



**NORTH ITASCA
ELECTRIC**

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

**WATTS
NEWS**

VOL. 26 NO. 5

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

MAY 2023

CEO Report

Happy Spring NIECI!

At least I hope so by the time you read this. Yet again Mother Nature and Ol' Man Winter are planning another visit. We are expecting another 6-12" here in Bigfork as I write this.

I'm ready for open water season. I'm ready for our friends and neighbors to come back to their cabins and summer homes. Let the sunshine and warm weather loose please.

At least this should be a good mushroom season for those of you that know what to look for. Bring on the morel mushrooms and asparagus!

With spring in the air and building season right around the corner, are you considering a project? North Itasca Electric Cooperative would love to help. Maybe it's time to build that dream garage or addition? What do you require for electrical service? Often it is well worth your time to give us a call about your plans sooner than later. We are still dealing with material shortages from several of our suppliers. When we know about projects, we can assure you we are prepared and do not hold your project up. Talking to our operations department early will get



Brad Dolinski, CEO

your project on the schedule of work to be completed. Our crews have experience with system design to help save you money and design to be sure you'll have the outcome desired.

Jerry has been taking several classes this spring to better understand what is allowed in the current rebate programs. There are rebates through Great CEO to p.2>

John's ductless air source heat pump installation

by Jerry Loney

In June of 2022, John installed a 2-ton (24,000 Btu) Daikin ductless air source heat pump. When stopping by the office last week, he told me how happy he was with it.

John said it was so much quieter than listening to his furnace fan blowing all the time. Even though John has an electric plenum heater on the Dual Fuel program rate, the furnace fan is still needed to distribute heated air throughout the home by ductwork. But now with his ductless air

source heat pump, the thermostat remains satisfied, and the plenum heater doesn't run unless John turns it off when outdoor temperatures drop below zero degrees. Air source heat pumps (even cold climate ones) work harder to keep spaces warm the colder it gets outside, and efficiencies do drop no matter what the model or brand used.

I found John's story intriguing especially when he had an 18 kW plenum heater capable of delivering three times

the heat his ductless heat pump delivers that keeping his home warm. The heat pump might run longer but ASHP to p.3 >

Save the Date!
Annual Meeting
Thursday, June 15
2 p.m.
Northome
at the
Fairgrounds



Operation Round-Up spring grants

The North Itasca Community Trust Board trustees met in April to distribute Operation Round-Up® funds for community-based projects which help Members in the cooperative's service territory. Awards are listed on p. 6.

A total of \$13,600 was distributed to help 33 separate projects for childrens' programs, safety equipment, township

repairs and more. Since the program began in 2004, Operation Round Up has distributed more than \$415,800.

Operation Round Up is funded through the generosity of Members who choose to round up their bill to the next dollar each month. Those cents add up, so that twice each year awards can be made for community initiatives.

GRE issues patronage capital payment

Great River Energy returned \$25 million to members in the latest cash payout from the not-for-profit cooperative.

Like North Itasca Electric Cooperative, our wholesale power supplier GRE is a cooperative. As a member-owner of Great River Energy,

North Itasca Electric has a financial stake in the cooperative.

GRE's board of directors recently approved the payment of \$25 million to member-owners through its 2023 patronage capital return.

GRE is a not-for-profit organization GRE to p.3>



Business Spotlight: Lovdahl Electric LLC

After graduating from Bigfork High School, Josh Lovdahl was uncertain about a career choice.

He enrolled in the electrical construction program at Hibbing Community College (now Minnesota North, Hibbing) and found he had made the right decision. Electrical work was something he really enjoyed.

This year he and his wife Maddie started Lovdahl Electric based in Effie, serving residential,



Josh Lovdahl with his wife and business partner Maddie and their two children, Kane and Wells.

farm and commercial customers. His work has taken him throughout north central Minnesota from a multi-site job upgrading lighting for an auto parts chain to

Lovdahl to p.6 >

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Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
(218) 743-3131

CEO Report (continued)

>from p.1
River Energy and North Itasca Electric; there are also ways to save through the Department of Revenue. Jerry will be a great contact for all that information.

Additionally, Jerry is very helpful to understand the benefits of different heating/cooling systems along with generator questions. If you are considering projects that require some sort of heating system, I would encourage you to call or stop by to talk with Mr. Loney.

I am very pleased to report we have finished our audit for 2022. Matt with Brady Martz will be here on Apr 27 to present the report to our Board of Directors. Once again, thank you to our Office Professionals. The hard work of preparing and presenting information to our

auditors has resulted in a complete and positive audit report. The auditor will present a clean audit to our board next Thursday. I will use that information to report to you in the WATTS June edition. These audited financials are the source of the graphs and reports used for the Annual Meeting.

The Annual Meeting of North Itasca Electric will be in Northome on June 15, 2023. The format will be very similar to the past couple of years. We will provide a bill credit for attending the meeting in person. There will be door prizes of flowers and bill credits.

I heard loud and clear last year; we need a treat of some sort. I will be sure to work with our friends at the Shining Light Café to have something good to go with coffee or

water. I'm very excited to work with our friends at Lake Country Power, we will have the safety demo trailer at the meeting. If you haven't seen this in the past, it is a very powerful demonstration!

With safety demonstrations in mind, I will remind you once again to always think about safety when dealing with power lines. If you find a downed line, don't touch it. Don't even go near it. Please call the office, we will send someone out ASAP to safely correct the issue. If you have a leaning or trouble tree that can potentially hit the power line, give us a call. We would be happy to work with you to safely deal with that dangerous situation.

We will soon be in summer storm season. If you have a generator at your location, now is a good time to make sure it's in good condition. Do you need to change the oil or plugs? Is the gas fresh? Do you have a proper disconnect switch to make sure you're not backfeeding onto the lines? Wired incorrectly, a very small generator can energize our lines to 7200 volts. This could be a deadly situation for anyone near the lines, including our linemen. Please be careful!

*By your side! Miigwech
Brad*

Board nominations open for Districts 4, 5 and 6

The nominating committee will meet in the office of the cooperative, Bigfork, Minn. on May 3, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

The duty of the nominating committee is to select, propose and post a list of candidates for director for the following districts:

- District 4 – Incumbent Mary Rahier – 3 year term
- District 5 – Incumbent Lloyd Kongsjord – 3 year term
- District 6 – Incumbent Todd Christensen – 3 year term

If you are interested in becoming a director nominee, please contact a nominating committee delegate or alternate. The nominating committee members appointed by the board at its meeting on March 23, 2023 is shown below.

All candidates selected should be qualified by the nominating committee person prior to the meeting to ensure that if elected, he/she could serve in the capacity of director for a period of three years. Each candidate must be a Member of the cooperative and a bona fide resident of the district having director elections.

There may be situations where

the spouse of a Member wishes to become a director nominee. In accordance with the bylaws of the cooperative, a spouse is not automatically a Member unless the membership is a joint membership with both spouse's signatures on file. If you are uncertain about being a qualified director nominee, please contact the office at (218) 743-3131 and we will check our records. A copy of the Cooperative's Bylaws regarding Qualifications for Eligibility to serve on the Board of Directors is available from any nominating committee person or at the Cooperative Headquarters in Bigfork.

The candidates selected by the nominating committee for Districts 4, 5 or 6 will be placed on the ballot and voted on by the Members within that district. Your district is listed directly below the portion of your bill that lists your Name, Account Number and Statement Date.

The Annual Meeting will be held Thursday, June 15, 2023 at the Koochiching County Fairgrounds on Highway 71 in Northome beginning at 2 p.m.





