



**NORTH ITASCA  
ELECTRIC**

OWNED BY THOSE WE SERVE

**WATTS  
NEWS**

VOL 26 NO. 8

PUBLISHED FOR THE MEMBERS OF NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

AUGUST 2023

## CEO Report

Good afternoon NIECI,  
I'm writing to you from one of my most beloved locations. I'm celebrating my anniversary with my wife and aunt and uncle in Sioux Narrows. Spending a few days relaxing at the lake, chasing Lake Trout, and eating way too much is just what we needed to recharge the personal battery.

I spent the last week working with Great River Energy on Strategic planning. GRE is laying out the plan to accomplish the carbon free legislation. We will need to replace centralized power to the new grid that is much more spread out. This will require significant investments

in transmission assets both in Minnesota and other states. I was very pleased to hear how far along GRE is in planning. This will be a challenge to overcome certainly, but I am confident GRE will get there on our behalf.

To get to 100% carbon free, GRE will be purchasing the output from various wind resources in ND, SD, IA, and MN. These contracts have price points based on the years we are willing to accept output. GRE's Board has requested contract extensions with all members. GRE cannot sign contracts for wind resources beyond the contracts they have with us. Our current contract runs through 2035, GRE



Brad Dolinski, CEO

is requesting an extension to 2045. I support this extension. This will help us to keep costs competitive for years to come.

After hearing all the exciting news at GRE, I headed to Lake Country Power with our board of directors for an MREA District 2 meeting. We got an update on Minnesota Rural Electric Association and the changes they are making for the benefit

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## Where does the time go?

*by Jerry Loney*  
It seems as though when one WATTS News goes out for publishing, it's time again to start writing another article. For me the months of summer come and go just as fast.

It is August already and am finding myself thinking about what needs to be done before winter comes again. The last few years I have burned wood for heating, but I'm finding my muscles are starting to rebel. When I counted the number of times the same stick of wood needs to be handled before the ashes are carried out, I counted ten times. It's no wonder my muscles hurt.

My wife and I enjoy the comfort of wood heat, but

the day will come when I won't be able to handle it any longer. I will as long as I can, but just out of curiosity I looked at the amount of heat a cord of wood produces over that

of propane and fuel oil. Having a lot of sugar maples on my property, I looked up and found that a cord would deliver 24 million BTUs. From that I calculated the number of gallons of propane and fuel oil equivalent to one cord of sugar maple and found the propane equaled 262 gallons and fuel oil 173 gallons.

With all the inefficiencies of heat going out the chimney and other scenarios involved, it would take

someone much brighter than myself to know how much heat from the sugar maples actually heated my home, but not impossible.

Do you heat with propane and purchase 1,000 gallons per winter? With propane delivering 91,500 BTUs per gallon and having a 90% efficient furnace, you would receive 86,925,000 BTUs delivered, the same as 3.62 cords of maple

Wood to p.3>

## Open House on planning for Highway 6 transmission line



69 kV line

*by Sally Sedgwick*  
With a target date for start of construction of January 2025, planning for the rebuilding and relocation of the main power supply line to the North Itasca Electric system got underway in July with an Open House for landowners along the transmission corridor.

At the Open House, landowners were able to express any concerns about the proposed reroute. "These meetings are initial steps in the process, every impacted landowner will be personally heard during the planning

phase," explained North Itasca Electric CEO Brad Dolinski. "We look forward to finding compromise with our members during this planning period and construction phase. This line will be built to meet the current and future needs of all members of North Itasca Electric and the city of Bigfork. The feed also supplies the city, although it is part of the Minnesota Power system."

The Great River Energy 69 kV transmission line runs about 19 miles from the Deer River Substation to the Jesse Lake

Substation along the current and old roadbed of Highway 6. And that old roadbed is part of the problem, said Dale Aukee, senior field representative for GRE. It is sinking and access is becoming more difficult when repairs are needed.

The current line dates from the early 1950s. "When the line was originally put in, pointed out Aukee, "electrical supply was a luxury. Now it has become a necessity," he said. Some of the structures are original, and the poles are a mix of types. After completion, the poles will be

the same, a modern low profile design where the insulators are actually drilled into the main pole similar to the line feeding the Scenic Substation along Scenic Highway 7.

Not only will the line be moved to an upland location along the current Highway 6, but it will be updated to current construction standards with lightning protection, improved access and less environmental impact. Wood poles 65-75 feet above the ground are planned, spaced 300 to 350 feet apart. The line

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

**Koochiching County Fair!**

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**Refrigerator Sale**

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**3 shows at the Edge**

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# CEO Report (continued)

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of all Minnesota Electrical Cooperatives. We work closely with MREA. They provide safety training, record assistance, political leadership and educational classes. Mr. Wes Waller from North Itasca is the Chairman of the MREA Board of Directors. We are extremely fortunate to have the benefit of a strong Statewide Association.

This next month I will send a bill stuffer out with information about electrical cooperative political action. We were successful leveraging the voices of rural Minnesota down at the capitol. This is another way to stay informed if you would like. If you sign up for this information, you will receive updates on issues

we are dealing with. You can then enter your address and a letter will be sent to your legislators informing them you are for or against a particular issue. This will streamline the process, making it as convenient as possible. I encourage you to participate in this opportunity provided by MREA.

While we were at the District 2 meeting, Senator Grant Hauschild visited with us. Senator Hauschild fielded many questions from the group and gave us a rundown of the most recent session. Grant is a friend of rural electric cooperatives and myself. He is willing to hear what we are dealing with. He will pick up bills for our benefit and carry them through the

political process. We had a great discussion with the Senator and I look forward to working with him in the future. Senator Hauschild was leaving our group in Cohasset to go to Bigfork that afternoon. This is a great time to contact legislators, they have more time when they are not serving us at the Capitol.

My wife and I looked at our schedules back in May; we were booked every weekend through the end of July. Now these are some fun times of fishing, friends, family, and events. I'm not complaining a bit, it just shocks me how fast summer flies by. The kids will be school shopping and getting ready for school before we know it. I hope you are having a fun filled summer enjoying the nice weather and great times.



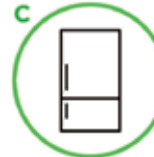

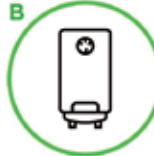







*By your side! Miigwech  
Brad*

## SPOT THE BIGGEST ENERGY USER

We use electricity every day, but we rarely think about the appliances and electronics that consume the most energy. Can you spot the biggest energy users?

Review each grouping below, then circle the one that you think consumes the most energy. Check your work in the answer key.



