will potentially provide PCA credits in 2023. As always, I will keep you informed as I get this information.

So, there you have it. My article feels a little choppy this month because I’m using information directly from GRE. This information helped me to keep you informed the best I can about the ups and downs we are facing. As I mentioned last month, we all take a rate increase with the utmost concern. This rate increase is what I believe is the best for the financial well-being of your cooperative.

By your side! Miigwech

Brad

Why are my winter bills higher?

>from p.1

ductwork for every hour it runs. If this blower fan comes on every 15 minutes for 3 minutes at a time, (depending on the outdoor air temperature), this blower fan motor will consume 18.52 Watts each time it runs. Doing a little more math, one will find that in a 24-hour period, this furnace blower fan would consume 1,777.92 Watts per day or 53,337.6 Watts during a 30-day month. In terms of energy costs, this equates to \$7.12 per month.

Furnace blower fans and pumps are not the only reasons for higher winter consumption; family sizes and behavioral changes vary from household to household changing the amount of energy consumed. Some of these fluctuations are caused by increased lighting, entertainment centers, cooking, baking or increased hot water use, just to name a few.

With it being darker and colder outdoors, the number of hours spent indoors increases. Larger families will find more lights coming on earlier and stay on longer. There may now be two or more televisions running along with entertainment centers. Households that enjoy cooking and baking will find the stove and oven used more, especially around the holiday seasons. With this comes cleanup, requiring hot water use for washing dishes.

With all the cooking and baking being done, you want to relax either in your lazy

chair or in the tub, maybe both if you’re a night owl. The chair is close to a drafty window, and you desire some additional heat, so you plug in a small heater next to you. You fill the tub for a relaxing soak with the hottest water you can stand. All this would not be done in the summer months. You might not experience all the things listed above but know that many of them are true.

To change this article up a bit, let’s talk about the cost of hot water. Did you know you can get a good idea of your water heating costs either from propane or electric? Here’s how:

It takes (1) British thermal unit (Btu), to heat 1 pound of water 1° Fahrenheit. Oh, it isn’t that hard! Let me show you below.

That tub I talked about; run 15 gallons of hot water into it.

✓ Water weighs 8.3 pounds per gallon x 15 gallons = 124.5 pounds of hot water.

✓ Well water temperatures average 45° out of the ground and your water heater heats it up to 115° (conservatively), raising the water temperature 70°

• increase in water temperature x 124.5 pounds to heat to 115° = 8,715 Btus

I’ll bet you’re saying to yourself, “OK Jerry, what do I do with this?” Let me show you. With a constant 3,412 Btus per 1 kWh of electricity, you can easily calculate your cost.

• 8,715 Btus / 3,412 Winter to p.5>

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WATTS NEWS

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Chief Executive Officer: Brad Dolinski WATTS NEWS Editor: Sally Sedgwick

Send all calendar items, recipes, advertisements and other correspondence for WATTS NEWS to the Editor at: P.O. Box 43, Spring Lake, MN 56680

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Highlights from the Board Room

NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC CO-OP., INC.
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
October 27, 2022

Start time: 10:00 a.m.

End time: 2:35 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the office and electronically through Zoom on October 27, 2022.

Start Regular Board Meeting: 11:15 a.m.

- o Pledge of allegiance was recited.
- o A motion was made to adopt agenda. Seconded; motion carried. A motion was made to consent agenda. Seconded; motion carried.
- o Safety discussion was held. Be aware of your surroundings. Trucks that are backing up cannot always see you. Be aware of vehicle traffic when in warehouse surroundings. Always be aware – Always be safe. Backing up requires extra diligence when exiting parking spaces. Park in a pull through spot whenever possible.
- o Brad gave the Operating Reports. A motion was made to approve the operating reports. Seconded; motion carried.
- o 2023 budget was previewed.
- o The request for vote in favor of Prairie Island Energy, LLC Power Purchase Agreement was discussed. A motion was made to accept the agreement voting in favor of the agreement. Seconded; motion carried.
- o D. Pederson gave the Line Department report. GRE will be shutting off lines in the Wirt and Alwood areas on Wednesday November 2, 2022. Calls will go out on Monday and Tuesday to members making them aware of the outage. Poster will be taken around as well. A Facebook post will be made on Friday. Minnkota had switches available to us for the Jessie Lake Substation repairs.
- o J. Loney gave the Members Report. Operation Round Up had 30 applicants. All the applicants were awarded money. \$10,700 total dollars were awarded. Total dollars to date are \$402,031.27.
- o CEO update by B Dolinski.
- o A motion was made to approve classes needed for CCD fast-track for the directors that need them. Seconded; motion carried.
- o W. Waller gave the MREA report. They will have to start over on the legislation requests that did not go through this year.
- o A nomination was made for appointing Todd Christensen as the 2023 MREA voting delegate. Seconded; motion carried. A nomination was made to appoint Jim White as the alternate voting delegate. Seconded; motion carried.
- o L. Kongsjord gave the GRE report. August was a good month for GRE.
- o A motion was made to adjourn. Seconded; motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 2.35 p.m.

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Dr. Eric Gilbertson

Cold weather rule & energy assistance program notice

In accordance with Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule, electric service cannot be disconnected for nonpayment between Oct. 1 and April 30 if electricity is the primary heat source and ALL of the following statements apply:

- Your household income is at or below 50% of the state median household income. Income may be verified on forms provided by North Itasca Electric Cooperative or by the local energy assistance provider.
- You enter into and make reasonably timely payments under a payment agreement that considers the financial resources of the household.
- You receive referrals to energy assistance, weatherization, conservation, or other programs likely to reduce your energy bills from North Itasca Electric Cooperative. Minnesota's Cold Weather Rule does not completely stop winter disconnects before disconnecting electric service to residential members between Oct. 1 and April 30,

North Itasca Electric Cooperative must provide:

- A 30-day notice of disconnection;
- A statement of members' rights and responsibilities;
- A list of local energy assistance providers;
- Forms on which to request Cold Weather Rule protection; and
- A statement explaining available payment plans and other options to continue service.

Energy Assistance Program

The Energy Assistance Program (EAP) is a federally funded program through the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services which helps low-income renters and homeowners pay for home heating costs and furnace repairs. Household income must be at or below 60 percent of the state median income (\$67,764 for a family of four) to qualify for benefits. Applications must be received or postmarked by May 31, 2023. To learn more about the EAP program or to apply for assistance:

- Visit the Minnesota Department of Commerce Energy Assistance website, <https://mn.gov/commerce/consumers/consumer-assistance/energy-assistance/>, for more details and to access the application portal.

- Contact your county EAP service provider for additional information and assistance, Kootasca Community Action (218) 999-0800. North Itasca Electric Cooperative exists because of you, and we are dedicated to the people and communities we serve. If you are having difficulty paying your electric bill and do not qualify for either of these programs, please contact Sheila Hafeman at (218) 743-3131 to set up a payment plan.

Energy assistance

If you cannot pay your winter heating bills, contact one of these locations for energy assistance help.