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Monday-Friday

Telephone: (218) 743-3131

After hours (to report power outages):
(800) 762-4048

Website: www.NorthItascaElectric.com

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

2023 Nominating Committee

Del/Alt	District	Delegate	Address/ Phone	
Delegate 1		Myron Albrecht	Mizpah	56660 218-897-5048
Delegate 2		Dale Quandt	Wirt	56688 218-659-2601
Delegate 3		Marcie Lindgren	Effie	56639 218-743-3261
Delegate 4		Tim Neuschwander	Bigfork	56628 218-245-3792
Alternate		Darla Rauch	Bigfork	56628 218-910-9617
Delegate 5		Eric Handyside	Bigfork	56628 218-766-6312
Alternate		Kelly Handyside	Bigfork	56628 218-244-7178
Delegate 6		Crystal Braunwarth	Blackduck	56630 218-779-3249
Alternate		Karen Christensen	Squaw Lake	56681 218-659-4612
Delegate 7		Lisa Peterson	Squaw Lake	56681 218-659-4266
Delegate 8		Les Jensen	Marcell	56657 218-832-3410
Delegate 9		John (Jack) H. Shultz	Deer River	56636 218-832-3784

North Itasca Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors

Chairman: Larry Salmela, District 3

Vice-Chair: Wes Waller, District 2

Secretary: Lloyd Kongsjord, District 5

Treasurer: Roy Bain, District 9

Rep. to GRE Board: Lloyd Kongsjord, District 5

James White, District 1

Mary Rahier, District 4

Todd Christensen, District 6

Bruce Leino, District 7

Jeff Kilian, District 8

Highlights from the Board Room

NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC CO-OP., INC.
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING
March 23, 2023

Start time: 10:00 a.m.

End time: 2:00 p.m.

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the office and electronically through Zoom on March 23, 2023.

Directors present: M. Rahier, B. Leino, J. White, W. Waller, L. Kongsjord, J. Kilian, R. Bain, L. Salmela, and T. Christensen.

Also Present: Andrew Shaw, CEO Brad Dolinski, Jerry Loney, Daryl Pederson, Tina Danielson and Kim Giesen.

Start Regular Board Meeting: 10:35 a.m.

- o Pledge of allegiance was recited.
- o A motion was made, to adopt the agenda. Seconded; motion carried. A motion was made to consent agenda. Seconded, motion carried.
- o Safety discussion was held. Brad reviewed an article that he posted on Facebook which showed what could happen when there are downed live wires. He reminded everyone how dangerous it is to move downed wires. DO NOT MOVE downed lines. Electricity can move through the ground. If you are in an accident where live wires are involved. Stay in the car if it is safe to do so. If it isn't, you should jump clear of the vehicle, be sure to land on both feet. Then hop on both feet a safe distance away from the vehicle and wires.
- o Tina Danielson presented the Operating Reports. A motion was made to accept the Operating Reports. Seconded, motion passed.
- o Legal update: Nominating Committee was reviewed. A motion was made to accept the Nominating Committee. Seconded, motion passed. Board Policy 200.20 Financial and Equity Management was reviewed. A motion was made to approve the Board Policy with no changes at this time. Seconded, motion passed. Article 6 of the Bylaws was reviewed.
- o Jerry Loney gave the Members Services report. Hill Brothers Electric is a new electrician servicing our area.
- o Daryl Pederson gave the Line Department report. MREA was here for Accident Investigation Review. The crew is currently working on retirements of idle services. If the materials being retired pass inspections, we will be able to reuse. We will be rebuilding 2 1/2 miles of 3 phase along County Road 52 due to county road work.
- o Tina gave the Office Department report. Auditors will be in house Monday through Wednesday. The 2023 Nominating letter will go out with the bills on April 5. Wednesday May 3 is the Nominating Committee meeting. Brad has composed a letter that will go out to the members whose meters have been estimating. The letter will include 2 labels that let the member know they should call the office when they are shutting their breakers off for extended

An ASHP installation

>from p.1
it is so much quieter, and its efficiency is so much higher, it is still cheaper to operate.


I went back nine months to John's energy history and looked at his usage before installing his ductless heat pump and compared it with that he is using currently. Including air conditioning, he had an estimated 4,833-kWh reduction in energy when not solely using his plenum heater. With the Dual Fuel rate being \$0.067 per kWh, John reduced his heat bill from not using his plenum heater \$323.81 to date with more heating days to come. Even though the ductless systems (at this

time) cannot be on a load control program because of their electronics, John's main meter only increased an average of \$46.24 per month during November – In February he still saved \$277.57 to date with more savings during these spring shoulder months. If John did not have a plenum heater and used only propane for heating, the 4,833 kWh saved would equate to 180 gallons of propane just from June 2022 to March 2023.

In 2023, North Itasca Electric is offering rebates on Ductless ASHPs as well. If you currently heat with propane, rebates still apply in the amount of \$300. If you

are heating with electric heat, rebates increase to \$500 for installations. In addition, the "Inflation Reduction Act of 2022" from the office of Senator Tina Smith published a Residential Clean Energy Tax Credit which will be available for 10 years regardless of income for up to 30% of the cost of energy efficiency improvements under provision 25C. Ask your tax preparer for details.

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GRE returns patronage capital

>from p.1
that operates at cost. The company only collects enough revenue to run the business and meet its financial obligations. When a cooperative enjoys financial success, it returns those dollars to members through patronage capital payments.

"We take our members' investment seriously," said Great River Energy Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Michelle Strobel. "We keep a close eye on our budgeting and spending, and we are always happy to return dollars to our membership."

This is the fifth consecutive year that Great River Energy has issued a patronage capital return to its member-owners.

periods of time.

- o B. Dolinski gave the CEO Update. Discussed Annual Meeting details. The Annual Meeting is going to be held at the Northome fairgrounds on Thursday June 15, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. We are going to have a safety trailer on hand for safety training performed by the line department. MREA legislative efforts are focusing on tax bills and load control right now. Responsible use of the internet training will be mandatory and starting soon. Brad reviewed the Strategic Plan Report. A motion was made to accept the Strategic Plan. Seconded, motion passed.
- o W. Waller gave the MREA report.
- o L. Kongsjord gave the GRE report.
- o A motion was made to adjourn. Seconded; motion carried.

Regular board meetings are generally held the fourth Thursday of every month. If you wish to speak with the board or have an item that you would like to have placed on the agenda, please contact CEO Brad Dolinski at least two weeks in advance to be included on the agenda.

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WWW Website highlights:
NorthItascaElectric.com

Facebook

North Itasca Electric maintains a Facebook page, and there is a link at the top of the homepage. Just click the blue circle with the Facebook “f.”

Facebook is the place to find real time information on what is happening around the service territory – from outages, emergencies needing members to temporarily conserve power, announcements of dual fuel program load controls, office closures, job openings, legislative calls to action, special events and more.

It’s not monitored for outage messages, though, so call in an outage instead at 218-743-3131.

Rates

You can find the rate schedules under the Account tab. Want to refresh your memory on the difference between the regular and dual fuel rates? Or find out when rates change for the summer season? Or ... are you thinking about installing a yard light and want to check the cost? This is the place!



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Bylaw amendment to be voted on at annual meeting

The Board of Directors is recommending the adoption of the following Bylaw Amendment. This amendment is necessary to hold member meetings virtually.

Proposed Bylaw changes for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

Shall Article III of the Bylaws of North Itasca Electric Co-op., Inc. to include the following Section

Section 8 & 9

Remote Communications for Member Meetings

Section 8. Remote Communications for Member Meetings.

(a) This Section shall be construed and applied to facilitate remote communications consistent with reasonable practices concerning remote communication and with the continued expansion of those practices.

(b) The Board of Directors is authorized to hold annual or special meetings of the members, the Board of Directors or any committee designated or appointed by the Board of Directors solely by means of remote communication through which the members, the Board of Directors or such committee representatives may participate in the meeting. Furthermore, the Board of Directors is authorized to determine that a member, Board of Directors member or committee representative not physically present in person at an annual or special meeting of members, the Board of Directors or any committee designated or appointed by the Board of Directors may, by means of remote communication, participate in a meeting of members, the Board of Directors or such committee held at a designated place. Such participation by a member, Board of Directors or such committee representative by means of remote communications constitutes presence at the meeting in person if all other requirements set forth in this Section 9 are met.