<p>1.</p> <p>A) Heating and Cooling Unit B) Clothes Washer C) Refrigerator</p>	<p>A </p> <p>B </p> <p>C </p>
<p>2.</p> <p>A) Refrigerator B) Water Heater C) Laptop Computer</p>	<p>A </p> <p>B </p> <p>C </p>
<p>3.</p> <p>A) Desktop Computer B) Electric Oven C) TV</p>	<p>A </p> <p>B </p> <p>C </p>
<p>4.</p> <p>A) LED Lights B) TV C) Clothes Dryer</p>	<p>A </p> <p>B </p> <p>C </p>

Answer Key: 1.A 2.B 3.B 4.C

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

**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.

### North Itasca Electric Cooperative, Inc. Board of Directors

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Secretary: Lloyd Kongsjord, District 5

Treasurer: Roy Bain, District 9

Rep. to GRE Board: Lloyd Kongsjord, District 5

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# Highlights from the Board Room

NORTH ITASCA ELECTRIC CO-OP., INC.  
MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
June 22, 2023

**Start time: 10:00 a.m.**

**End time: 12:05 p.m.**

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the office and electronically through Zoom on June 22, 2023.

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

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

**Start Regular Board Meeting: 10:00 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 A safety discussion was held. Brad reviewed the warning signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke.
- o Tina reviewed the Operating Reports. A motion was made to accept the Operating Reports as they were presented. Seconded; motion carried.
- o Legal Update: Reviewed Board Policy 300.20 Service Standards. A motion was made to show the policy was reviewed with no changes at this time. Seconded; motion carried.
- o Bylaw Article 8 was reviewed. A motion was made to show the Bylaw was reviewed with no changes required at this time. Seconded; motion carried.
- o Daryl gave the Line Department report. Jessie Lake transformer is scheduled to be delivered November 10. Right of Way clearing is taking place in the Funkley, Island Lake areas.
- o Jerry Loney gave the Members Services report.
- o Tina gave the Office Department report. There were 113 members present for the annual meeting. 135 people were in attendance. We have received 450 meters to replace those that are not communicating properly.
- o Brad gave the CEO report. GRE met in Brainerd. Rates 201 was discussed. District 2 Meeting is July 14 in Cohasset.
- o Energy Issue Summit will be August 8 through August 10. Board Leadership Class titled The Consumer – Centric Utility will be on August 8. A motion was made to approve travel and expenses for the conference. Seconded; the motion carried.
- o The board thanked Brad and the staff for a successful annual meeting.
- o A motion was made to approve the resolution to accept GRE’s 10-year contract extension. Seconded; motion carried.
- o W. Waller gave the MREA report.
- o L. Kongsjord gave the GRE report.
- o Round Table Discussion was held.
- o A motion was made to adjourn. Seconded; motion carried. The regular meeting adjourned at 12:05 pm.

## Enhancing cyber resilience in utilities

Delivering reliable and affordable energy is of utmost importance at North Itasca Electric Cooperative. But protecting member information is equally as important to strengthen information security and help build resiliency into operations.

You can rest easy knowing your cooperative is part of a larger network with extensive resources and an ability to ensure member information is secure — even as instances of cyberattacks continue.

Great River Energy, wholesale power provider to North Itasca Electric Cooperative, encourages and facilitates collaboration on topics related to cybersecurity among its 27 member-owner cooperatives. Working together in a technology-driven environment,

co-op representatives discuss their successes and opportunities in security practices. This allows participating cooperatives to learn from each other and enhance cyber resilience. By working together and as part of a national effort, cooperatives help keep the grid secure.

Technology is a critical component of any cybersecurity toolbox. GRE complements the efforts of North Itasca Electric Cooperative to protect the grid and keep the lights on by investing in the most up-to-date technologies for network defense and vulnerability management. Segmenting and filtering information networks ensures only authorized communications are permitted to the most essential

transmission and power supply assets. In addition, deliberate and expedient deployment of essential patches and regular scanning for security vulnerabilities ensures reliability and protects technology assets from day-to-day threats.

“North Itasca Electric Cooperative works tirelessly to earn the trust of our members by demonstrating the highest ethics in protecting the electric grid. The tools and processes employed by GRE and North Itasca Electric Cooperative are effective at meeting our stringent security requirements and enhancing cyber resilience,” said Jerry Loney, energy management specialist at the cooperative.

## Wood heat comparison

>from p.1

without inefficiencies. Without getting into the math, the equivalent heat for those having fuel oil would be 760 gallons with equipment at 85% efficient. You might have noticed that fuel oil was 240 gallons fewer, but one needs also to compare the cost difference per gallon.

1,000 gallons of propane x \$2.00 = \$2,000  
760 gallons of fuel oil x \$3.85 = \$2,926

Electricity on the Dual Fuel program with the rate of \$0.0678 and 100% efficient at the meter would cost \$1,636.38.

Those having a central air source heat pump on the dual fuel program: \$550-\$650.

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## Factors That Impact Electricity Prices

by Anne Prince

I was recently asked [by one of our newer employees] about what impacts electricity prices. We talked about how the daily cost of living seems to have increased across the board.

Just as inflation has impacted everything from the price of gasoline to the price of eggs, costs for the fuels required to produce electricity have also risen. This is a timely topic, so I wanted to help explain some of the factors that impact electricity prices (and energy bills) in this month's issue of WATTS News. While there is no short answer, there are a few key elements that impact electricity prices and rates. Some of these factors North Itasca Electric can manage, some of them you can impact and other factors are beyond our control. So, let me break it down.

There are three primary parts to your monthly electric bill: a service charge, an energy consumption/kWh charge and a Power Cost Adjustment (PCA). To understand your total energy costs and what impacts your bill, let's unpack one piece at a time.

The first is a fixed monthly service charge, which covers the

costs associated with providing electricity to your home. This includes equipment, materials, labor and operating costs necessary to serve each meter in North Itasca Electric's service territory, regardless of the amount of energy used. In order to ensure the reliable service you expect and deserve, we must maintain the local system, including power lines, substations and other necessary equipment.

Like many other businesses, we've experienced supply chain issues and steep cost increases for some of our basic equipment. Because we are a not-for-profit cooperative, some of these expenses must be passed on to our members. I should note that the service charge is the same for everyone and the costs are shared equally across the membership.

Another component of your monthly bill is the kWh charge, which covers how much energy you consume. You've likely noticed the amount of energy you use can vary from month to month and is typically impacted by extreme temperatures. When temperatures soar or dip, your cooling and heating equipment run longer, which increases your home energy use. Regardless, energy consumption is an area that you have some control over, and

you can lower your monthly bill by actively reducing energy use. Your thermostat is a great place to start, so be sure to keep it close to 78 degrees during summer months.

The last component of your bill is the PCA, which is the same amount for all co-op members. The PCA recently increased because of higher fuel prices, which means the power that North Itasca Electric purchases from Great River Energy, our wholesale provider, is more expensive. The PCA covers fuel cost fluctuations without having to continually restructure electricity rates.

I hope this information sheds light on some of the factors that impact electricity prices. While we can't control the weather or the rising costs of fuels, please know North Itasca Electric is doing everything possible to keep internal costs down.