KOOTASCA ENERGY ASS'T.
 201 NW 4th St., Ste 130
 Grand Rapids MN 55744
 218-999-0800
 877-687-1163

BI-COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL
 P.O. Box 579
 Bemidji, MN 56601-0579
 800-332-7161

ITASCA COUNTY SOCIAL SERV.
 Itasca County Courthouse
 123 NE 4th St
 Grand Rapids, MN 55744
 218-327-2941

KOOCHICHING COUNTY FAMILY SERVICES
 615 4th St
 International Falls, MN 56649
 218-283-8405

LEECH LAKE ENERGY ASST.
 115 6th St, Ste E, Cass Lake, MN 56633
 218-335-8292

WWW Website highlights:
NorthItascaElectric.com

Submit an event

Want to give your local event extra coverage? You can submit it to the calendar that's on the home page of NorthItascaElectric.com! Visitors can click on any date with a blue dot and see what's happening. A second click on the event, and more information pops up, even a picture. The WATTS News checks the calendar to make sure all events are in the newspaper as well. To submit an event, click on the Member Services tab.

Rebates

You've just gotten a brand new Energy STAR freezer and taken your older one to the recycling center. Your more efficient freezer will save you money. But wait! It can also make you money - North Itasca Electric offers a rebate of \$75 to do this. Check out the Rebate tab on the website for all the rebates the cooperative offers to be more efficient in using electricity. You may be surprised! Even your LED Christmas light purchase may put a dollar or two in your pocket. (Hint: don't throw away that receipt!)

Life Support

Do your health needs include an electrical appliance that is critical? Although North Itasca Electric cannot guarantee uninterrupted service, have your account flagged so the crews know you need electricity for life support. Click on the Forms tab to register.

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Appliance energy calculation guide

Have you ever wondered how much your appliances consume? if so, to the right is an energy guide of approximate consumptions of various appliances to help you see approximately what your monthly costs could be.

Keep us up-to-date!

Please keep your contact information current with our office. Please notify North Itasca Electric of any changes in property ownership, mailing addresses, phone numbers and email addresses.



800-252-1166
or 811

Call before you dig

Appliance	Average Wattage	Hrs per Month	Watts	kWh	\$0.1249 kWh	Appliance	Average Wattage	Hrs per Month	Watts	kWh	\$0.1249 kWh
Air Cleaner	68	x 10	= 680	0.68	\$0.08	Hand Mixer	150	x 0	= 0	0	\$0.00
Air Conditioner (Room)	1500	x 0	= 0			Heat Lamp	250	x 0	= 0		
Air Conditioner (Central)	3000	x 0	= 0			Heat Pump	4500	x 0	= 0		
Air Conditioner (window 6,000)	825	x 0	= 0			Heat Tape (30')	180	x 0	= 0		
Air Conditioner (window 12,000)	1500	x 0	= 0			Heater - Engine block	1000	x 0	= 0		
Audio Entertainment System	250	x 0	= 0			Heater (Portable)	1500	x 0	= 0		
Automatic Blanket	200	x 0	= 0			Humidifier	177	x 0	= 0		
Aquarium (Small)	150	x 0	= 0			Ice Maker	200	x 0	= 0		
Battery Charger	675	x 0	= 0			Iron	1000	x 0	= 0		
Car Engine heater	1125	x 0	= 0			Lamp (check wattage)	60	x 0	= 0		
Ceiling Fan	125	x 0	= 0			Lighting (Add up bulb wattages)	19	x 0	= 0		
Clock	4	x 0	= 0			Microwave	1450	x 0	= 0		
Clothes Dryer	4350	x 0	= 0			Osillating Fan	75	x 0	= 0		
Clothes Iron	1000	x 0	= 0			Radio - Streo	30	x 0	= 0		
Coffee Maker	850	x 0	= 0			Range	12000	x 0	= 0		
Compactor	400	x 0	= 0			Satellite Dish and Receiver	360	x 0	= 0		
Computer, Monitor, Printer	365	x 0	= 0			Sewing Machine	75	x 0	= 0		
Convection Oven	1500	x 0	= 0			Solarium	1500	x 0	= 0		
Corn Popper (Hot Air)	850	x 0	= 0			Sump Pump (1/2 HP)	500	x 0	= 0		
Crockery Cooker	350	x 0	= 0			Television (Black and White)	75	x 0	= 0		
Curling Iron	1500	x 0	= 0			Television (Color)	250	x 0	= 0		
Deep Fryer	1100	x 0	= 0			Toaster	1400	x 0	= 0		
Dehumidifier	864	x 0	= 0			Pool Pump (1.5 HP)	2000	x 0	= 0		
Dishwasher Washing	200	x 0	= 0			Power Tools (circular Saw)	1800	x 0	= 0		
Dishwasher Drying	1200	x 0	= 0			Vacuum Cleaner	750	x 0	= 0		
Electric Blanket	175	x 0	= 0			Washing Machine (Automatic)	600	x 0	= 0		
Electric Pet Fence	15	x 0	= 0			Water Heater (Quick Recovery)	4500	x 0	= 0		
Electric Shaver	20	x 0	= 0			WaterBed Heater	375	x 0	= 0		
Fan - Attic ventilation	400	x 0	= 0			Water Pump	875	x 0	= 0		
Fan - paddle	80	x 0	= 0			Window Ac	250	x 0	= 0		
Fan - window	125	x 0	= 0			VCR	30	x 0	= 0		
Food Mixer / Blender	110	x 0	= 0			1/4" drill	250	x 0	= 0		
Freezer	85	x 0	= 0			1/2" drill	750	x 0	= 0		
Refrig. Top freeze before 1990	142	x 0	= 0			9" disc grinder	1200	x 0	= 0		
Refrig. Side by side before 1990	183	x 0	= 0			3" belt sander	1000	x 0	= 0		
Refrig. Bottom freeze 1990	95	x 0	= 0			14" band saw	1100	x 0	= 0		
Fry Pan	1200	x 0	= 0			7 1/4" circular saw	900	x 0	= 0		
Furnace fan (Fossil Fuel)	600	x 0	= 0			8 1/4" circular saw	1400	x 0	= 0		
Garage door opener	350	x 0	= 0			Welding (50 amps)	12000	x 0	= 0		
Garbage Disposal	400	x 0	= 0				0	x 0	= 0		
Hair Dryer	600	x 0	= 0								
						Total watts and cost of power	Total Watts	0			

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Substation gets new poles

>from p.1
rural intersection of county roads 29 and 127 hosted an array of as many as four bucket trucks as a new steel transmission pole with switching gear was installed at the substation, line was restrung over County Rd. 29 and several poles

were replaced. The new switchgear will be able to isolate the transmission line segments or direct current into the substation for distribution.

The line running from the substation south to Deer River will see crews working on it next year.

Winter bills

>from p.2
=2.55 kWh, and with a general service rate of \$.1249, that bath would cost you \$0.32 (\$0.021 per gallon of hot water).

OK, back to my article. The examples above are what takes place inside the home, but you might also have heat tape installed to keep water lines from

freezing and/or an engine block heater to make sure your car will start when temperatures are subzero.

I hope this gives you a better idea of some of the reasons energy consumption might be higher during the winter months.

Until next time...

Five Ways to Fight Winter Chill

by Abby Berry

Some people love crisp, cool weather and bundling up under a favorite blanket. But winter bills can be costly; North Itasca Electric is here to help you find ways to manage your home energy use and keep winter bills in check.