(c) In any meeting of the members, the Board of Directors or any committee designated or appointed by the Board held solely by means of remote communication or in any meeting of the members, Board of Directors or any committee designated or appointed by the Board held at a designated place in which one or more members, Board-members or committee representatives participate by means of remote communication, the Cooperative must implement reasonable measures to verify that each person deemed present and entitled to vote at the meeting by means of remote communication is a member, Board-member, or committee representative, as applicable; and the Cooperative must implement reasonable measures to provide each member, Board-member or committee representative participating by means of remote communication with a reasonable opportunity to participate in the meeting, including an opportunity to: (i) read or hear the proceedings of the meeting substantially concurrently with those proceedings; (ii) if allowed by the procedures governing the meeting, have the member’s, Board-member’s or committee representative’s remarks heard or read by other participants in the meeting substantially concurrently with the making of those remarks; and

(iii) if otherwise entitled, vote on matters submitted to the members, Board or committee representatives. The Board of Directors may adopt such guidelines and procedures applicable to participation in member, Board of Director and committee meetings by means of remote communications as it deems appropriate.

(d) Any ballot, vote, authorization, or consent submitted by electronic communication submitted by a member, Board-member or committee representative may be revoked by the member, Board-member or committee representative who submitted the same so long as such revocation is received by the President or the Secretary of the Cooperative at or before the meeting.

(e) Participation in a meeting by remote communication described in clause (b) or (c) of this Section 9 is a waiver of notice of that meeting, except where the member, Board- member or committee representative objects at the beginning of the meeting to the transaction of business because the meeting is not properly called or convened, or objects before a vote on an item of business because such item may not properly be considered at the meeting and does not participate in consideration of the item at the meeting.

Section 9. Certain Definitions. The following words or phrases when used in these By- Laws have the meanings set forth below:

(a) “authenticated” means, with respect to an electronic communication, that the communication is delivered to the principal place of business of the Cooperative, or to an officer or agent of the Cooperative authorized by the Cooperative to receive the communication, and that the communication sets forth information from which the Cooperative can reasonably conclude that the communication was sent by the purported sender.

(b) “electronic communication” means any form of communication, not directly involving the physical transmission of paper that creates a record that may be retained, retrieved, and reviewed by a recipient of the communication, and that may be directly reproduced in paper form by the recipient through an automated process.

(c) “remote communication” means communication via electronic communication, conference telephone, video conference, the Internet, or such other means by which persons not physically present in the same location may communicate with each other on a substantially simultaneous basis.



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Roxanne's Sales Talk

by Roxanne Prather, member services representative

As I'm writing this article this morning, we are just finishing up with the ice and snowstorm with lots of wind. I sure hope that this is the last one for the year. I'm ready for the snow to be gone.

My son sent pictures of the kids doing an Easter egg hunt in Jordon MT they have NO snow! Well, we have enough for everyone. This last storm has left the roads very icy, in fact on the way to work today I almost hit the Easter bunny! At first sight I thought it was just a snowball until he bolted in front of me. When I saw him coming, I was trying to stop, but with the icy road it was a challenge. Relieved that I missed him and stayed on the road, all I could think was, "Thank God no kids had to see a dead Easter bunny on the road!"

By the time you read this, Easter will be over and it will be May! We will have a Mother's Day sale but not an Open House – still taking precautions against COVID. But that doesn't mean you can't stop in and check us out. I have been able to keep the showroom well stocked with appliances. We have a pretty good selection to choose from.

We offer delivery or you can pick it up the same day and save the \$50 delivery fee. We also offer a variety of payment options, you can pay with a credit card, cash or check. You also have the option of 90 days same as cash, where you put 20% down and have 90 days to pay it off with no interest. Don't forget, we also offer contracts to members who qualify! To qualify you need to be current on all accounts with North Itasca Electric and have been current for at least 3 months. If you qualify you can put 20 % down and spread your payments out up to 3 years. There is 4% interest on a contract.

Watch for monthly sales or if you need 3 or more appliances, remember you don't need to wait for a sale. Buy 3 appliances you will get 8% off, 4 appliances 10% and 5 appliances or more 15% off.

Don't forget we don't just have appliances, we have electric bikes as well. If you are interested in purchasing one but want to try one first, stop and take one for a spin up the sidewalk. They are lots of fun!

Roxanne's Repair Tips: Oven not reaching the right temp?

Defective thermostat control & sensing bulb assembly

If your oven is off by more than 40 degrees when preheated, this is more than likely your problem. You may need to recalibrate the oven. The exact steps vary by manufacturer, so check your owner's manual.

To know how to adjust the temperature you need to know how much the oven is off. To check, put an oven thermometer in the oven on the middle shelf, preheat the oven and look at the thermometer through the glass to get the readings. It is best to do this a few times. Once you know the difference between what you set it at and what it is you will know how much to change it.

Oven with push-button controls

1. Press the BAKE button just until the temperature displays the current offset setting—usually 0 or 00 unless you recalibrated the oven previously. (On some ovens, it's the TIME/TEMP button instead.)
2. Use the arrow keys to increase or decrease the offset to make up the difference between the

average you found and 350°F.

3. Press the BAKE button to finish or CANCEL to exit without saving.

Oven with knob controls

1. Pull off the TEMP knob. On the back of the knob is a small adjustment screw in a track labeled Cooler at one end and Hotter at the other.
2. Loosen the screw just enough that you can move it.
3. Move the screw toward Cooler if the oven overcooks or Hotter if it undercooks. Each audible click is about 10° F.
4. Tighten the screw and replace the knob. Repeat the process for checking the actual average temperature to see if you need to adjust the screw again.

If you are unable to recalibrate you will need to replace the thermostat control and sensing assembly. If that's not your problem, then check for a faulty temperature sensor. If this is faulty it can cause voltage to the oven to shut off too soon or not at all. The temperature

sensor can be checked with an ohmmeter and should read 1100 ohms of resistance. If it doesn't, you will need to replace it.

If none of the above are the problem, it may be a malfunctioning oven control board. This part can't be checked with an ohmmeter, but can be inspected for signs of burning or a shorted-out component. If you see any signs that it is bad, you will need to replace the part.

You should also check for a malfunctioning bake or broil element. To do this, look for blisters or a break in the element. You can also check with a multimeter; if there is no continuity, the element is bad and will need to be replaced.

It could be a damaged convection fan motor. Check the fan motor with a multimeter tester. If there is no continuity you will need to replace the motor. If the fan blades don't turn easily with your hand, it could be that the motor bearings are worn out and will need to be replaced.

Please refer to RepairClinic.com for part locations and How To videos!

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Spotlight: Lovdahl Electric LLC

wiring a local horse barn. Effie is centrally located, he laughs; within an hour and a half to about any job in the region.

It's not a quick transition to your own business in the industry. Lovdahl worked five years as an apprentice and then journeyman with Hubbard Electric in Becker before achieving his master electrician certification which allowed him to work independently.

Setting up your own business is challenging: Lovdahl credits Hubbard Electric with supporting him – especially on the business end – and has found other area electricians to be very helpful as well as his father-in-law, who has his own business as an electrical contractor.

Maddie takes care of the bookwork; an ideal situation, said Josh. It allows her to stay home with their young boys, Wells and Kane, and gives Josh more time in the field.

Outside of work the couple also share an interest in archery and hunting, and have two golden retrievers.

It's an interesting time for the industry. Lovdahl does get questions on solar and wind installations, particularly for cabin use. The northern Minnesota climate presents unique challenges, Lovdahl believes, both in maintaining temperatures for associated battery storage, getting enough sunlight and finding the right spot for wind applications.

Josh and Maddie are happy to be back in the Effie area, and their company is already growing with two employees. They are looking forward to a strong market for electricians in the future.

Josh Lovdahl can be reached at (218) 398-2203 or josh@lov-elec.com.