We're here to help you, too. Contact Jerry Loney at (218) 743-1313 if you have questions about your energy bill or for advice on how to save energy at home.

*Anne Prince writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association*

## 4 KEY FACTORS That Impact Energy Bills

You pay for the electricity you consume each month, but there are additional factors that impact your energy bills.



### Fuel Costs

Before electricity can be delivered to your home, it must first be generated at a power plant or from a renewable source. The cost of fuels used to generate electricity fluctuates, which is why you see a power or fuel charge on your monthly bill. This monthly charge covers cost fluctuations without having to continually restructure electricity rates.



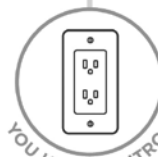
### Service Costs

Your bill includes a monthly service charge, which recovers part of the co-op's ongoing investments in poles, wire, meters, system maintenance and additional costs necessary to provide electric service.



### Weather

When temperatures soar or dip, your cooling or heating equipment must run longer and at maximum capacity, which can greatly increase your energy use. Extreme temperatures can also affect electricity market prices. When the need for electricity increases due to extreme heat or cold, the price of power typically rises.



### Energy Consumption

This is the amount of electricity you use each month to power your home's cooling/heating system, appliances, lighting, electronics and more. The amount of electricity you consume is measured in kilowatt-hours, or kWh. You have control over how much energy you use, which can ultimately help manage your monthly costs.

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## Preparing to Serve You Better

by Anne Prince

Providing reliable power to you is and will always be top priority for North Itasca Electric. These days, power reliability seems to be making news now more than ever.

As the energy industry continues to transition and more segments of the economy are becoming electrified, such as vehicles, machinery and even lawn equipment, additional pressures are being placed on our nation's electric grid.

With summer storm season upon us, I thought it would be a good time

to tell you about a few measures we're taking to ensure you continue receiving the reliable power you depend on and deserve.

Let me be the first to say I love trees and the charm they add to our communities, and I know you do too. While trees provide shade and add beauty to our area, you may be surprised to learn that overgrown vegetation accounts for about half of all power outages.

That's why we strive to keep the co-op's power lines clear in right-of-way (ROW) areas. A ROW area is the land a

co-op uses to construct, maintain, replace or repair underground and overhead power lines. This ROW enables North Itasca Electric to provide clearance from trees and other obstructions that could hinder distribution power lines. The overall goal of our vegetation management strategy is to provide reliable power to our members while maintaining the beauty of our area.

### Planned Outages Improve Reliability

Although it may seem counterintuitive, we also maintain power reliability through planned,

controlled outages. By carefully cutting power to one part of our local area for a few hours, North Itasca Electric can perform system repairs and upgrades, which ultimately improve electric service. Planned outages can also be used to balance energy demand, but only in rare circumstances.

Rest assured, we will always let you know in advance of a planned outage, so make sure we have your correct contact information on file to receive the latest emails or texts, or check with our Facebook page.

# Roxanne's Sales Talk

by Roxanne Prather, Member Services Representative

I hope everyone had a great Fourth. All in all, it's been a very nice summer so far.

I want to let you know of a couple of changes in our sales department. As most of you know, our delivery charge has been \$50 – at least since I've been here, 23 years now. This month we are forced to increase our delivery charge to \$75 per trip. The price to remove an old

appliance will remain \$25. We offer contracts to members who qualify. To qualify you just need to be current on your accounts with North Itasca Electric for at least three months in a row. If you take a contract, you will be asked to put 20% down and then you can spread your payments out for up to 3 years if the payment per month doesn't fall below \$20.

Remember we also offer bundling deals. You can purchase three appliances and receive 8% off. If you purchase four appliances, you can take 10% off and five or more appliances 15% off. These savings add up on whole house package deals.

Come in and I'd be happy to help you find what you're looking for.

## Roxanne's Repair Tips: Flashing lights on a dishwasher

Have you ever had the lights on your dishwasher start to blink and wondered why? This happened to me when I installed a dishwasher for my mom. I installed it and there were lights flashing, I had no clue why. I looked at the instructions a few times, they were not very clear instructions, and nothing was jumping out at me. I told her she was going to have to call someone who knows more about them than I did.

Mom called a plumber, and he knew right away what I did wrong. I forgot to hook the dishwasher drain hose to the garbage disposal. Someone had recently replaced the garbage disposal and never punched

the knockout out for the dishwasher hose, therefore he never hooked her dishwasher back up. I was just going by what saw on the old one. I felt bad, her old one had been torn out and disposed of already, and there was probably nothing wrong with it, other than that the hose never got attached.

Lights flashing on a dishwasher can be one of three things:

1. A bad heating element. You can test the element with an ohmmeter, if there is no continuity replace the element.
2. A defective touch pad or control panel. If some of the buttons are not working properly you may need

to replace one or both of these, depending on the model.

3. A malfunctioning drain pump. The drain pump can be tested with an ohmmeter. If the pump is bad, it will need to be replaced.

Note: I'm sure the lights on my mom's dishwasher were flashing because it was reading it as a malfunctioning drain pump. Remember you can go to RepairClinic.com to order parts, and watch videos on how to repair appliances. That's what I should have done while working on my mom's. Sometimes we learn the hard way.

## Member Warning: Doxo.com

There is an on-line bill pay website that appears to be affiliated with North Itasca Electric, but it is not. Doxo.com allows people to pay their electric bills via their site. There may be extra fees, however, and North Itasca Electric cannot control when we will receive the Member payments. To make sure you're paying North Itasca Electric directly, visit our website [www.northitascaelectric.com](http://www.northitascaelectric.com), for our direct link to the online bill payment portal, [mycpsportal.com](http://mycpsportal.com).

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### Safety

Safety is an important topic for North Itasca Electric. It's covered in board meetings and staff meetings. But it's also important for Members. The "Safety Tips" tab highlights three key places: using Gopher State One Call before digging, driving equipment near power lines and what to do if you come across a downed line. Always assume the line is live!


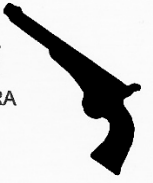
### Find a Form

Auto Pay sign up, job application, new service packet. They all can be found under the Find a Form tab on the homepage. You can update your account information or let the co-op know you are moving.

Did you know that if you use electricity as your primary heating source, under certain conditions you are exempt from Minnesota sales tax on your bill from November through April? Check it out here!

Also, if you have a medical condition that requires an electrical device, register with the co-op with a form on this page.

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### Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Did you know ceiling fans can make a room feel 4 degrees cooler? To save energy through ceiling fan use, remember to raise your thermostat a few degrees while fans are turned on. Ceiling fans can help improve comfort year-round. In the summer, operate ceiling fans in a counterclockwise direction. Reverse the direction to clockwise during winter months and set fans on a low speed so warm air can circulate from the ceiling to the lower levels of the room. Remember, ceiling fans cool people, not spaces. Be sure to turn them off when you leave the room.