1. Mind the thermostat. We recommend setting your thermostat to 68 degrees (or lower) when you're home. When you're sleeping or away for an extended period of time, try setting it between 58 and 62 degrees.
2. Button up your home. The Department of Energy estimates that air leaks account for 24 - 40 percent of the energy used for heating and cooling a home.
3. Use window coverings wisely. Open blinds, drapes or other window coverings during the day to allow natural sunlight in to warm your home. Close them at night to keep the cold, drafty air out.
4. Consider your approach to appliance use. For example, if you're running the dishwasher or clothes washer, only wash full loads.
5. Think outside the box. If you're still feeling chilly, add layers of clothing.. You can even add layers to your home! If you have hard-surface flooring, consider purchasing an area rug.

If you're taking steps to save energy but continue to see major increases in your bills, give Jerry a call at 218-743-1313.

Abby Berry writes for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

Annual Christmas Cookie/ Candy Contest:

Once again it is that time of year – dust off your recipe books and send in your best candy and cookie recipes. We want to get as many recipes as possible so we can make a recipe book. Please get recipes in as soon as possible so we have time to retype and put them in a book. Please don't send

copyrighted material, make the recipe your own!
Winners will receive \$50 for the 1st prize, \$25 for 2nd place and 3rd place is \$15. Plus, the winning recipes will be in the WATTS News so you will also get another \$10 off your monthly bill! You can mail or email the recipes to the Co-op at

P.O. Box 228, Bigfork, MN 56628 or roxanep@nieci.com.

I look forward to seeing lots of good recipes. Please have them here by Dec. 9 so we have time to get them together. I can email or mail you a book, or you can stop in and get one in our entryway.

Roxanne's Repair Tips:

The top 5 reasons why a front load washer might stop spinning

1. The Drive Belt might be broken - to check this, take the back off the machine and look for a broken belt. If there is a broken belt, then you know that is the problem. Replace the belt.
2. The Door Latch might have gone bad - to check this you must remove the door latch and test with a continuity meter. Look where the door shuts and latches. There should be screws you need to remove for the latch assembly to slide out. If the latch is bad, replace it.
3. The Motor Control Board might be faulty - the motor control board is located by the motor in a plastic box. It cannot be tested very easily, but you can open it and look for burn marks or anything that may be broken. If the motor control board is bad, you will need to replace it.
4. A Damaged Stator / Rotor – not all washers have a Stator/Rotor. It looks like a doughnut and would be located on the back of the drum. When you take the cover off you will see several copper items. This part uses a strong magnetic field which causes the drum to spin. The Stator/Rotor cannot be tested. You must take it apart and physically inspect it, looking for anything worn or broken. If the Stator/Rotor is bad, replace it.
5. The Drive Motor might be going bad – the motor is located at the bottom, on the back side of the washer. This isn't a common problem, but if the motor hums but doesn't run or runs but doesn't run freely, then the motor should be replaced.

Did you know that you can watch videos on how to fix your appliances? Go to www.RepairClinic.com Enter your model number and select the video you wish to view. This will help locate the parts that you wish to check and show you how to check them. You are also able to order replacement parts from the same site.

Some things to consider before you call for service

One thing to think about is that most appliances have a 10-year life span these days, which is sad but true! So first know the age of your appliance. Look up the part on www.RepairClinic.com if you know what part it is. This will help give you an idea of the cost to replace the part.

Call a service repair person and ask what they charge for a service call. Remember if they need to order parts, they will have to make a second trip. Decide if it is worth fixing or not before you have him come out, depending on what is wrong and the cost. It is sometimes cheaper to cut your losses on the old machine and purchase a new one.

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REFRIGERATORS

FRSS2623AS \$1005.04 SALE \$924.64

25.60 Cu Ft Frigidaire side by side, frost free, LED lighting, door alarm, gallon door storage, dairy compartment, temperature alarm, power failure alarm, water dispenser, ice dispenser, stainless steel, height: 68.1", width: 36.3"



FFTR1835VW \$755.87 SALE \$695.40

18.3 Cu Ft Frigidaire top mount, EvenTemp cooling system, flexible interior storage system, humidity controlled crisper drawers, auto close door, optional ice maker, LED lighting, frost free freezer, reversible door, white

FRQG1721AW \$ 1,171.60 SALE \$1077.87

17.4 Cu Ft Frigidaire French door refrigerator, stainless, adjustable glass shelves, bins fit gallon-sized items, LED lighting, Store More crisper drawers, TwinTech dual evaporators, adjustable freezer storage, easy-access control panel on the refrigerator door, 4-door design makes it easier to find what you need, smooth door finish.



FRTD2021AS \$862.04 SALE \$793.08

20.5 Cu Fu Frigidaire top mount, EvenTemp cooling system, spacious interior including a half width deli drawer, two glass shelves, gallon door bins, full width wire shelf, and a dairy bin, humidity-controlled crispers, reversible door, LED lighting, stainless steel

FGHT2055VD \$ 999.70 SALE \$919.72

20 Cu Ft Frigidaire auto defrost, LED lighting, reversible door, door alarm, top mount, Sabbath mode, EvenTemp cooling system, auto door closing, gallon door storage, leveling legs, full width deli drawer, black stainless



XRS22KGABSS \$1038.70 SALE \$955.60

21.9 Cu Ft Crosley top mount, upfront temperature controls, 2-adjustable edge to edge glass shelves, moveable snack drawer, LED lighting, 2 adjustable humidity drawers, large deluxe door storage with gallon storage, adjustable wire freezer shelf, spill proof freezer floor, equipped with optional ice maker, garage ready -40° to 110 °F, stainless steel

LFDS22520S \$2159.30 SALE \$1986.56

21.80 Cu Ft GE French door bottom freezer, Energy Star, stainless, 2 humidity crispers, 1 full width deli drawer, Smart Cooling System, multi air flow technology, two tier organization levels in freezer, inverter linear compressor with 10-year warranty, SmartDiagnosis system, factory installed ice maker in freezer



XRS22KGABW \$960.70 SALE \$883.84

Same as above but white

LRDCS2603S \$1790 SALE \$1646.80

26 Cu Ft GE bottom mount, pull drawer bottom freezer for easy storage, print proof finish, door cooling for peak freshness, Energy Star, multi air flow freshness system maintains humidity and temperature levels, built in digital sensors monitor conditions in refrigerator for optional freshness, Smart Cooling System, humidity crispers, factory installed ice maker stores up to 12 lb. ice, freezer drawer with 2 Tier organization, bright LED lighting, SmartDiagnosis saves time and money on service calls, stainless steel



FFHT20045VW \$957.67 SALE \$881.06

20 Cu Ft Frigidaire top mount refrigerator, EvenTemp cooling system, humidity-controlled crisper drawers, auto-close doors, optional icemaker, reversible doors, white

SJG2351FS \$2605.28 SALE \$2396.86

22.5 Cu Ft Sharp French door refrigerator, fingerprint resistant, counter depth, humidity controlled crisper bins, adjustable shelves, drawers, door bins, Energy Star, Chill-Boost and freezer – boost adjusts temperature quickly, open door alarm EZ-Slide freezer drawers with built in icemaker, LED lighting, LED touch controls, stainless steel



CRS CRD1813TW \$843.70 SALE \$776.20

18.3 Cu Ft Crosley top mount, pocket handles, 2 adjustable glass shelves, 2 clear humidity-controlled crispers, gallon plus door storage, clear dairy compartment, full width freezer shelf, 2 freezer shelves, 4 half width adjustable door bins, garage ready 40°-110°F optional icemaker, white