Spring 2023 Operation Round-Up Awards

Applicant Organization	Awarded
Bigfork School Garden	Garden Project \$300.00
Northome First Responders	Procure vitals monitoring equipment \$480.00
City of Effie	Effie days \$500.00
City of Mizpah community events	Mizpah Easter egg hunt and community meal \$500.00
City of Bigfork	Bigfork youth baseball - equipment funding \$500.00
Northome School	Northome School Pantry \$1,000.00
Deer River Sportman Club	Supplies for youth day \$500.00
Northern Itasca Hospital, dba Bigfork Valley	Additional prop for Senior Fitness Class \$309.73
Northern Itasca Hospital, Chiropractic	Bowflex Select Tech 552 Dumbbells \$429.00
Northland Progressive Inc.	Northome Main Street beautification project \$200.00
Northome school	Survivor (MCA Prep) - PBIS committee \$200.00
Northome School	End of year Luau \$100.00
Moose Park Township	Moose Park Township Building \$500.00
Ardenhurst Township, Itasca County	Memorial day - appreciation luncheon for Vets \$225.00
Deer River Legion Baseball	Summer Baseball \$300.00
Widwood-Plum Creek Comm. Club Assoc. Cemetery	Repairs to fence \$150.00
Northome School	Northome School Garden and Apiary Project \$500.00
Bigfork Parent Teacher Association	Bigfork PTA Family Fun Fest 2023 \$500.00
Bigfork Youth Football	Equipment replacement \$500.00
Northome Community Education	Elementary athletics \$500.00
Bigfork Varsity Football Program	Football equipment \$500.00
Northome School Prom	2022-2023 Northome Kelliher Prom \$400.00
Northome School K-3 Lego League	K-3 Lego League \$500.00
Squaw Lake Fire Department	Annual Take a Kid Fishing Day \$400.00
Deer River High School	Building World / History - helping to read \$215.56
Deer River Area Food Shelf	Provide food to those in need \$500.00
Bigfork Improvement Group	Halloween Haunted House \$500.00
Deer River Fire Department	New vent fan purchase \$558.71
Bigfork Art Department	Dream catcher & Bead Looms (Native American Tradition) \$332.00
Bigfork Speech Team	Speech Team Funding \$300.00
Bigfork Elementary School	Scenic State Park end of the year celebration \$500.00
Bigfork School PBIS team	PBIS teacher recognition & appreciation \$200.00
New beginnings pregnancy center & family support	Car seats for needy families \$500.00
Total awarded \$13,600.00	

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When you need back-up power

Summer is coming and along with it potential storms. With storms comes power outages. Are you ready if your power goes out? Some people don't mind when they're out for a short time, but there are those that don't want to be out at all.

For those members, North Itasca Electric has available Briggs and Stratton whole house generators to power your entire home. If one only requires a little power until power is restored, North Itasca Electric also has available Generlink disconnect transfer switches which the line crew can install between the main meter socket and meter itself. For a fraction of the cost, one can use their portable generator (without extension cords) by just plugging it into this device. One can get either a 30 or 40 amp depending on your portable generator for roughly \$1000.

Remember to be safe when using a generator.

When using a portable generator, keep in mind the potential hazards involved. These generators can cause shocks and even electrocution from improper use.

Be cautious not to energize another electrical system. • Never plug into an outlet. • These are internal combustion engines which create carbon monoxide, so always operate in a well-ventilated area. • Take caution when refueling, be sure to always turn off the engine first.

For more information on generators, stop in or call Jerry Loney. Until then, be safe.



Mother's Day Sale



- Sale prices on in-stock items only!
- Prices good through May

Refrigerators 10% off

DAR110A1WDD- 11 c.f. Danby all refrigerator, gray, Regular \$497.40 **SALE \$447.66**

FRQG1721AW-17 c.f. Frigidaire 4 door (2 top are refrigerator 2 bottom freezer) white, Regular \$1,171.60 **SALE \$1,054.44**

GER-NN-GTS18GTNBB- 18 c.f. GE top mount refrigerator, black, Regular \$894.17 **SALE \$804.75**

GTS18GTNFRWW- 18 c.f. GE top mount refrigerator, white, Regular \$882.00 **SALE \$793.80**

FFHT2045VW- 20 c.f. Frigidaire top mount refrigerator, white, Regular \$957.67 **SALE \$861.90**

FRTD2021AW-20 c.f. Frigidaire top mount refrigerator, white, Regular \$862.04 **SALE \$775.84**

XRS22KGABW- 21.9 c.f. Crosley top mount refrigerator, white, Regular \$960.70 **SALE \$864.63**

LFDS22520S- 22 c.f. LG French door bottom freezer refrigerator ice & water dispenser stainless steel, Regular \$2,159.30 **SALE \$1,943.37**

GRSS2352AF- 22.2 c.f. Frigidaire side x side refrigerator, ice & water dispenser, stainless steel, Regular \$1,649.70 **SALE \$1,484.73**

SJG2351FS-22.5 c.f. Sharp French door bottom freezer refrigerator, inside ice, stainless steel, Regular \$2,605.28 **SALE \$2,344.75**

FRSS2623AS-25.5 c.f. Frigidaire side x side refrigerator with ice ad water dispenser, stainless steel, Regular \$1,306.60 **SALE \$1,175.94**

GER-GEFE26JGMSS- 25.6 c.f. GE French door bottom freezer refrigerator ice & water dispenser, stainless steel, Regular \$2,145.00 **SALE \$1,930.50**

GEF26JGMSS- GE 25.7 c.f. French door bottom freezer refrigerator, ice & water dispenser, stainless steel, Regular \$2,145.00 **SALE \$1,930.50**



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JB655DKBB-GE 5.3 c.f. smooth surface range, self-cleaning air fry convection range, 5 elements, black, Regular \$1054.95 **SALE \$970.55**



NE63T8311SS-Samsung 30" smooth surface 5 elements, 6.3 c.f. self-cleaning, convection oven slide in smart range, fingerprint resistant, stainless steel, Regular \$661.80 **SALE \$608.86**



DAR202BGLP- 20" Danby freestanding gas range, 4 sealed burners, 2.3 c.f. total oven capacity, broiler drawer cast iron grates in black, Regular \$328.90 **SALE \$302.59**



LRGL5821S- LG 5.8 c.f. 30", 5 burners, self-cleaning, freestanding gas range, stainless steel, Regular \$977.70 **Sale \$899.49**



Dishwashers 10% off

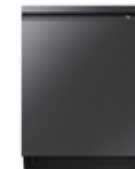
GDT645SGN4WW- 24" GE 16 place setting dishwasher, dry boost, auto sense cycle, bottle jets, steam + sanitize, Piranha hard food disposer, rinse aid dispenser, ultra quiet operation, NSF and Energy Star certified, white, Regular \$893.53 **SALE \$804.18**



FFBD2420UW- 24" Frigidaire 12 place setting dishwasher, dual spray arm system, sanitize cycle, heating element dries your dishes, quiet 52 dBA, white, Regular \$697.00 **SALE \$627.30**



DW80B606OUG- 24" Samsung smart dishwasher, whisper quiet 44d dBA, with Storm Wash+, auto release door, 3 dish racks, pre blast cycle, Energy Star certified, fingerprint resistant black stainless steel, Regular \$847.29 **SALE \$762.56**



CRS XDF350PGRBB- 24' Crosley built in dishwasher, 2-level wash arm system, 12 place setting, 3 cycles: heavy, every day, & 1-hour, dedicated silverware jets, hard food disposer, automatic hot start, 59 dBA sound level, active leak protection, high temperature wash, Energy Star rated, black, Regular \$ 487.27 **SALE \$438.54**



LDFN3432T- LG 24" built in dishwasher with 5 wash cycles, 15 place settings, soil sensor, Energy Star certified, vario wash, loDecibel quiet operation, QuadWash, stainless steel tub, dynamic dry, SenseClean wash system, 6 options, NSF certified, stainless steel, Regular \$638.30 **SALE \$574.47**



Freezers 10% off

VCM5SMWW- 5.1 c.f. Crosley Conservator, manual defrost, power indicator light, 1 removable basket W: 28 3/8 D: 21 5/8 H: 33 1/4 white, Regular \$259.00 **SALE \$238.28**

DCF050BLWM- 5 c.f. Danby 4.9 c.f. manual defrost front main drain, 1 wire basket, white, Regular \$332.48 **SALE \$305.88**

CRS VFX07UWA- 7 c.f. Crosley chest freezer manual defrost, garage ready, 2 rollers, 2 adjustable legs, drain, white, Regular \$292.28 **SALE \$268.90**

EFRF7003- 7 c.f. Frigidaire manual defrost chest freezer storage basket, power indicator, running indicator, adjustable temperature control, white, Regular \$379.70 **SALE \$349.32**

EFRF9003- 9 c.f. Frigidaire manual defrost chest freezer, storage basket, power indicator, running indicator, adjustable temperature control, white, Regular \$379.70 **SALE \$349.32**