*Source: Dept. of Energy*



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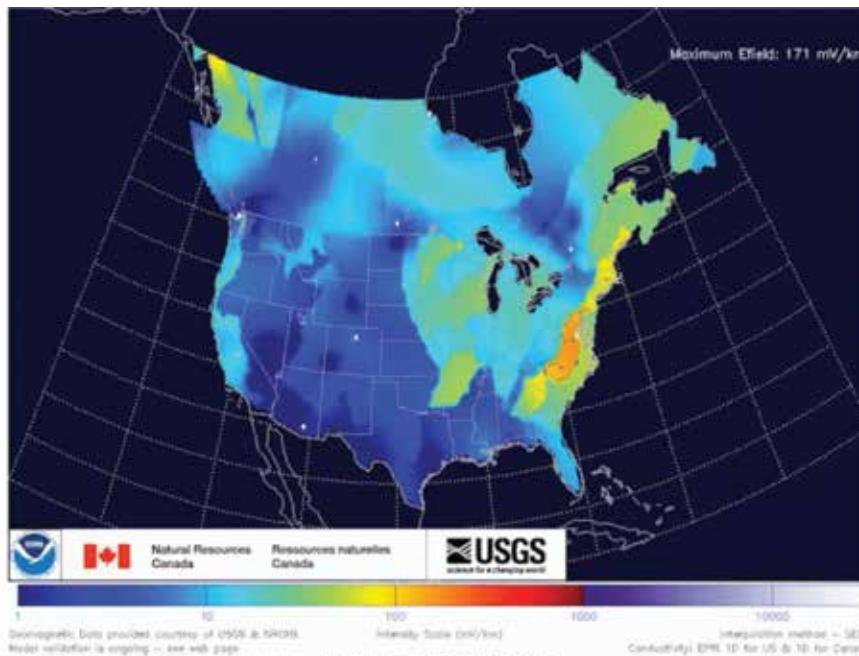
## Space weather and the grid

When severe and extreme geomagnetic space weather storms occur, they can generate unexpected currents in electric power transmission lines at the surface, putting the stability of electrical grids at risk. Providing accurate and timely information that allow grid operators to protect their systems is one of the primary missions of NOAA's Space Weather Prediction Center.

In June NOAA upgraded the model it uses to estimate these geoelectric fields to improve nowcasts of regional space weather impact information for electric power operators. Improvements in the model, now called the U.S.-Canada Geoelectric Field Model, include more accurate outputs of the geoelectric field at Earth's surface and expanded coverage to Canada, which increases situational awareness for the operation of the 37 major power transmission lines that connect the two countries. It will replace the Geoelectric Field Model, launched in 2019, that only covered the U.S.

Jointly developed by NOAA, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and the Natural Resources Canada/Canadian Hazards Information Service (NRCan/CHIS), this is the primary model that can be used by electric power managers for regional assessment of space weather hazards over the US-Canada operating domain. The upgraded model delivers graphical maps of the U.S and Canada and gridded data files, updated every minute, that indicate both the strength and direction of the electric fields induced by the geomagnetic storm.

NOAA's U.S. – Canada Geoelectric Field Model delivers nowcasts of regional space weather impact information for electric power



NOAA's U.S.-Canada Geoelectric Field Model delivers nowcasts of regional space weather impact information for electric power operators (screenshot of a dynamic map at [www.weather.gov/news/23-20-06-us-canada-geoelectric](http://www.weather.gov/news/23-20-06-us-canada-geoelectric)) operators.

The geoelectric field strength for a given location is determined by the strength of the space weather disturbance and the properties of the local earth conductivity. Areas with relatively higher earth resistivity typically see higher geoelectric fields at the surface and have a higher level of risk for impacts to the electrical power grid.

Once the geoelectric field is known, the level of geomagnetically induced currents in the power grid can be calculated, and the potential impact on the power grid can be assessed. When geoelectric currents are induced in man-made conductors such as power transmitters and pathways like transmission lines, unexpected and sometimes problematic effects can occur, such as voltage swings, unexpected loading due to transformers that are being affected, risk of voltage collapse in the more extreme cases, risks of false tripping of safety switches, and risk of heating in transformers that exceeds normal operating limits.

“Working closely with power grid operators, our federal partner USGS and the Canadian Hazards information service, we built a new level of resilience to the impacts of space weather on Earth,” said Clinton Wallace, Director of NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center. “This model upgrade comes at the right time to provide the electric power industry better data to act on as activity on the Sun increases the closer we get to solar maximum.”

“The notable improvements of the updated geoelectric field model in the U.S. have been made possible through enhanced ground-based geomagnetic monitoring at USGS, and a growing database of critical data,” said Kristen Lewis, USGS manager of geomagnetic operations.

#### Model improvements:

- Model output spatial resolution increased to one-half degree in latitude and longitude, resulting in 7,063 grid points of coverage, compared to 283 grid points at two degrees resolution over CONUS in

the previous model

- Model grid coverage has expanded to a northern latitude limit of 60 degrees
- Upgrade to Earth conductivity models over CONUS based on recent research findings published by the Electrical Power Research Institute