MRB19B7AW \$978.17 SALE \$899.92

18.7 Cu Ft Midea bottom freezer, 2-level freezer, white, drawer for easy access, full width door shelves, humidity controlled crisper bins, LED lighting in freezer and refrigerator, frost free freezer, Energy Star rated



GFE24JSKSS \$2684 Sale \$2469.28

23.6 Cu Ft GE French door bottom freezer, 33" width, external controls with child lock and door alarm, SpaceSaving ice maker, LED lighting, 2-humidity controlled drawers and a full width drawer, quick space shelf, advanced water filtration, spill proof shelves, two-level freezer storage baskets, door alarm, cube or crushed ice, enhanced Shabbos mode, stainless



CHEST FREEZERS

VCM5SMWW \$386.64 SALE \$355.71

DCF070B1WW \$514.99 SALE \$473.79

DCF08781WM \$455.98 SALE \$419.50

FFFC1542AW \$809.90 SALE \$745.11

UPRIGHT FREEZERS

FFFU13F2VW \$785.35 SALE \$722.52

FFU16F2VW \$881.54 SALE \$811.02

FFU18F2VW \$1028.44 SALE \$946.16

FFU2021AW \$1015.43 SALE \$934.20

CRS VFUD21UW \$1120.83 SALE \$1031.16



RANGES

LG LREL6323D \$1016.60 SALE \$935.27

electronic operation, oven modes: bake, broil, easy clean, keep warm, air fry, self-clean, convection kitchen bake, convection roast, 9" & 12" dual cooking elements, black stainless



FFEF3016VW \$760.93 SALE \$700.06

Frigidaire 5.3 Cu Ft, one touch self-clean, auto 12-hour shutoff, large oven window, electronic timer, StoreMore storage drawer, coil top, large tinted window, .8 Cu Ft storage drawer, porcelain drip pans, white



GCRG3038AF \$899.60 SALE 827.63

5.0 Cu Ft stainless freestanding gas range, smudge proof, quick boil burner 18000 Btu burner, low simmer, fast steam cleaning option, quick bake, convection bake, self-clean available in 2, 3, or 4-hour cycles, continuous black matte cast iron grates, Sabbath mode



LSE4617ST \$1171 SALE \$1077.32

LG black stainless slide-in range, 5 cooking elements fast boil 4000 with cooking element, ceramic cooktop, Wifi connectivity, pro bake convection, infrared heating replicates grill cooking, easy clean oven, LG smart ThinQ app compatible so you can control your smart stove from anywhere, works with Google and Amazon



GCR13058AF \$1029.70 SALE \$947.32

4.5 Cu Ft stainless Induction Range, flexible 4 element cooktop ReadyCook air fry tray, true convection uses powerful convection fan and 3rd heating element for even circulating hot air, smudge proof finish, quick boil option, auto sizing pan detection, stainless steel



XB625DK5WW \$ 687.70 SALE \$632.68

5.3 Cu Ft coil top, Crosley range, self-clean, large oven window, sensor temp technology, porcelain upswept cooktop, dual element bake, removable storage drawer white



JB655YKAFS \$1101.53 SALE \$ 1013.41

GE 12" to 9" dual element, no preheat air fry, convection, self-clean large capacity oven, 5th element warming zone, 9/6" power boil element, fingerprint resistant stainless, delay bake, delay clean, removable storage drawer, stainless steel



GE JGBS10DEMWW \$552.50 SALE \$508.30

4.8 Cu Ft gas range, front controls, sealed cooking burners heavy duty easy to clean grates, broil option, standard clean, white



DISHWASHER

FFBD2420UW \$697.45 SALE \$641.65 (white)

Frigidaire dishwasher 24", 4 wash levels, 3 wash speeds, hard food disposer, ultra-quiet sound pkg., 52 Dbl, 6 cycles: normal, 1 hour wash, china, crystal, energy saver, rinse only. Cycle indicator light, control lock, options: Heat / no heat dry, hi temperature wash, delay start, sanitize, upper & lower rack. 12 place setting

FFID246TW \$487.94 SALE \$448.90 (white)

14 place setting Frigidaire 24" dishwasher, DishSense technology, 5 wash levels, multiple-cycle options, OrbitClean spray arm, tall tub design, ready select controls, low rinse aid indicator light, heated dry, 2-6-hour delay start, soft food disposer, 54 dba, control lock

FGID2479SF \$638.94 SALE \$ 587.82 (stainless steel)

14 place settings Frigidaire 24" dishwasher, ultra-quiet 49 dba, 8 wash cycles, DishSense technology, NSF certified sanitize option, store-more adjustable/removeable 3rd rack, stainless steel interior and filtration, LED floor beam indicator, 24-hour delay start, 30 minute quick clean, even dry technology, smudge proof, stainless steel, control lock

FFCD2418UB \$482.40 SALE \$443.81 (black)

20" Frigidaire dishwasher, 55 dba, 14 place settings, status indicator lights, self-cleaning filter eliminates food particles, 5 wash levels, 5 wash speeds, drying system static vent, 3 cycles, options: heat, no heat dry, hi-temp wash, delay start-4 h., standard upper & lower rack, energy certified

GDT645SGN4WW \$893.55 SALE \$ 822.07 (white)

24" GE 48 dba dishwasher, 16 place settings, 5 wash cycles, hard food disposer, soil sensor, Energy Star certified, Piranha hard food disposer, NSF certified, bottle jets, dry boost, auto sense cycle, sanitize option, child safety lock, 5 cycles

Please call Roxanne with any questions: 218-743-3132 or 800-762-4048. Prices are on in-stock items only. Remember financing is available to those who qualify! My hours are 6:00 am to 2:30 pm, office until 3:30 pm



WASHERS & DRYERS

DLE7100W \$ 892.80 SALE \$821.38

7.3 Cu Ft LG dryer, 8 drying modes to choose from, Wifi enabled, 3-minute smart installation check, flow sense duct clogging indicator, quiet operation, manual dry times, 60 min., 40 min., 20 min., more time/less time, reversible door



WT7100CW \$861.73 SALE \$ 792.79

4.5 C.F. washer, smart diagnosis, intelligent electronic controls with dual LED display, 8 washer programs including: deep wash, normal, bedding, heavy duty, speed wash, delicates, waterproof, tub clean, 10 washer options: soak, extra rinse, add a garment, delay wash, control lock, water plus, cold wash, signal, rinse + spin, rinse only, 3 wash rinse temperatures, hot, cold, warm, 3 spin speeds: high, medium, and low, smart rinse jet spray, true balance anti-vibration system, slam proof lid, SmartDiagnosis, 3 tier dispenser



FFRE4120SW \$668.30 SALE \$614.84

6.7 Cu Ft Frigidaire dryer, 4 temperature selections, DrySense technology, wrinkle release technology, multiple cycle options, electronic controls, moisture sensor, stainless steel dryer drum, delay start, cycle signal cycle status lights, reversible door



FFFTW4120SW \$664.30 SALE \$611.16

4.1 Cu Ft Frigidaire washer, 12 different wash cycles, normal, delicate, hand wash, active wear, colors, whites, heavy duty, quick wash, rinse and spin, drain and spin, tub clean, my cycle, and Eco wash, 3 water temperature selections, auto water levels, multiple cycle options, auto spin speed, electronic controls, stainless drum, delay start up to 24 hours, fabric/bleach dispenser, cycle status lights, control lock