DUFM1012WDD- 10.10 c.f. Danby manual defrost upright freezer, 3 quick freeze shelves, 4 door shelves for smaller items, mechanical thermostat, white, Regular \$453.70 **SALE \$ 417.40**

CRS VFX10UWA- 10 c.f. Crosley manual defrost chest freezer, power indicator light, 1 removable wire basket, easy access defrost drain, 2 rollers & 2 adjustable legs, garage ready, white, Regular \$422.29 **SALE \$388.51**

FFFU16F2W- 15.5 c.f. Frigidaire frost free upright freezer, 4 adjustable wire shelves & 5 door racks, wire basket on the bottom, door ajar alarm, tight seal door, floor projected power on indicator light, white, Regular \$881.54 **SALE \$811.02**

FFFU18F2VW- 18 c.f. Frigidaire upright freezer power outage Assurance EvenTemp cooling system, flexible interior organization system, door ajar and high temp alarm, frost-free design, floor-projected power-on indicator, garage ready unit, white, Regular \$1028.44 **SALE \$946.16**

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Edge Center Gallery

Call for Entries deadline is June 12

Edge Center Gallery presents Juried Exhibit in August

The Edge Center Gallery in Bigfork will present Art on the Edge: 17th Juried Exhibit during the month of August 2023, with June 6 as the deadline for entering your art. The Call for Entries is now open and goes out to all visual artists in our community and beyond. A juried show consists of artists submitting digital images of up to three pieces of work that they have been created between 2021, 2022 or 2023. These are viewed by an independent juror who chooses pieces for the exhibit. In addition to selecting art for the exhibit, the juror chooses three excellent examples of visual art to receive cash awards. The fourth cash award, People's Choice, goes to the art work winning the most votes from patrons visiting the art gallery during our artists' reception, held this year on Friday, August 4, 2023.

Not every piece of art submitted gets selected for the show. The juror this year is Paul LaJeunesse, a Professor of Art at the College of St. Scholastic in Duluth. He is a painter whose work is about "honoring the significance of place, and referencing memory, identity and the shared ideals that describe community."

As juror, he will look at composition and craftsmanship, but also originality, creativity, use of materials, or something special that causes a viewer to be drawn to a piece of artwork. All artists need to realize the juror's decisions are final; the Gallery committee does not participate in or influence the juror's process.

A \$20 non-refundable entry fee must accompany the submission of your application showing the pieces you are submitting. Be sure to show your work in the highest quality image you can, remembering that if the image is too small, blurred, or has reflections, the juror usually will not select it. Work must be original, not copied from another image, and not a print of an original. Any media is welcome; paintings, photos, sculptures, carvings, pottery or fiber arts are examples.

The application form for Art on the Edge is available on the Gallery page of www.edgecenterarts.org. The deadline for entering is June 12, 2023. There are no geographic limitations for entries, so tell all your artist friends, 16 years of age or older, that it's time to submit their work for the chance to display it, and maybe win a cash prize, if they are successful in being chosen for the 17th Annual Art on the Edge Juried Art Exhibit!

Operating support is made possible in part by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Arrowhead Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

Greenhouse Openings

Bigfork

Country Gardens Greenhouse is located in the parking lot of Kocian's featuring flowers, heirloom vegetables and hanging baskets. Opening mid-May, hours 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Mon-Sat. Phone: (218) 743-3343

Bigfork Hardware is located just north of the river on Highway 38. Onsite greenhouse open during store hours, Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Phone: (218) 743-3231, call for more information.

Blackduck

Grundmeier's Greenery is located at 589 Main St North, Blackduck. Opening Friday, May 5. Hours are Mon-Sat, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Grundmeier's carries bedding plants, vegetables, a selection of Proven Winners®, hanging baskets and planters. Phone: (218) 368-4282

Effie

Forevergreen Greenhouse and Gifts is located 1 mile east of Effie on Highway 1. Opening Sat., May 6. Bursting at the seams with a bigger selection of perennials this year, plus a large variety of flowers, baskets and vegetables. Specialties include patio tomatoes, petunias and geraniums. There is also an attached gift shop with candles, western primitives, garden art and more. Open 7 days a week, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Phone (218) 743-3358, email forever@bigfork.net, or find us on Facebook at Forevergreen Greenhouse and Gifts.

Marcell

Lloyd's Landscaping is located at the junction of Highways 38 and 286 in Marcell. Opening Tuesday, May 10. Bedding plants, shrubs, fruits, perennials, hanging baskets, bagged soil and bulk bin materials like mulch, crushed rock and top soil. Landscaping services available - call with your questions. Open Mon-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Sun., 9-3 p.m. Phone: (218) 832-2842. Check out our website: www.LandscapeWithLloyd.com.

Mizpah

Mizpah's Local Roots Greenhouse is located at 11354 Pleasant St. in Mizpah. Opening April 28, hours 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 7 days a week. Large variety of vegetables and flowers: succulents, herbs, perennials and new varieties of annuals. Strawberry and flower baskets, porch pots of cucumbers, strawberries and tomatoes. Phone: (218) 244-9716. On Facebook under Mizpah's Local Roots Greenhouse, pictures updated often. New flowers, colors and vegetables, and newly requested varieties

Northome

Harvest Moon Greenhouse is at 12337 Town Rd #425. (from Hwy 71, north on Co. Rd. 15, right on Co. Rd. 51, right on Co. Rd. 425) Opening April 28. Hours 8 a.m.-6 p.m., 7 days a week. Custom pots and design, annuals, non-GMO vegetables, baskets, classes. Phone: (507) 456-7611, Facebook at Harvest Moon Greenhouse.

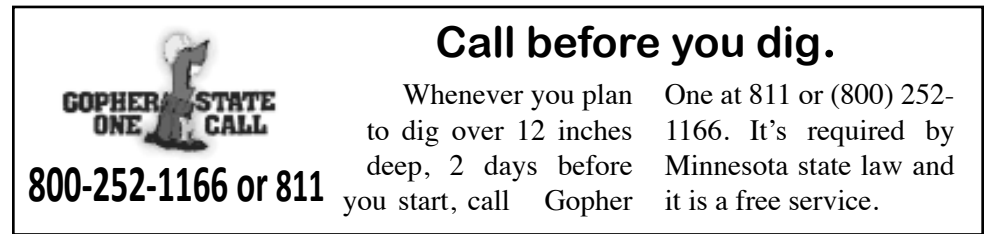


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Patricia Feld bookends directing career at Edge with *Our Town*

by Sally Sedgwick
 In 1998, Effie resident Patricia Feld directed a Thornton Wilder play: *Our Town*. It brought a cast of 43 amateur actors to Togo, the Effie Community Center, Marcell Family Center and Bigfork City Hall.

In April, 25 years later, Thornton Wilder's play was again directed by Patricia Feld. But this time it was in a 283 seat theatre, complete with sound, lighting, props, comfortable seats, an

orchestra pit and a design widely recognized for its acoustical quality: the Edge Center in Bigfork.

Our Town had a part in this transformation, as did its director. That and other early productions interested local residents in community theatre and whet their appetites for a better venue. The plays were early fundraisers in a campaign that bit by bit built up a startling \$2.2 million in local and locally generated funds for a theatre, going



Director Patricia Feld (standing, left) shares a light moment with some of the Edgwild Players cast members before the first tech rehearsal of *Our Town*.

over the top thanks to a legacy gift from Bigfork businessman Orbin Holt.

With Bigfork High School graduate Bruce Blackmer's Seattle architectural firm providing a professional pro-bono theatre design, the project was launched. In 2004 there was a groundbreak-

Feld watches from the seats as the "Stage Manager" begins his monologue for *Our Town* during a tech rehearsal.

ing and in 2005 Music Man delighted audiences.

But it was *Our Town* that captured Feld's heart and *Our Town* that she chose for what she called her swan song in directing. Two others came back to reprise roles after 25 years: Lynn Heaton as Simon and Nan Fisher in make-up. All together, there were over 60 people involved in the production, ages 5 years to 83 years.



Food program available

Is it a struggle affording groceries? Do housing and medical expenses leave you with little money? All of your life, you have helped take care of others in their time of need... Now it's your time. It's time to preserve your health and make your fixed dollars go further. It's time to take advantage of a nutrition program that helps thousands of low income Minnesota seniors.