*Source: www.weather.gov*



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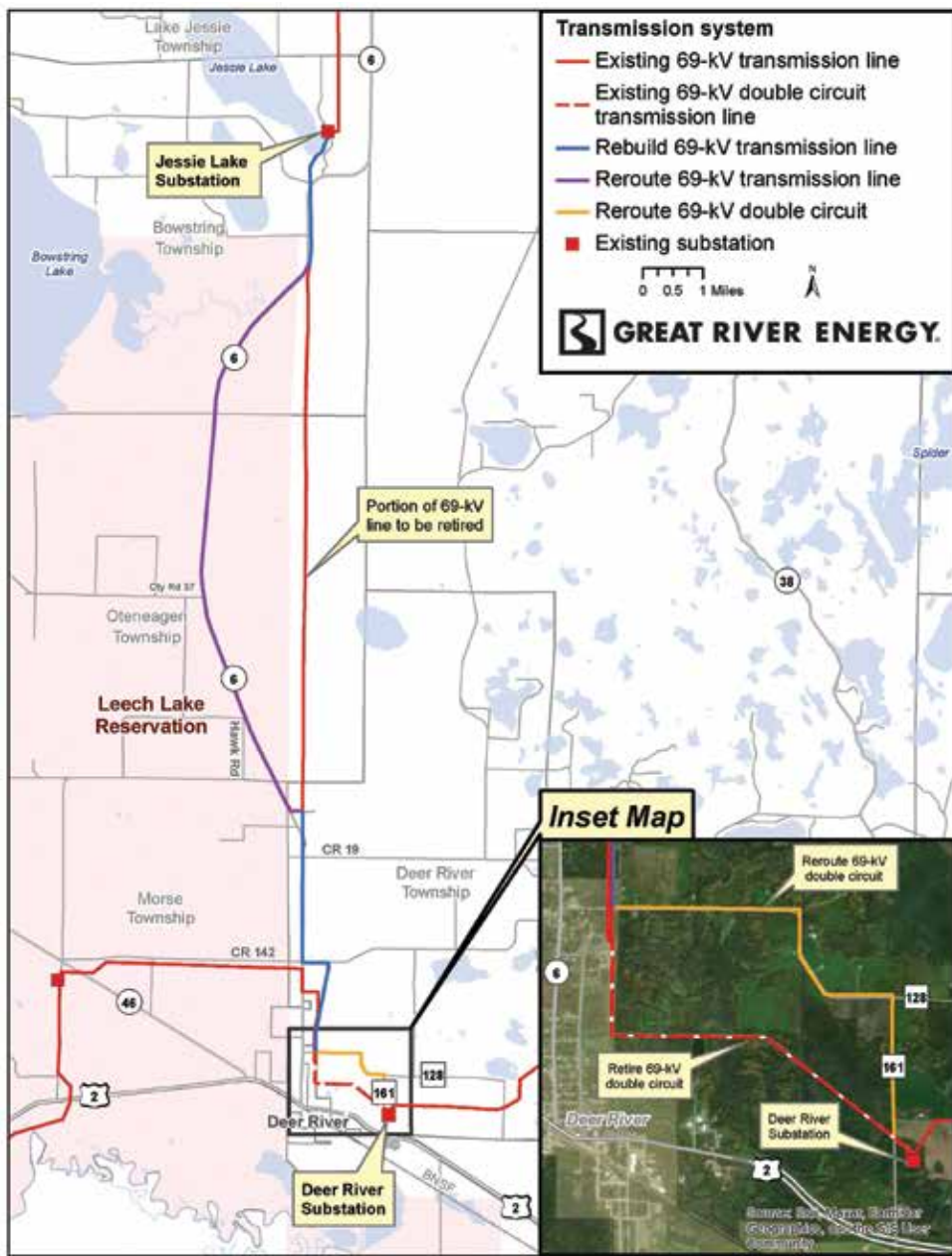
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## Open House for transmission line rebuild

>from p.1  
itself will remain the same size/voltage.

The new line will be capable of withstanding future weather events, including potential ice storms, said Dolinski. The line will also use larger conductors capable of carrying more energy to the North Itasca Electric system. This will be a vital change as more energy is consumed in a carbon free future.

Twelve of the 19 miles of line will be rerouted, most in Oteneagen and Bowstring Townships. A portion of the line in Deer River will also be rerouted to higher ground north of the current line along Co. Rd. 128 and 161. That part of the line will be a double circuit, with one circuit branching off to Bena just north of Deer River.

Surveying and preliminary design will take place this fall, with the acquiring of permits and easements continuing through next year. Aerial surveys will be used with on-the-ground confirmation, explained Aukee.

Rights-of-way for the line will be 100 feet, 50 feet on each side of the pole. In most cases, poles will be in the existing current North Itasca Electric underground line easements. The line

is planned initially for the west side of Highway 6, although there may be changes as design work continues.

From Great River Energy's standpoint, said Aukee, the transmission line was one of the least reliable on their system, and one of the highest priorities for replacement because of the importance of the feed to North Itasca Electric.

A larger map can be found in the July WATTS or on the cooperative home page, [NorthItascaElectric.com](http://NorthItascaElectric.com)

## 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](http://www.electricity.state.mn.us) for more information. 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

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**FRTD2021AW \$862.04 SALE \$775.84**

Frigidaire 20.5 c.f. top freezer refrigerator, auto defrost, even temp cooling system, dynamic condenser, leveling legs, door stop, interior light, gallon door storage, dairy compartment.



**FFTR1835VW \$704.60 SALE \$ 634.14**

Frigidaire 18.3 c.f. top mount refrigerator, even temp cooling system, flexible interior storage system, humidity controlled crisper drawers with roller support, auto close doors, optional icemaker, LED lighting, frost free freezer, reversible door swing.



**FFTR2045VS \$808.60 SALE \$727.74**

Frigidaire 20 c.f. top mount refrigerator, gallon door storage, adjustable racks, even temp cooling system, precise temperature control, full width freezer shelf, generous door bins, fits into same size cutout as a traditional 18 c.f.



**FRQG1721AW \$1171.60 SALE \$1054.44**

Frigidaire 17.4 c.f. French door refrigerator, adjustable SpaceWise glass shelves, stores more refrigerator bins, holds gallon size items, TwinTech dual evaporators, adjustable freezer storage, 4-door design, easy access controls.



**GTS19KGNBRW \$810.33 SALE \$729.30**

GE 19 c.f. 30" wide garage ready, top mount refrigerator. Modular bins on the door, LED lighting, edge-to-edge glass shelves, adjustable glass freezer shelf, high gloss finish, upfront temperature controls, frost free, air tower temp management, fresh food cabinet shelves: two adjustable full width glass, one glass drawer cover, fresh food door storage: Two door bins, two door shelves (1 with gallon storage). Freezer cabinet shelves: one adjustable glass. Freezer door storage: 2-full width shelves.



**LFCS22520S \$1901.43 SALE \$1711.29**

LG 22 c.f. French door bottom freezer refrigerator smart cooling system with multi airflow cooling. LED lighting, factory installed icemaker, four split spill protector tempered glass shelves, 8 refrigerator door bins, Glide N' Serve drawer, two tier freezer drawer, door alarm, auto closing door, quiet.



**1- LFCS22520S \$1696.70 SALE \$1527.03**

Same as above

Damage to the back does not affect the refrigerator.

**XRS22KGABB \$960.70 SALE \$864.63**

Crosley 21.9 c.f. top mount refrigerator, 33" wide, Two adjustable glass shelves, right hinge crisper drawer, automatic defrost, ADA compliant, adjustable humidity drawers, door storage, LED lighting, moveable snack drawer, one wire freezer shelf.



**GRSS2352AF \$1171.60 SALE \$1054.44**

Frigidaire 22.2 c.f. side x side refrigerator, frost free, LED lighting, door alarm, gallon door storage adjustable door bins, dairy compartment, power failure alarm, EvenTemp cooling system.



**GFE26JGMWW \$2145 SALE \$1930.50**

25.6 c.f. GE French door refrigerator, space saving ice maker. LED lighting, external controls with actual temperature display, child lock and door alarm, spill proof shelves, 2 humidity controlled drawers and 1 full width drawer, quick space shelf, advance water filtration, turbo cool & turbo freeze setting, door alarm, 2-level freezer storage baskets, gallon door storage, cubed or crushed ice, Energy Star.



**FRSS2623AS \$1306.60 SALE \$1175.94**

25.6 c.f. side x side refrigerator, frost free, door alarm, LED lighting, gallon door storage, dairy compartment, temperature alarm, power failure alarm, water & ice dispenser.