DVE50R5200W \$763.80 SALE \$702.70

7.4 Cu.Ft Samsung dryer, sensor dry, Smart Care, 10- preset drying cycles: normal, heavy duty, permanent press, bedding, delicates, sanitize, time dry, air fluff quick dry, wrinkle release, 9 additional drying options: damp alert wrinkle prevent, adjust time up/down, child lock, alarm off, eco dry, drum light 5 dry levels: drier, normal-more dry, normal less dry, less dry, lint filter indicator, child lock, 4-way venting



DVE45T3400W \$756.51 SALE \$695.99

7.4 c.f. Samsung white dryer, sensor dry technology, reversible door, smart care for trouble shooting from phone, lint filter indicator, 10 preset drying cycles: normal, heavy duty, permanent press, bedding, delicates, sanitize, time dry, air fluff, quick dry, wrinkle release, 7 additional drying options: mixed load bell, wrinkle prevent, adjust time up/down, child lock, sound on/off, Smart Care. 4 temperature levels: high, medium, low and extra low. 4 dry levels: very dry, more dry, normal dry, damp dry, LED display, child lock



WT7000CW \$893.20 SALE \$821.74

4.5 Cu Ft ultra large LG washer, turbo drum technology, 6 motion technology, smart diagnosis, water+, cold wash technology, 9 wash options: cold wash, signal, delay, wash, rinse and spin, water + soak, extra rinse, control lock, spin only, 3 wash rinse temperatures: hot warm, cold, 3 spin speeds: high, med, low load sensing, 3 soil levels, slam proof lid, true balance, end of cycle signal, status indicators, auto suds removal, forced drain system, add a garment indicator



DLE7100W \$892.80 SALE \$821.38

7.3 Cu Ft LG dryer, 8 programs, normal, perm press, heavy duty, bedding, speed dry, manual dry, air dry, freshen up, 7 options: wrinkle care, control lock, more time, less time, damp dry, signal, energy saver, sensor dry, precise temperature control with variable heater, 3-minute installation check, quiet operation, end of cycle signal, reversible door, flow sense duct clogging indicator, wrinkle care option, child lock, 4 way venting, remaining time display, Energy Star



WA52A5500AW \$831.42 SALE \$764.91

5.2 Cu Ft top load washer, super speed wash just 28 minutes, Wifi connectivity allows you to control your washer remotely, active waterJet, easy access tub, deep fill option, CleanGuard antimicrobial technology, Smart Care interacts with your washer to diagnose issues and troubleshoot from your smartphone Vibration Reduction Technology+, swirl+ drum interior extracts more water from fabrics, soft-close lid closes safely, Energy Star certified, Samsung



DVE45T3200W \$702.87 SALE \$646.64

7.20 Cu Ft Samsung dryer, 8 drying cycles, normal, heavy duty, permanent press, delicates, time dry, air fluff quick dry, wrinkle release, 3 additional drying options: wrinkle prevent, child lock and Smart Care, 4 temperatures levels: high, medium, low, extra low, 4 dry levels: very dry, more dry, normal dry, damp dry. Red LED display, powdercoat drum interior, child lock



WT7100CW \$895.80 SALE \$824.14

4.5 Cu Ft Samsung washer 950 RPM spin speed, smart diagnosis, intelligent electronic controls with LED display, 8 washer programs: deep wash, normal, bedding, heavy duty, spin wash, delicates, waterproof, tub clean, 10 wash options: soak, extra rinse, add a garment, delay wash, control lock, water plus, cold wash, signal, Rinse + spin, rinse only. 3 wash rinse temperatures, hot, warm, cold, 3 spin speeds: high, med., low, Smart Rinse Jet Spray system, True Balance anti vibration system, slam proof lid, SmartDiagnosis, 3 tray dispenser, stainless steel drum



DLE7150W \$968.60 SALE \$891.11

7.3 Cu Ft ultra large LG dryer, sensor dry, FlowSense duct clogging and lint filter indicators, aluminized alloy steel drum, low decibel quiet operation, Energy Star certified, reversible door, smart diagnosis feature, wrinkle care option, child lock, end of cycle signal



**Financing available to those who qualify
Prices are on in-stock items only!
Sale good from December 1st through December 23rd**



CAW45125LWO \$678.83 SALE \$624.52
 4.5-Cu Ft. Crosley dryer 12 wash cycles, stainless steel wash basket, 360 wash agitator, slow-close glass top lid, 5 water temperature settings, deep water option, automatic load size sensing technology, instant water faucet



CED70114LWO \$614.65 SALE \$565.48
 7 Cu. Ft. Crosley dryer, moisture sensor, 11 cycles, 4 dryness levels, 4 temperature options, wide hamper door, dry control, bright drum light, wrinkle prevent



CRS YTD74E2SNWS \$669.34 SALE \$615.79
 27 Inch Crosley electric dryer with 7.4 Cu Ft capacity, 12 dry cycles, 4 temperature settings, long venting, Energy Star certified, HE sensor dry, extended tumble, up to 120 ft. venting capability extended tumble, Energy Star



CRS YTW4514SNWS \$698.35 SALE \$642.48
 Crosley 27" 4.5 Cu. Ft., 14 wash cycles, 800 rpm, spin speed, dual action agitator, speed wash option, deep fill option, sanitize with Oxi



VAW3584GW \$548.83 SALE 504.92
 3.5 Cu. Ft. Crosley washer, white console, 8 cycles 5 temps, deep water option on all cycles, white porcelain tub, dual action agitator, auto load sensing 700 rpm spin speed, bleach dispenser



VED6505GW \$491.49 SALE \$452.17
 6.5 Cu Ft Crosley dryer, 11 cycles, 2 temperatures, timed dry 60 minutes, auto dry cycle, wrinkle prevent, powdercoat drum, wide reversible door



COOKTOP

GL1CT24AS4G \$197.70 SALE \$181.88
 24-inch Galanz gas cooktop perfect for small kitchen spaces Defendi Italian burners, continuous cast iron durable grates, 4-cooking elements, high 15000 BTU output for high-heat searing 4-metal knobs allow you to easily control the cook-top stainless steel surface provides a high-end finish thermocouple flame failure device natural gas and liquid propane convertible LP conversion kit included 1-year warranty **1-ONLY** "would be great in an enclosed deer stand"



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GOEXPRESS \$1461 SALE \$1314.90
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WATER HEATERS

**40 GAL. TALL GE WATER HEATER
 Model # GE40TO8BAM \$525.20 SALE \$483.18**



**40 GAL. LOW BOY WATER HEATER
 MODEL # GE40LOO8BAMO1 \$570 SALE \$524.40**



Arts on the Edge



Enjoy Christmas at The Edge with the Divas! The popular trio will be onstage at the Edge Center in Bigfork on Saturday, Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and available at Timber Rose Floral and at the door.

Spring Lake Store hosts Fall Festival



Jerry Hagen and Harold Boege provide a musical background to the annual Spring Lake Store Fall Festival with treats, and games and pumpkin decorating for kids.

Classic movie series

by Jack Nachbar

The Holidays can be stressful, right? So much to plan and do. Our December Classic Movie in Bigfork offers 90 minutes of pure fun, a welcome relief from your Holiday anxieties. *A Hard Day's Night* (1964) was produced to exploit the huge 1964 fad, Beatlemania. The film was made to sell the soundtrack. But, surprise, the movie itself was a big hit, one of the ten most popular movies of the year.