CSFP is a nutrition assistance program just for low income seniors 60 and over. With the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, qualifying older Minnesota adults receive a free supplemental food package every month.

We give a variety of foods such as canned fruits and vegetables, juice, milk, cheese, cereal, rice, pasta, meat and peanut butter.

For more information please call Sandy at Second Harvest North Central Food Bank at (218)999-4136 or apply online at: www.health.state.mn.us/people/csfp.

WATTS Wonderful!



The Empty Bowls Fundraiser

would like to thank all of the volunteers, folks that braved another round of snow to come out to have breakfast, and those that just dropped off a donation. Just over \$1,200.00 was raised to keep our shelves stocked.

Again, thank you Bigfork community for helping your local food shelf and neighbors in need.

.submitted by Lynne Schleicher

"We've done the widest range of things," said Feld. Big Absurdist One Small shows. Things that expand appreciation of theatre. They are always fun, she said, and provide that shared experience that creates community. And *Our Town*? "It speaks to the most important things in human life that we often don't give enough attention to," she explains. "It's about being mindful about living life with the people around you... It's my favorite play in the whole world."

Excerpted from an article in the Scenic Range NewsForum.

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North Country Gardeners' first meeting of 2023

North Country Gardeners is a garden club for any and all who are interested in the joys (and agonies!) of Zone 3 gardening. If you are interested, please see our new Facebook page. Many thanks to Paul Ryan for that new resource.

On Monday, May 15, 5:30 p.m. we will meet at the Marcell Family Center to do our spring clean-up of the Center's landscaping. Be sure to bring your favorite tools and gloves. In case of rain (certainly not snow again, surely!) the alternate date is Monday, May 22, 5:30 p.m.

Our first regular monthly meeting of the summer will be Monday, June 19, 5:30 p.m., at the Marcell Family Center. Lynne Schleicher will lead us in an introduction to Straw Bale Gardening. We will discuss suggestions for future speakers, as well as sharing personal stories of "wins and losses" in the garden. Any and all are welcome!

Treasures Are Fine garage sales on May 6

Anxious to get out? Drive the roads of northwest Itasca County and search for bargains at the annual Treasures Are Fine garage sales.

Shoppers can travel a 60 mile loop hunting for that special buy. The garage sale route includes county roads 6, 4, 29 traveling through Bowstring, Talmoon, Spring Lake, Wirt, Dora Lake, Squaw Lake and Sand Lake. The route can be accessed from each direction: Deer River, Bigfork, Blackduck and Northome.

The sale has a map, available before May 1 on Facebook @treasures6429 group page which shows locations of registered sales and some of the big items shoppers can find, like furniture, vehicles, lawn items and more. Of course, there are household, collectibles, tools and crafts for sale, too.

And food. As well as local syrup, jam and baked goods, shoppers can find huge sweet rolls, lunchtime meals and snacks at halls, stores and resorts along the route.

The sale is rain or shine, one day only from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. There are halls with multifamily sales along the route.

Thank you to the 2023 major sponsor, Paul Bunyan Communications. Other sponsors are Alex Bloch at Edge of the Wilderness Realty, Barney's Resort, Woods Reader magazine, Cheryl Gentry/Kitterman Family, Sure Game Resort, Spring Lake Store, Edgewater Resort, Max Mini Store, Little Turtle Lake Store, Riley's Fine Foods, Bigfork Improvement and Fish Tales Restaurant.

Community Cafe in Deer River

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.

New class at MFC

Try out the Creaky Bones Exercise Class at the Marcell Family Center!

Designed by the licensed physical educator and designer of YMCA's (water) Rusty Hinges, Creaky Bones uses balls, bands, chairs and 1-, 2-, & 3-lb weights to gently tone and strengthen muscles, tendons and ligaments around your joints. Bring measuring tape and watch the inches disappear!

Thursdays, May 11-July 27

5-6 p.m.

\$5 per class or \$60 for 12 weeks.

Credit cards accepted.

[Equipment can be purchased for cost.]

To register, contact Lauri Barber: (952) 200-5543

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.

B.I.G. Community Center in Bigfork

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

Bingo every Thursday 1-3 p.m.

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.

**Blackduck
Community Library:**
(218) 835-6600

Tues: 1-6 p.m..

Wed: 9 a.m.-noon.

Thurs: 12-5 p.m.

Fri: 12-5 p.m.

Sat.: 9 a.m.-noon.

Resource Centers:

Blackduck:
(218) 835-5768

**Northern Itasca
Emergency Food Shelf**

200 Main, Bigfork

Thursdays

12:30-3 p.m.

3rd Thursday

4-5:30 p.m.

(218) 256-4170

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

Community Education

Blackduck Call for more information at (218) 835-5206 . Register online at blackduck.k12.mn.us/CE. Questions? Contact mcleveland@blackduck.k12.mn.us.

YOGA WITH MADDIE OTHOUDT

Date: Weds. May 3, 10, 17, 23

Time: 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. or 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Location: Blackduck School Rm#31

Cost: \$12 per session, \$40 for all paid at once

Bring water bottle and yoga mat.

JUNIOR GOLF LESSONS

Date: Mon. June 7, 14, 21, 28

Time: 4:30 - 5:15 p.m. or 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Location: Blackduck Golf Course

Cost: \$60

Must preregister, Open to grades 2-8.

Marcell: Register for classes online at getlearning.org or call the Family Center at (218) 832-3444.

PAINT A CERAMIC BISQUEWARE ALPACA MUG OR PLANTER

Date: Mon. June 5

Time: 10 a.m.-noon

Location: Marcell Family Center

Cost: \$28

Register by May 29, Open to ages 8-18.

College for Kids

College for Kids will take place on the Minnesota North College, Itasca (formerly Itasca Community College) in Grand Rapids June 12-16 and offers enrichment courses such as papermaking, baking, sewing, Legos, animation, soccer, dance and more. Bring your child at 9 a.m. and pick them up at 11:50 a.m. College for Kids is for ages 4-12.

Registration at www.getlearning.org opens on May 11 at 8 a.m. and classes fill up fast! There are no waitlists. Three classes will fill a morning: tuition is \$30 for one class, \$90 for three. For more information, the catalog is on the home page at www.getlearning.org or call Holly Henrikson at (218) 327-5730.

area bookmobile stops

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

Tuesdays: May 9, 30; June 20

12:00 - 1 p.m. Bowstring Store-*new hours*

2:30-3:30 p.m. Effie: Effie Cafe-*new hours*

4:00-5:30 p.m. Bigfork: City Hall-*new hours*

Thursdays: May 11; June 1, 22

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Togo: Junction Bar & Grill

Mondays: May 8; June 19

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

Suomi Lutheran Church Mother's Day Auction

by Karen Kemmer

For over three quarters of a century, the Suomi Church has gathered each spring to celebrate Mother's Day, the fishing opener, the arrival of warmer weather and the fellowship of our community with a live auction in the church basement.

We rely on participation of the church members, friends in our community and family in town for the holiday to make the event a fun activity for all.

Traditionally, the items have all been donated and of the home made variety, but you never know for sure what will be there. You will likely see quilts, knitted items, wood working projects, maybe some flowers, a snow plowing gift certificate and lots of baked and canned

goods. We've even auctioned off bags of sheep manure for the gardeners! It is always amazing to see the donations come in; there is so much talent and generosity in our community.

We all joke and take the event as a casual affair, but things do get serious when a prized pie or jar of pickled beets are on the docket. But don't expect a professional auctioneer song and dance. While this is a fundraiser for the church, its main purpose is to bring the community together for a fun evening.

This year, part of our funds will go towards disaster relief, most notably the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. Join us Friday, May 12 at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will be available.

Playground Build at Marcell Town Hall

On Thursday and Friday, June 1 and 2, new equipment will go up at the Marcell Town Hall playground! The build will go all day, and volunteers are needed for any amount of time they can give. Call Tracy at (218) 832-3965 and leave a message or email marcell.township@yahoo.com.

Learn during lunch!