**SJG2351FS \$2605.28 SALE \$2344.75**

Sharp 22.5 c.f. counter depth 4 drawer French door refrigerator, 2 humidity controlled crisper bins, Chil-Boost & Freezer Energy Star, adjustable drawers, adjustable drawers and door bins, open door alarm, easy slide freezer drawers with built in automatic ice maker, LED lighting, fingerprint resistant, full width pantry drawer, Smart Cooling Plus, delivers blast of cold air all over, full width temperature controlled Glide N' Serve drawer.



**LRFXC2416D \$3211.65 SALE \$2890.49**

LG 23.5 c.f. French door refrigerator, dual ice - maker, makes standard cubes, crushed ice & slow melting round craft ice. Download the ThinQ app to control your refrigerator remotely and receive maintenance tips & alerts, water dispenser accommodates most containers, Full width deli drawer, fingerprint resistant.



**DAR110A1WDD \$497.90 SALE \$448.11**

Danby 11 c.f. all refrigerator, 4 full width glass shelves, 1 half width glass shelf, integrated door shelving with tall bottle storage, veggie crisper & cover, mechanical thermostat, interior light, scratch resistant worktop, integrated door handle, reversible door.



**MRB19B7AWW \$731.90 SALE \$658.71**

Midea 18.7 c.f. bottom mount refrigerator, 2 level freezer drawer, full width freezer shelves, humidity controlled crisper bins, LED lighting, frost free, Energy Star.



If you have questions, please call Roxanne at (218) 743-3132.



## Foundation Golf Tournament

The Bigfork Valley Community Foundation recently held its 13th annual golf tournament at Golf on the Edge in Bigfork. A portion of the proceeds from the fundraising event will be used to benefit youth and family programs in the foundation's service area.



2nd Place Team: Tom Morneau, Bim Berhow, Chris Kavanaugh, Jim Vojta



Random Team Drawing: Red Walker, Scott Jordan, Ken Ungerecht, Gary Fisher

### Individual winners:

- Men's Longest Drive - Scot Hanson
- Men's Longest Putt - Art Schumaker
- Men's Closest to the Pin - Lance Koppelman
- Women's Longest Drive - Dawn Jourdan
- Women's Longest Putt - Dawn Jourdan
- Women's Closest to the Pin - Dawn Jourdan

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1st Place Team: Jeffrey Moore, Josh Erickson, Mike Thuney, Marcus Little

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## Did it seem dry in June?

It was! June is typically the wettest month in our year, wrote Dr. Andrew Hill, ecologist who keeps the weather information for the Northern Research Station of the U.S.Forest Service in Grand Rapids. ‘

Those records have been kept for 108 years, and this June was the third warmest and 8th driest on record, he said. “Our temperature and precipitation patterns were enough to push the area into the moderate drought category,” he added.

Find out more by visiting the Minnesota drought map at [drought.gov/states/minnesota](http://drought.gov/states/minnesota). Currently western Itasca County has slipped into a “severe drought” category.

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# Edge Gallery

Art on the Edge: Seventeenth Annual Juried Exhibit

by Lynn Nachbar

A juried exhibit is a wonderful way for established and emerging artists to present their work. Twenty-six of these artists have been chosen to present their work in Art on the Edge: Seventeenth Juried Exhibit at the Edge Center Gallery in Bigfork from Thursday, Aug. 3 to Saturday, Sept. 2.

The Awards Reception is on Friday, Aug. 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. The Awards will be presented about 6:15 p.m.

This year's Art on the



John Bauer, mixed media sculpture

Edge features 26 artists working in a wide variety of media using classic ceramics, felting, painting, drawing and printmaking to newer methods such as photography, collage, digitally designed drawings and 3-D printed sculpture. It is a rich selection of artwork!

As juror this year, Paul LaJeunesse is responsible for choosing the participating artists and the recipients of the awards. Paul LaJeunesse received a master of fine arts in painting from Bowling Green State University in 2006, the Elizabeth Greenshields grant in 2006 and a Fulbright grant in 2007. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Art at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. He has exhibited in solo and group exhibits nationally

and internationally. His work is about honoring the significance of place and referencing memory, identity and the shared ideals that describe community.

Art on the Edge is at the Edge Center Gallery in Bigfork from August 3 to September 2.

The Artists' Award Reception is on Friday, Aug. 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. The Awards Ceremony starts that evening at 6:15 p.m. when juror Paul LaJeunesse will present the awards.

Kocian's Family Market is sponsoring the Best of Show Award. First State Bank of Bigfork and Amanda Dick, CPA at Glorvigen, Tierney and Company are the sponsors for the two Awards of Excellence.

There is also a People's Choice Award which is the most fun for the



Susan Klann, oil painting

audience. It is a chance for each audience member to vote for a favorite work of art. Like armchair quarterbacking, it is your chance to second-guess the juror. It often takes some real concentration on all the art to choose the most successful. You may vote all day August 3 up until 6 pm at the Opening Reception on August 4.

Edge Center Gallery is next to the Bigfork School and is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

# New council member appointed in Bigfork

by Sally Sedgwick

At its meeting on July 11, the Bigfork City Council appointed new council member Kristi Gustafson. In addition the following appointments were made: Ben Maxa, acting mayor; Aaron Gould, Emergency Management Organization; Kristi Gustafson and Aaron Gould, Budget Committee; Paul Gustafson, Safety Committee; Gould, Identity Theft Prevention Committee.

The council voted to authorize Widseth to move forward obtaining quotes on trestle and pedestrian bridge repairs. Repairs and upgrades were estimated by Widseth at about \$58,290, paid through the Blandin Foundation Community Development grant. There are \$35,000 in funds remaining in the grant which should be spent by the end of the year. The city is waiting on Department of Natural Resources response to

the fishing pier options. Widseth was asked to assess the canoe landing needs.

The lift station project at Golf Course Lane is complete, with residents and church connected. An extension was added, with cost partially offset by the county intention to pave part of the roadway that was torn up.

Scoping will be started between Widseth and the city on the water tower/water main project to make a priority list of infrastructure needs. Last year's water line breaks will be included.

A budget meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, July 25 at 5:30 p.m. The next regular meeting was set for Tues., Aug. 8 at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall. Please confirm this date as a quorum may not be met. An alternate date is Tues., Aug. 15.

Excerpted from an article in the Scenic Range NewsForum

# School demolition moves forward in Effie

by Sally Sedgwick

At its July 10 meeting, the Effie City Council thanked everyone participating in the playground build. In addition to volunteers, Lakeside Lumber provided a discount on materials and Jeff Powell donated equipment hours.

A new composite "Welcome to Effie" sign was approved. The funds will be from a Blandin Foundation grant with a \$1,000 match from the city.

Funds from the Blandin Community grant must be spent this year. A motion to advertise for furnace bids was approved.

The council formally accepted a \$150,000 grant from the Dept. of Iron Range Resources

and Rehabilitation toward demolition of the school. To keep the grant the city will look at options for low interest loans for the remaining \$128,000 needed for the demolition, according to the estimate received. Fencing to reduce trespassing at the school is planned to be purchased and erected this month, and the public is reminded that entering the school is trespassing and may be hazardous to health.