John, Paul, George and Ringo run from crazed, female fans, do funny interviews, romp around in a park, do a TV special, and generally seem to have a wonderful time. Director Richard Lester uses any number of fresh camera techniques to show off the spontaneity of the Fab Four. And, of course, there are several Beatle tunes to add the overall pleasure of the picture.

A Hard Day's Night will be shown on Thursday, December 8 at 6:30 p.m. at the Edge Center Theater in Bigfork. FREE!

JANUARY CLASSIC MOVIE: An all-star cast, including Ava Gardner, Gregory Peck and Fred Astaire, fight nuclear annihilation in *ON THE BEACH* (1959). Thursday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Edge.

Haunted House in Bigfork



The community enjoyed the (B.I.G.) Bigfork Improvement Group Haunted house again this year. A big thanks to all who helped and those 165 kids who attended. They plan to make it bigger and better next year! Pictured are Cindy Benson, Linda Kigley (M&M), Krista Erickson (Mad Hatter) and Theresa Pederson (Voodoo Witch).

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North Itasca Emergency Food Shelf Update

North Itasca Emergency Food Shelf, otherwise known as Bigfork Food Shelf, has finally upgraded and has a cell phone! The number is (218) 256-4170 and accepts voice calls and texts. The messages will be checked a couple of times per day if there is no immediate answer.

Our hours have not changed, we will still be open on Thursday 12:30-3 p.m., and on the 3rd Thursday of each month we are open 12:30-4:30 p.m. The only exception is if we have a holiday on Thursday such as Thanksgiving. In that case we will be open Tuesday of that week, 12:30-3 p.m.

The "Summer Challenge" grant was received; thank you to everyone who sent a donation! We are purchasing more fresh and frozen veggies & fruits, fresh bread, and continuing with eggs and milk. Our food shelf has been fortunate to have resources to keep our shelves stocked amidst the supply chain issues.

We purchase most of our food from Second Harvest North Central Food Bank, which has bulk purchasing power. Our food shelf gets a delivery once a month. Our volunteers sort, stack and shelve over 2,000 pounds of food every month. Break down all the cardboard and haul to the dump. Clean up and have everything ready to help our neighbors on Thursdays.

Please continue to park on Main Avenue, as we move into winter and colder, snowy weather, we are able to maintain the sidewalk in a safe manner. If you have mobility issues, please give a honk and someone will come out to assist as soon as they are able.

A big shout out to all our fabulous volunteers, Thank You! We couldn't be open without you.

Submitted by Lynn Schleicher

Community Cafe

The Community Cafe is available to anyone who is in need of a meal. There is no income or financial qualification to receive a free meal. Each Tuesday through Thursday from 4:30 p.m.- 6:00 p.m. (or until gone), a nutritious three-course meal is served. Location: King Elementary School. for more information, visit communitycafemn.org.

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Letter to the EOW community

Dear Community Members,

The snow is falling and we are again preparing for holiday joy. What is the best part? The toys of course! Toys.. toys... it is time to give away toys! Let's again make the magic happen for all of the Edge of the Wilderness kids.

Unfortunately as we all know, the price of toys has increased! This makes a free toy store even more important for families and kids in need! This year the Bigfork Improvement Club will be doing the toy give away at their club in downtown Bigfork sometime in the middle of December. Marcie and I had a lot of fun brainstorming and planning with them last night!!

Right now the toys are being purchased to stock the store so money is needed. All donations are tax deductible because Bigfork Toys is a project of the Bigfork Improvement Club which is a 501 3c organization.

Thank you so much for your generosity. It really matters to the children of our area! In The Edge of the Wilderness we know every child counts! If you have any questions call Krista Erickson at (218) 410-2258.

If you can help please send a tax deductible donation of any size to:

Toys Bigfork Improvement Club
 First State Bank of Bigfork
 PO Box 257
 Bigfork MN, 56628

Happy Holidays

With Joy.....Marcie Lindgren and Heidi Korstad

B.I.G. Community Center in Bigfork

Coffee Club Monday-Friday 7 a.m.-9 a.m.

Bingo every Thursday 1-3 p.m.

area bookmobile stops

New to the area? Get your Arrowhead Library Card on the Bookmobile.

Tuesdays: Dec. 13; Jan. 3, 24

10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m. Bowstring Store

12:00-1:00 p.m. Spring Lake Store

Stop canceled for 2023

3:00-4:30 p.m. Effie: Effie Cafe

New hours for 2023: 2:30-3:30 p.m.

5:00-6:30 p.m. Bigfork: City Hall

New hours for 2023: 4-5:30 p.m.-

Thursdays: Dec. 15; Jan 5, 26

11:45-12:45 Togo: Junction Bar & Grill

Mondays: Dec. 12; Jan. 23

12:30 -1:00 p.m. Gemmel; Comm. Church

1:45 - 2:30 p.m. Northome; Apartments

3:15 - 4:15 p.m. Alvwood; Hoot-n-Holler

4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Squaw Lake; Community Ctr

Bookmobile or Mail-a-Book information: call Arrowhead Library System at (218) 741-3840

SAIL classes

ElderCircle has replaced Bone Builders with "Stay Active & Independent for Life (SAIL)." For more information or to register (required), contact ElderCircle at (218) 999-9233.

New attendees may start anytime. Weights are provided but please bring your own water.

Following is the local schedule as of July 6::

- Virtual via Zoom video conference

Mondays & Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

- Virtual via Zoom video conference

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

In person at:

- Bigfork Old Scenic Church,

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00-10:30 a.m.

- Bowstring Town Hall

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

- Deer River, Bethany Lutheran,

Mondays & Thursdays, 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Defensive Driving Course

Blackduck Community Ed

Preregistration required at blackduck.k12.mn.us/ce

INITIAL FULL COURSE

Date: Mon. Dec. 12

Time: 8 a.m.-4 p.m

Location: High School Commons, enter at Door #3

Cost: \$30

REFRESHER COURSE

Date: Mon. Dec. 12

Time: 8 a.m.-noon

Location: High School Commons, enter at Door #3

Cost: \$25

Questions: Contact Melanie (218) 766-3809

Visit your co-op at
www.NorthItascaElectric.com
 get updates on Facebook!

Northome Food Shelf

12059 Main St

Bring your own bags.

1st Mon.: 9 a.m.-noon

2nd Mon.: 2-5 p.m.

3rd Mon.: 9 a.m.-noon

4th Mon.: 2-5 p.m.

Northern Itasca Emergency Food Shelf

200 Main, Bigfork

Thursdays

12:30-3 p.m.

3rd Thursday

4-5:30 p.m.

(218) 256-4170

Blackduck Community Library:

(218) 835-6600

Tues: 1-6 p.m..

Wed: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Thurs: 12-5 p.m.

Fri: 12-5 p.m.

Sat.: 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Northome Library

(218) 897-5952

Mon: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Tues: 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.

Wed: 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Thurs: noon - 6 p.m.

Fri: 9 a.m.- noon

Resource Centers:

Blackduck:
 (218) 835-5768

Northome:
 (218) 897-5952

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Gift certificates are always available and can be for any amount. Stop by or call the office to arrange for one at (218) 743-3131.

EOWSKI! active this winter season

It's the season for EOWSKI!