Department of Natural Resources May online Outdoor Skills and Stewardship Programs include freshwater drum fishing (May 3), walleye fishing (May 10), baby wildlife (May 17), Monarch butterfly conservation (May 24) and muskie diets (May 31). Sign up at dnr.state.mn.us/fishwildlife/outreach. Programs start at noon, last about an hour and feature experts in the field.

The "Practical Water Wisdom: A Virtual Learning Series" runs for an hour beginning at noon on the first Thursday each month. It is FREE, online, open to all, and includes an interactive Q&A. "Do horsepower and wake boating matter to your lake?" with Jeffrey Marr, Director of St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, UofM will be on May 4. A recording will be posted later at www.itascawaters.org/water-wisdom-2023.

~ May Calendar ~

- 1 ISD 318 School Board meeting in Grand Rapids or at watchictv.org, 6:30 p.m. Open Forum, 6 p.m. Contact for information: jrasmussen@isd318.org or call (218) 327-5704.
- 2 Bigfork Valley Hospital Board meets, 9 a.m. Contact (218) 743-1772 for telephone or virtual attendance information.
- 3 "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, Grand Rapids. More info with Lynn (218) 832-3612, lynn_etl@msn.com
- 4 First Thursday "Practical Water Wisdom" online programs over the lunch hour with Itasca Waters. May 4 topic is "Do horsepower and wake boating matter to your lake?" with Jeffrey Marr, Director of St. Anthony Falls Laboratory, U of M. Register at itascawaters.org.
- 6 Deadline for entries: annual Juried Art Exhibit at the Edge Galley in Bigfork.
- 6 Treasures Are Fine garage sales in NW Itasca County along county highways 6, 4, 29 and 46.
- 8 Women of the Woods meet at 10 a.m. at Sand Lake Community Center. Call Pat Sievertson at (218) 659-2157.
- 8 Effie City Council meets at Effie Community Center, 6 p.m.
- 8 Blackduck ISD 32 School Board, 7 p.m. in the Media Center.
- 9 Stop & Stitch meets at the Marcell Family Center the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. More info, call Judy at (218) 832-3237.
- 9 Bigfork City Council meets at City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- 9 ISD 317 School Board meets, 6 p.m., public forum 5:45 p.m.
- 10 ISD 363 South Koochiching-Rainy River School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11 Online registration opens for College for Kids, 8 a.m. See p.12.
- 12 Mother's Day Auction at Suomi Lutheran Church, 6:30 p.m. Refreshments available. Part of the proceeds to earthquake relief in Turkey and Syria.
- 1 Minnesota Fishing Opener
- 14 Mother's Day
- 15 ISD 318 School Board meeting in Grand Rapids or at watchictv.org, 6:30 p.m. Open Forum, 6 p.m. Contact for information: jrasmussen@isd318.org or call (218) 327-5704.
- 22 Women of the Woods meet at 10 a.m. at Sand Lake Community Center. Call Pat Sievertson at (218) 659-2157.
- 22 North Country Gardeners meet at Marcell Family Center for a clean-up day, 5:30 p.m. Everyone welcome.

26 Bigfork School 5th grade hosts a pre-Memorial Day Parade, starting at the Cenex at 1 p.m and traveling south to the Memorial park on Highway 38.

29 Memorial Day. No school, all schools.

29 North Itasca Electric offices CLOSED.

29 Watch for schedule of Memorial Day services by VFW Post 9703 Perry Heide, American Legion Waldron-Flaat Post 182 and VFW Larry McKenzie Post 3869

JUNE

1, 2 Playground build at Marcell Town Hall. Volunteers needed, call (218) 832-3965 by April 26, leave message.

15 Annual Meeting of North Itasca Electric Cooperative, 2 p.m. at Koochiching County Fairgrounds, Northome.

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 9:00a
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

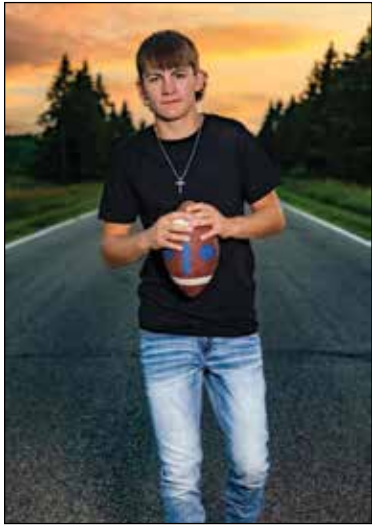
Suomi Evangelical Lutheran Church Sun 10:30a
42935 Co. Rd. 48
Deer River 56636 832-3883

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

North Itasca Electric Co-op is on Facebook!

Bigfork's Jhace Pearson named to state scholar-athlete list



The Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation has announced this year's Scholar-Athlete Honorable Mention selections.

"We are excited to honor the latest Scholar-Athlete Honorable Mention selections. There were so many amazing candidates across the state of Minnesota who shined in every area of their life," said Todd Fultz, President of the Minnesota Chapter of the National Football Foundation.

"These players are set to make a major impact on our world and should be very proud of their achievements on the field, in the community and classroom."

Here is a complete list of the Minnesota Football Honors Honorable Mention selections:

- Kasey Gerhard - Worthington
- Carter Geerts - Byron
- Charlie Kraus - Orono
- Max Mills - St. Paul Central
- Quentin Wolf - Adrian-Ellsworth
- Bryan Cassellius - Winona
- Carter Benda - Murray County Cntrl
- Jhace Pearson - Bigfork

Minnesota Football Honors is hosting a show later this summer to honor its high school, college and Minnesota Vikings award winners. Full broadcast details will be announced at a later date on www.minnesotafootballhonors.com.

Effie looks at cell tower

by Sally Sedgwick

A special session was held on April 3 in response to a request for a conditional permit for a cell tower construction by Verizon on a property within Effie city limits. The hearing was to amend the zoning ordinance so that application to the city for a conditional permit was possible. Opposition to placing the cell tower within the city limits was expressed by a councilor, but the application has not yet been made.

The council heard that an additional \$18,000 is available to Effie through the American Rescue Plan Act for waste treatment improvements (not operations) if the city spends \$10,000.

In other business, the council approved county sale of a narrow strip of tax forfeit land next to the Arvig building and authorized advertising for bids to purchase the old Christmas decorations. Bids will be due by the May 8 meeting date.

The next regular council meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Monday, May 8 at the Community Center.

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www.C21LakesTeam.com

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Fried Rice

Thank you to Janet Kogler for this May recipe!

- 2 cups day old cooked rice
- 2 eggs
- 4 green onions and tops, chopped (or small onion chopped fine)
- 2 or 3 strips of bacon, chopped
- sesame oil, soy sauce
- Optional:
 half green pepper, small amount ham or pork, chopped

Fry bacon, then vegetables in bacon grease. Add 3 drops sesame oil. Add eggs. Continue mixing.

Add rice, then soy sauce to taste, meat if desired and a couple shakes of pepper.

Please share your recipe with us! Every month North Itasca Electric prints two Member recipes. If your recipe is chosen, you will receive a \$10 credit on your electric bill. Send your recipe (please do not send copyrighted material) to the editor, WATTS NEWS, P.O. Box 43, Spring Lake, MN 56680 or email the editor at sedgwick@paulbunyan.net.

Veggie Pizza

Thank you to Jan Mackenthun for this May recipe!

- 1 pkg. refrigerated crescent rolls
- 1 pkg. (1 oz) Hidden Valley or generic ranch mix
- 1 16 oz. regular or low-fat sour cream
- 2 cups freshly chopped/grated vegetables (cauliflower, carrots, broccoli, cucumber, peppers, green onions, etc.)
- Grated cheddar cheese, or your preference (Go light if you want to save calories)

Spray pan with cooking spray. Press crescent rolls together to fit a 12" pizza pan or jelly roll pan, sealing the seams together. Bake at 400° for 10 minutes and cool.

Mix ranch dip packet with sour cream. Spread surface of crescent rolls evenly with mixture; there will be plenty left for veggie dip for another time!

Arrange veggies evenly over top of base, then sprinkle cheese on top. Use the same day you make the pizza; leftovers tend to absorb moisture and get soggy. Refrigerate cover with foil or plastic wrap until ready to use.