The next regular council meeting will be at 6 p.m. on Monday, August 14 at the Community Center.

Excerpted from an article in the Scenic Range NewsForum

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# Arts on the Edge

## Three musical programs coming up at the Edge Center

**Third Coast Chamber Collective** (TCCC) performs on Sunday, August 6 at 2 p.m. as part of their Festival “On the Edge of Light and Darkness.” Adults: \$10; Students: \$5.

The program features TCCC artists Evgeny Zvonnikov and Natalia Korenchuk on violins; Pedro Oviedo on viola; and Magdalena Sas on cello. The program includes:

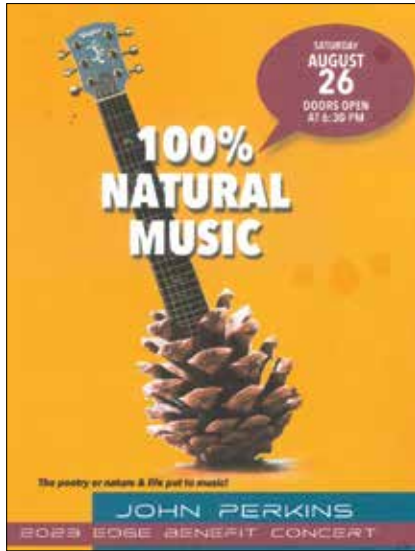
- J. Haydn: String Quartet no.2 op.20 in C major; and
- D. Shostakovich — String Quartet no.8 op.110 in C minor

TCCC is a group of emerging musicians from diverse backgrounds who build connections by improving community access to the arts and arts education.

Following this special performance, TCCC returns to the Bigfork community on Friday Aug. 11, 1 - 4 p.m. for a free music/visual arts/storytelling workshop for children ages 7 and older through seniors – and hosted at the Bigfork Valley Villa. For more

information, please contact: AGE to age Coordinator Sandra LeBlanc-Boland, at (218) 743-4356.

**John Perkins: Edge Center benefit concert:** “100% Natural Music,” Saturday, Aug. 26, 7 p.m. Tickets: \$10 adults, students free.



Perkins describes his music as “the poetry of nature and life put to music.” His heart and soul are here in Minnesota and many of his songs are about the forests and the lakes

we all love, to include the history of northern Minnesota. Perkins lives six months of the year in Sand Lake north of Deer River, and the other six months in the Smoky Mountains just south of Asheville, North Carolina.

His music features vocals and fine work on acoustic guitars, a 6-string banjo and a wide-neck electric that showcases his excellent slide-blues work. He has been performing benefit concerts at The Edge since 2009, and we are excited to present him again! Please join us for this very special 100% Natural Music concert.

**Folk musician Charlie Parr** performs on Friday, Sept.1, at 7 p.m. Tickets are available online and at the door: Adults: \$10; Students: \$5.

Parr is a Minnesota-based roots musician whose organic style is deeply tied to the blues and folk traditions of an earlier era. He is an incorruptible outsider who writes novelistic, multi-layered stories that shine a kaleidoscopic light on defiant, unseen characters thriving



Evgeny Zvonnikov and Natalia Korenchuk on violins; Pedro Oviedo on viola; and Magdalena Sas on cello. More at [ThirdCoastChamberCollective.com](http://ThirdCoastChamberCollective.com).



in the shadows all around us.

Parr has released 14 studio albums and tours the globe performing at legendary venues like Newport Folk Festival, The Kennedy Center, The Troubadour and Bowery Ballroom. But he hasn't moved to LA or Nashville;

he's stayed in the cold grey north of Minnesota, because that's his home. This is a show you won't want to miss!

The Edge Center is located at 101 2nd Ave, Bigfork, MN 56628. Contact us at: (218) 743-6670 and at [www.edgecenterarts.org](http://www.edgecenterarts.org).

## Itasca County under deer feeding ban

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has removed deer feeding or feeding and attractant bans in 24 counties to focus restrictions on areas where risk of chronic wasting disease spread is of greatest concern.

“The DNR uses feeding and attractant bans as a tool to reduce unnatural crowding of deer and reduce the risk of exposure to CWD,” said

Todd Froberg, big game program coordinator. “We are using these tools where we think they will provide the greatest potential to benefit the health of Minnesota’s white-tailed deer. This approach limits CWD risk and helps reinforce the connection feeding and using attractants have on the risk of spreading disease.”

Deer feeding, or feeding and attractant

bans, will remain in place for 23 counties. Itasca County has been added to the ban. Other local counties under the ban include Beltrami, Cass, Crow Wing and Hubbard.

For a list and map of counties affected by feeding and attractant bans, visit [dnr.state.mn.us/cwd/feedban.html](http://dnr.state.mn.us/cwd/feedban.html).

The DNR does not

encourage the public to feed deer. Residents interested in helping deer, especially during severe winter conditions, should focus efforts on improving habitat during the growing season to provide long-term food resources and shelter that deer can reliably find year-after-year.

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## Become a Junior Ranger

In July the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources launched the Junior Ranger program, which offers a new activity booklet for kids at Minnesota state parks. Kids can pick up a free Junior Ranger booklet, available during open office hours at state parks, or print one to begin the adventure.

In the Junior Ranger program, kids will investigate the ways that plant and animal adaptations are like superpowers through a mix of on-the-page and on-the-trail activities. They might discover state park habitats, move like an animal, focus on their senses, learn how to protect wildlife, avoid poison ivy, outsmart ticks and more. When kids complete the activities, they earn a free Junior Ranger patch, which they can obtain at a state park ranger station or visitor center.

The booklet activities were created by state park naturalists to encourage learning and exploration for ages 6-10, or anyone young at heart. Get more details on the program, including where to find the booklets and patches, by visiting the DNR's Junior Ranger webpage at [dnr.state.mn.us/state\\_parks/kids](http://dnr.state.mn.us/state_parks/kids).

The Junior Ranger program is funded through the Clean Water, Land and Legacy Amendment. Legacy funds support Minnesota DNR programs and projects that go beyond the results achieved by other state funds, to build a long-term conservation legacy for Minnesotans.

## Discovery Center summer hours

The Edge of Wilderness Discovery Center just north of Marcell on Highway 38 is open six days a week during the summer, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday - Monday. Visit the center for interpretive displays and a gift shop. There are also indoor and outdoor educational facilities, trail, pier and naturalist programs. You can also rent a kayak for a day on the water! Call for more information: (218) 832-3161.

## B.I.G. Community Center in Bigfork

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

Bingo every Thursday 1-3 p.m.