The volunteer organization was started to bring the fun and skills of cross country skiing ("skinny skis") to families, kids and adults in the Edge of the Wilderness area. Trails are groomed by volunteers – thank you to the new volunteer groomers who have stepped up. A heads-up: there may be new trails at Scenic State Park to explore this winter.

Watch for flyers and social media announcement for equipment night coming up. The equipment closet is

Electrical Inspections

Except for minor repair work, all electrical work you do at your home, cabin, or property is required to be inspected by a State Electrical Inspector.

A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. Please visit www.electricity.state.mn.us for more information.

at the back of the B.I.G. Community building (formerly Over 50 Club) in the former location for the food shelf. At equipment night, skis will be sized appropriately: if you still have skis out from last season, bring them in for exchanging. Suggested rentals are \$30 per person or \$50 per family for a seasonal rental, but any amount is welcome.

Call (218) 387-5012 with any questions, and join in a weekly meetup during January and February.

The inspectors can be reached weekday mornings between 7:00 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

- **Itasca County** – Steve Bartlett (218) 591-1616
- **Koochiching County** – Curt Collier (218) 966-5070
- **Beltrami, Clearwater counties** – Davis Smid (507) 227-2772

~ December Calendar ~

- 1-3 Conversations with Ancestors," an exhibit of the work of Inkpa Mani, 5-7 p.m. at the Edge Gallery, Bigfork. Exhibit runs through Dec. 3. Gallery is open Thurs.-Sat., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- 1 Craft and Bake Sale at Bigfork Valley Hospital, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Masks required in facility.
- 5 ISD318 School Board meeting in Grand Rapids or at watchictv.org, 6:30 p.m. World's best Workforce public meeting 5:30 p.m., Truth in Taxation meeting 6 p.m., no open forum. Contact for information: jasmussen@isd318.org or call 327-5704.
- 6 Bigfork Valley Hospital Board meets, 9 a.m. Contact (218) 743-1772 for telephone or virtual attendance information.
- 7 "The Club I Never Wanted To Join" breast cancer support group meets, 3:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in the chapel, use south entrance, 2901 Highway 169, Grand Rapids. More info with Lynn Ettl (218) 832-3612, lynn_ettl@msn.com
- 8 Classic Movies at The Edge Center, Bigfork. *A Hard Day's Night* (1964), starring the Beatles will be shown at 6:30 p.m. Free.
- 10 Edge Center in Bigfork hosts the popular trio, The Divas, at 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 adults, \$5 students available at the door or Timber Rose Floral.
- 12 Women of the Woods meet at 10 a.m. at Sand Lake Community Center. Call Pat Sievertson at (218) 659-2157.
- 12 ISD317 School Board meets, 6 p.m., public forum 5:45 p.m.
- 12 Effie City Council meets at Effie Community Center, 6 p.m.
- 12 Blackduck ISD32 School Board, 7 p.m. in the Media Center.
- 13 Stop & Stitch meets at the Marcell Family Center the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. For more information, call Judy at (218) 832-3237.
- 13 Bigfork City Council meets, 5:30 p.m. in Bigfork City Hall. Note the change of date due to the general election.
- 14 Elementary Christmas Concerts at Bigfork School, 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. in the Edge Center.
- 14 ISD 363 South Koochiching-Rainy River School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- 15 King Elementary School concerts, K-1st grade at 9:30 a.m., 2nd-3rd grade, 130 p.m.
- 16 "Home for the Holidays," a musical presented by King School 4th and 5th grade

and written by John Jacobson, 1:30 p.m. more info at (218) 246-8860 Ext. 60477.

16 Elementary Christmas Concert at Backduck School;

19 ISD318 School Board meeting in Grand Rapids or at watchictv.org, 6:30 p.m.

Open Forum, 6 p.m. Contact for information: jasmussen@isd318.org or call 327-5704.

23-20 No school, all schools. Christmas/Winter Break.

23 North Itasca Electric Co-op offices CLOSED

26 Women of the Woods meet at 10 a.m. at Sand Lake Community Center. Call Pat Sievertson at (218) 659-2157.

26 North Itasca Electric Co-op offices CLOSED

Area Church Directory

Alvwood Community Church Sun 10:00a
58712 Co. Rd. 131
Blackduck 56630 659-4681

Balsam Bible Chapel Sun 10:00a
41516 Scenic Hwy 7
Bovey 55709 245-1960

Bear River Lutheran Church Sun 10:00a
11141 Hwy 22
Cook 55723 376-1012

Bethesda Lutheran Church Sun 9:00a
Mizpah 56660 897-5654

Bigfork Assembly of God Sun 9:30a
101 Golf Course Ln
Bigfork 56628 743-3500

Bowstring Chapel Sun 10:15a
45114 Co Rd 133
Deer River 56636 832-3171

Calvary Covenant Sun 10:30a
54764 Co. Rd. 31
Northome 56661 897-5684

Centennial Lutheran Church Sun 8:30a
Hwy 46
Squaw Lake 56681 259-0115

Deer River Bible Church Sun 10:00a
33276 State Highway 6
Deer River 56636 246-9570

Dora Lake Alliance Sun 10:00a
59329 Co Rd 145
Northome 56661 659-4551

Effie Fredheim Lutheran Church (ELCA) Sun 8:30a
Hwy 1
Effie 56639 743-3368

First Presbyterian Church, BF Sun 10:15a
109 Ash St.
Bigfork 56628 743-3783

Gemmel Community Church Sun 10:00a
10609 Town Rd 34
Gemmel 56660 897-5966

Grace Community Church (ELCA) Sun 10:15a
401 State Hwy 38 N
Bigfork 56628 743-3368

Hope Lutheran Church Sun 10:30 a.m.
12234 Third St.
Northome 56661 897-5654

Jehovah's Witnesses Tu 7:00p., Sun 10:00a
Hwy 38
Bigfork 56628 743-3275

Jesse Lake Lutheran Church Sun 8:30a
45834 Co. Rd. 4
Talmoon 56637 832-3883

Marcell Community Church Sun 10:30a
49103 State Hwy 38
Marcell 56657 832-3200

Northome Community Church Sun 10:00a
12071 Bartlett St.
Northome 56661 897-5040

Northwoods Chapel Sun 9:00a
50539 Mushgee Rd. (corner of Co. Rd. 622)
Deer River 56636 659-2784

Old Scenic Community Church Sun 10:30a
25747 Co. Rd. 340
Bigfork 56628 659-2727

Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church Sun 9:00a Mass also W, Th, F 9:00a.
320 Golf Course Ln
Bigfork 56628 743-3255

Sand Lake Alliance Sun 10:00a
55581 Co. Rd 4
Spring Lake 56680 659-2872
Church website: www.sandlakealliancechurch.org

St. Catherine's Catholic Church Sat 4:00p
52265 State Hwy 46
Squaw Lake 56681 743-3255

St. Michael Catholic Church Sat 7:00p; Tu 6:00a
12026 Lake St
Northome 56661 743-3255

Seventh Day Adventist Sun 11:30a
12352 Hwy 46
Northome 56661 897-5723

Suomi Evangelical Lutheran Church Sun 10:30a
42935 Co. Rd. 48
Deer River 56636 832-3883

True Life Church Sun 10:00a
45976 Terry
Talmoon 56637 244-7089

Church directory sponsored by
North Itasca Electric Cooperative,
send changes to editor,
sedgwick@paulbunyan.net

Effie American Legion Veterans Day dinner

• recipe • recipe • recipe • recipe • recipes • recipes •



Clockwise, from top left: Members of the American Legion Post 182 Waldron-Flaat fire a 21 gun salute before the annual Veterans Day Dinner on Nov. 11; the dinner was organized and cooked by members of the American Legion Auxiliary. Shown are (l to r) Karen Aakhus, Vicki Hill, Helen Oestreich, Sandy Allen, Marci Lindgren, Lil Longtine; WWII Veteran Lyle "Butch"

Hocking was recognized as the eldest member of the Post at 98 years old; Lily Danielson was the featured speaker, relating her experiences at Girls State. Girls State is a week-long on-campus citizenship program sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary.