CLASSIFIEDS

EARLY AD DEADLINE
for the JUNE issue: Fri., May 12

-SERVICES-

Dahlke Dumpsters
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DahlkeForestry@hotmail.com
DahlkeDumpsters.com
Flat rates on dumpster rentals!
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Bigfork Mini-Storage
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or 218-743-3613

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DahlkeForestry.com
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√ Tree Removal
√ Trail Development
√ Habitat Improvement
√ Private Forest Mgmt.
√ Firewood processing

-WANTED-
Wanted: Someone with firewood processor. We have 10 cords of tree length firewood. Davidson Rd., Max. Call (218) 256-3833 5/23

-FREE-
Free: To a person who would benefit from a hospital bed. Call (218) 245-2530 5/23

-HELP WANTED-
Hiring: carpenter/ laborer. Call (218) 244-7349 5/23

-FOR SALE-

For sale: 6 beautiful glass flowers \$60. Heavy duty garden cart/seat with storage, \$30. Stone birdbath, molded squirrel pedestal, \$35. 1970s Tonka truck-no rust, \$40. Large dog kennel, \$35. Yard chess set, \$20. Call (218) 910-6610 6/23

For Sale: After 40 years of trapping, selling all traps and related equipment, incl. 200 leghold traps of all sizes from 1 to number 14 and 110, 220, 330 conibears. All snares, drags, stretchers, stakes, knives, repair parts, setters, and more. Everything in good condition. Call (218) 244-5489 or (218) 832-3541 6/23

For sale: - Ruger 223 AR platform Heavy barrel long range rifle, \$1,400 new. Very little use \$1,1000 Super accurate. Call (218) 256 3829 6/23

For sale: Pro-Form Crosswalk 390 treadmill, good condition. \$100. Talmoon location, call (218) 832-3537 or email dcfs4080@gmail.com 6/23

For sale: Full box poly salt/sander in good condition. Make me a reasonable offer. Call (218) 244-7349 5/23

-WATER SPORTS- DOCKS, BOATS

For sale: Ted Williams air-cooled 7.5 hp outboard motor with gas tank and manual. (Runs) \$350. 2 outboard motor gas cans, \$15 each. Call (218) 910-6610 6/23

For sale: 1991 Lund 1750 Tyee w/ 120 Johnson Motor and EZ Loader Trailer. Perfect boat for fishing, skiing, tubing. Brand new Bimini top, Ski Pylon, new steering cable. Trailer has new tires and fold-away tongue for storage. Hummingbird fish/depth finder. Seats in exc. cond., fishing platform in front, Live well. Runs great. \$8,500 obo Call Jim (218) 743-3509 after May 15 6/23

For sale: Yamaha outboard motor. 8 hp, 4 stroke, short shaft, very clean. \$2,200. Call (612) 919-3678 5/23

For sale: 8x8 swimming dock with ladder. \$500 obo. Call (612) 919-3678 5/23

For sale: 32' steel dock; cedar plank with "L", bench and wheel system on the end. Cedar has been stored indoors during winter. NW corner of Bowstring Lake. \$1,250 obo. Call Brian (612) 408 9079 5/23

-VEHICLES-

SNOWMOBILES, ATVs
For sale: 05 dodge ram 2500 w/ 8'2 boss v-plow \$15,000. Call (218) 244-7349 6/23

For sale: 2018 Sportsman Polaris 4x4. Very low miles, super clean mach. Brush guards, hand warmers, winch, windshield, loaded. On 2020 Camso TS 4 Tracks. Great for all winter fun. \$15,000. Call (218) 256-3829 6/23

-FARM-

For sale: Square bales, mixed grass, 35-45 lbs. \$5 per bale. Call (218) 244-0957 6/23

For sale: Hay. Small square bales, \$5.00 ea. Call (218) 256-3829 6/23

For sale: Farmall A Tractor. Restored. Parade Ready. Call (218) 244-5297 c

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Place a Classified Ad Today!

If you are an individual member of the cooperative, classified ads are free as a service from your cooperative. If you are advertising for a business or are a non-member, please remit \$5 per ad per month.

Run my ad for one month only.

Your ad will run for two months unless you check this box. (Business classifieds are \$5 per insertion.)

Please note: We are as careful as possible, but are not responsible for errors.

Send to: Editor, WATTS NEWS,
P.O. Box 43
Spring Lake, MN 56680 or
call: (218) 659-2779
or email: sedgwick@paulbunyan.net

Put WATTS AD in subject line.
If no response, please resend.

Summer load control hours

Electric Thermal Storage and Pool Heating

– Water Heating
May 1 through
September 30, 2023
Total control hours will
be approximately 1500
hours.

Monday – Friday
Restore time – 10:00 p.m.
Shed time – 9:00 a.m.
Daily recharge - 11 hours
per day.

**Times are approximate.
Control schedules at
individual receivers will be
randomized and staggered by
up to 60 minutes.*

Electric Vehicle and ChargeWise

May 1 through
September 30, 2023
Total control hours will
be approximately 2400
hours.

• **ChargeWise**
Sunday through Saturday
and Holidays
Restore time 11:00 p.m.
Shed time – 7:00 a.m.
Daily recharge - 8 hours
per day.
• **Electric vehicle**
Sunday through Saturday

and Holidays
Restore time 9:00 p.m.
Shed time – 7:00 a.m.
Daily recharge - 10 hours
per day.

**Times are approximate.
Control schedules at
individual receivers will be
randomized and staggered by
up to 60 minutes.*

Electric Thermal Storage – Space Heating

• All seasonal ETS-Space
heating loads will be
switched in stages to the
summer control strategy
on or before Wednesday
May 1, 2023, per the GRE
summer changeover plan.

• Year round ETS-Space
Heating loads will continue
to run every day.
• Randomization: control
schedules at individual
receivers will be staggered
by up to 60 minutes.

Interruptible Air Conditioning

• Total estimated summer
control – 60 hours.
• Control limits –
Maximum of 6 hours per
day.

GenerLink Disconnect transfer switches

Models

There are two models of
the GenerLink transfer switch
currently available:



MA23 (30-Amp): This model
of the GenerLink works with
portable generators that have a
running wattage below 8,500
watts.

MA24 (40-Amp): This model
of the GenerLink works with
portable generators that have a
running wattage below 10,000
watts.

*Add surge protection (75kA per
phase) to either model to protect
all your white appliances from
a surge. The surge module has
an audible alarm to notify you
when you take a hit.*

GenerLok Power Cable

The GenerLok is our custom
made power cable that connects
a portable generator to the

GenerLink.

We recommend measuring
the distance between your
portable generator and the
location where the GenerLink
will be installed to decide how
long you need your GenerLok
cord to be. The GenerLink
comes with a FREE 20-foot
GenerLok cable, and you can
upgrade to a longer 20-to-100-
foot cord if needed.

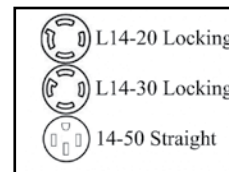


Plug Options

There are currently three
plug options available:

L14-20 Locking: Delivers up
to 20 amps of power to your
home.

L14-30 Locking: Delivers up to



Safely operate a GenerLink transfer switch and portable generator

Make sure to place your portable generator
in a well-ventilated area near the GenerLink
transfer switch.

- 1) Turn OFF all the circuit breakers in your breaker panel.
- 2) Connect the female end of your GenerLok cord to the GenerLink and the male end to your generator.
- 3) Turn the circuit breaker of the generator OFF then power on the portable generator by following the procedures stated in the generator's owner's manual.
- 4) Once the generator has been running for 30 seconds, turn the circuit breaker on the generator to the ON position to deliver generator power to the GenerLink.
- 5) Turn ON only the essential breakers in your breaker panel. Make sure you do not exceed the maximum running wattage of your generator.

Safely reconnect utility power to your home

- 1) Turn OFF all the circuit breakers in your breaker panel.
- 2) Shut off your portable generator.
- 3) Turn ON all the circuit breakers in your breaker panel.

30 amps of power to your home.
L14-50 Straight: Delivers up to 50 amps
of power to your home.

If a 40 amp generlink is desired and
you currently have a 30 amp plug on
your generator, adaptors are available.

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