Louise's Broccoli Salad

Thank you to Janet Kogler for this December recipe!

- 6 cups broccoli florets
- 1 cup sunflower seeds
- 1 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup chopped red onion

Dressing:

- 1 cup Hellman's® mayonnaise
- 2 Tablespoons sugar
- 2 Tablespoons apple cider vinegar

Please share your recipe with us! If your recipe is chosen, you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill from North Itasca Electric Cooperative. Send your recipe to the editor, WATTS NEWS, P.O. Box 43, Spring Lake, MN 56680.

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-FOR SALE-

For sale: Live edge red pine. Six pieces 17.5 ft long, 2 inch thick. Widths taper from 12 inches on the smallest end to 20 inches on the large end of the largest piece. \$1.00 per board ft. Call (218) 910-9055 or (612) 799-1241

For sale: Matching sofa and loveseat. Smoke free and pet free environment. \$300. Must pick up. Call (218) 897-9535. 12/22

For sale: Sachs Delmar 114 chainsaw with extra chain for sale. Runs great, just serviced at The Shop. \$200. Call 218-743-3326 12/22

For sale: 225 amp Lincoln welder, \$70. Husqvarna backpack leaf blower, very good condition, \$155. Call (218) 832-3050 12/22

For sale: Cut, split, seasoned birch, ash, maple, aspen firewood. Call (218) 910-6610 12/22

-VEHICLES-

For sale: 2017 Polaris 570 SP 4 wheeler with a Polaris manual snowplow. Features hand and thumb warmers, front winch, receiver with 2" ball, storage compartment. Low mileage and hours. Asking \$10,799 obo. Call (218) 779-3127 or email jamesmozey@gmail.com 1/23

For sale: 2007 Chrysler Pacifica, 2005 Chrysler Pacifica, 1986 K10 4x4 Chevy pickup with 8 ft. box, 1999 Ford F150 4WD, 2000 F150 4WD, 2001 Chevy Impala, 1978 High Boy Ford 4x4 Pickup, 1979 4-speed with gear driven transfer case and front drive shaft. Call (320) 387-2372 (home), or (320) 333-8391 (cell) 12/22

-WINTER SPORTS-

For sale: Ice Castle, 16 ft., been on lake 3 times. Call (320) 387-2372 (home), or (320) 333-8391 (cell) 12/22

For sale: 1996 Polaris snowmobile XLT 588 cc. Great shape. Low miles, 3,300. Also included: traction products and cover. \$1,500 Call (612) 300-7725 12/22

-FARM-

For sale: Set of horse harness with collars and bridles, \$500. Older saddle with pad, \$190. Double tree, 2 single trees, one yoke. \$20. Call (218) 832-3050 12/22

-FARM-

For sale: Horse halters. Different sizes. \$4 apiece. Call (218) 832-3050 12/22

For sale: Net for large round bale, \$60. Several hay bags for feeding horses. Call (218) 832-3050 12/22

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E-bike boom: Co-ops dip into e-bike sales following tech's boost in popularity

GRE News release – Nov. 16, 2022

the brand Go ing that between 2020 and Power Bike for 2023, 130 million e-bikes its members to will be sold worldwide.

Besides the physical Member Services Re- benefits of riding e-bikes, presentative Roxanne Prather said NIEC's mem- Prather said that bers are also interested in other features of the mod- els from Go Power Bike.

“Some of them are foldable, so they can be taken with wherever you go and easily stored,” she said. “You can also use an e-bike instead of your car when running errands or commuting to work, which saves on gas. With NIEC’s rate, it costs less than 50 cents to fully charge a Go bike, which can take you 36 miles with pedal assist.”

Prather says interest in e-bikes among the mem- bership is high but, as with most any newer technolo- gy, cost can pose a barrier to adoption. The models promoted by NIECI sell for about \$1,400. The co- operative doesn’t offer a rebate for the purchase of an e-bike, but does offer financing options.

“I think people are looking for fun ways to stay healthy and save money in the long run, but they are holding onto their money right now because the cost of most

everything has gone up,” she said. “The bikes them- selves though are built great and have a sharp look to them. People just seem drawn to them.”

“This makes e-bikes an accessible approach to exercise for older adults, the disabled or even just people new to cycling,” Prather said. “One of the best features, though, is that they are a lot of fun to ride.”

Hundreds of thou- sands of people must agree. Market research firm NPD group reported the COVID-19 pandem- ic sparked a bike boom, boosting e-bike sales 145 percent from 2019 to 2020 with some industry ex- perts estimating Ameri- cans brought home half a million e-bikes in 2020. Deloitte is also project-

When considering the switch to electric transpor- tation, it might be best to start thinking small.

While electric vehicles (EVs) are receiving much of the attention, it’s actually the smallest forms of e-transportation, such as e-bikes, that are experiencing the largest surge of popularity. And what’s more, this popularity doesn’t seem to be limited to metro areas.

North Itasca Electric Co- operative CEO Brad Do- linski along with Energy Management Specialist Jerry Loney are pictured with a model of e-bike the cooperative is now selling to its members.

Electric cooperatives have for years been tapped into finding opportunities to electrify various sectors of the economy to help reduce carbon emissions ever since power supply mixes, including Great River Energy’s, started becoming increasingly more renewable.

Now, in addition to promoting EVs, co-ops are setting their sights on showcasing the quiet convenience and comfort that e-bikes offer with Bigfork, Minnesota-based North Itasca Electric Co- operative (NIEC) leading the charge.

Alongside the usual electric-powered appli- cances in its showroom like refrigerators, freezers, washers and dryers, NIEC now features e-bikes from

technology earlier this year, she decided to take a chance by ordering two Go Express models.

“Those were sold be- fore they even came in,” Prather said, “and I had people on a waiting list until the next ones came in.”

Like its traditional counterpart, an e-bike includes pedals and a handlebar, but its elec- tric component provides a motorized boost. This extra helping hand allows riders to travel farther without exerting as much energy and with less strain on the body. The challeng- es presented by hills and headwinds, for example, are more manageable on an e-bike. Reduced strain means less recuperation time, too.

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North Itasca Electric Kids Coloring Contest



NAME:

AGE:

One winner will be picked from display all the photos that come in and kindergarten, first, second and third judge them on the 10th. Coloring pages grade. Please turn in your entries by will all be published in the WATTS Dec. 9. They can be dropped off in our News unless for some reason you wish entryway drop box or mailed to P.O. it not to be. Winners will be called to Box 227, Bigfork, MN 56628. We will pick up their prize.



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Christmas Cookie/Candy Contest
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