## 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.

## Minnesota Outdoor Skills and Stewardship Spring Series

Upcoming Minnesota Outdoors Skills and Stewardship Series webinars hosted by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources are scheduled every Wednesday at noon through the summer. The courses are free, but participants are required to pre-register. Sign up at [www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishwildlife/outreach](http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/fishwildlife/outreach)

- Aug. 2 – Exploring the Conservation Partners Legacy grant program with Acting Director David Stein
- Aug. 9 – Kayak fishing with Ron Strauss of the Minnesota Kayak Fishing Association
- Aug. 16 – Cattails: Friend or foe? with Amy Schrank, U of M fisheries and aquaculture extension educator
- Aug. 23 – 2023 deer season update with DNR Big Game Program Coordinator Todd Froberg
- Aug. 30 – Live from the Minnesota State Fair checking out the fish pond, fire tower, State Parks and Trail Center, and more.

## Itasca Waters Practical Water Wisdom series

The lunchtime virtual series Practical Water Wisdom continues at noon on the first Thursday of the month with "Impending AIS threats: Can they kill my pet or hurt my kids?" presented by Dr. Cody Sheik, associate professor UMD's Large Lakes Observatory in Duluth.

On Sept. 7, join Extension Educator Anne Nelson for a program on "How Healthy Is Your Well?" Nelson "works primarily with farmers and private well owners to manage and protect groundwater as a drinking water source."

Register at [itascawaters.org](http://itascawaters.org).

Visit your co-op at  
[www.NorthItascaElectric.com](http://www.NorthItascaElectric.com)  
get updates on Facebook!

<p><b>Northome Food Shelf</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>Northern Itasca Emergency Food Shelf</b> 200 Main, Bigfork Thursdays 12:30-3 p.m. 3rd Thursday 4-5:30 p.m. (218) 256-4170</p>
<p><b>Blackduck Community Library:</b> (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.</p>	<p><b>Northome Library</b> (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</p>
<p><b>Resource Centers:</b></p>	
<p>Blackduck: (218) 835-5768</p>	<p>Northome: (218) 897-5952</p>

## — Community Education —

**Deer River:** Register for classes online at (218) 246-8241, Ext. 60227 or [www.getlearning.org](http://www.getlearning.org)

**WARRIOR FOOTBALL CAMP GRADES 4-6**

Date: August 1-3  
Time: 3-4:30 p.m.  
Location: ISD317 practice field  
Cost: \$20 for three sessions

**WARRIOR FOOTBALL CAMP GRADES 7-8**

Date: August 1-3  
Time: 4:30-6 p.m.  
Location: ISD317 practice field  
Cost: \$20 for three sessions

No experience necessary, learn basic football skills and fundamentals of the game with Head Coach Brent Schimek.

## Defensive Driver courses by Zoom

For driver's age 55 and older that have already completed the beginner's course and want to continue receiving the discount on their insurance. Classes fill up fast so early registration is recommended. Cost of the course is \$14. The instructor is retired Minnesota State Trooper Mike Flatley.

Monday, Aug. 14  
9 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Wednesday, Aug. 23  
5 p.m.-9 p.m.

Pre-register by calling 218-750-3189 or by email to [mnflats@hotmail.com](mailto:mnflats@hotmail.com)

For more information on Mike Flatley's upcoming courses visit [www.mndefensivedriving.blogspot.com](http://www.mndefensivedriving.blogspot.com)

## Playstations

Playstations are located at McGarry Park in Bigfork and Lion's Park in Deer River with sporting gear and park art supplies to use and return for other visitors to enjoy. More information at [unitedwayof1000lakes.org/Playstations](http://unitedwayof1000lakes.org/Playstations)

### area bookmobile stops

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

Tuesdays: August 1, 22; Sept. 12  
12:00 - 1 p.m. Bowstring Store  
2:30-3:30 p.m. Effie: Effie Cafe  
4:00-5:30 p.m. Bigfork: City Hall

Thursdays: August 3, 24; Sept. 14  
11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Togo: Junction Bar & Grill

Mondays: August 21; Sept. 11  
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*

# Community News

Email editor at [sedgwick@paulbunyan.net](mailto:sedgwick@paulbunyan.net), put Community News in the subject line

## ~ August Calendar ~

### Bigfork

Northern Itasca AFG meets EVERY Tuesday 7 p.m.-8 p.m. at Grace Community Lutheran Church in Bigfork.

### Marcell

**2023 Naturalist Programs**

Many of the following programs include hands-on activities & crafts. They are interesting, interactive, and intended for all ages!

Naming the Night Sky (Constellations)	Tuesday, August 8	10 am	Liam Prato
Gone Batty (Bats)	Saturday, August 12	10 am	Liam Prato
The All American Bird (Bald Eagles)	Tuesday, August 15	10 am	Liam Prato
Busy Beavers	Saturday, August 19	10 am	EOWDC
Ruffed Grouse	Saturday, August 26	10 am	EOWDC
Wolves	Saturday, Sept. 2	10 am	Karlyn Berg

### Farmer's markets

Talmoon Flea and Farmer's Markets will be the first Saturday and third Thursday through September, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. at Little Turtle Lake Store. Vendor space \$5.

Northome Farmer's Market, Wednesdays 5-7 p.m. and Fridays 10 a.m. -12 noon at the fairgrounds in Northome. It costs \$15 a year to sell.

**Marcell Family Center**  
218-832-3444  
49023 State Highway 38 Marcell, MN 56657

#### MFC hours:

*Fitness Center, gymnasium, multi-purpose room, public computer room and WiFi hotspot.*  
Mon: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4-7 p.m.  
Tues, Thurs: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., 4-7 p.m.  
Fri: 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sat: 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

- Annual Ardenhurst Township potluck picnic at Ardenhurst Community Park, 6 p.m. The park is 4.1 miles south of Northome on Highway 46, turn east on Island Lake Rd.
- Naturalist programs every Saturday and every Tuesday at Edge of the Wilderness Discovery Center just north of Marcell. Programs 10 a.m. See programs to left.
- Bigfork Valley Hospital board meets in public meeting, 9 a.m. For information on joining the meeting online, call (218) 743-1772.
- "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](mailto:lynn_etl@msn.com)
- First Thursday online programs over the lunch hour with Itasca Waters. August program is "Impending AIS threats: Can they kill my pet or hurt my kids?" with microbial ecologist Dr. Cody Sheik from the UMD Large Lakes Observatory. Register at [itascawaters.org](http://itascawaters.org).
- Job Fair for ISD317 hiring paraprofessionals, custodians, kitchen, 1-3 p.m. at Deer River High School Commons. Onsite interviews. More information, (218) 246-2420.
- Smokey Bear's Birthday at the Discovery Center just north of Marcell on Highway 38, 10 a.m.
- Wildwood Plum Creek annual potluck picnic at the Wildwood Town Hall, 12 noon.
- Edge Center Gallery in Bigfork hosts the 17th annual Juried Exhibit, Thurs., Aug. 3 - Sat. Sept. 2 with 26 artists displaying works. Artists reception Fri. Aug. 4, 5-7 p.m., award ceremony at 6:15 p.m. Vote for the People's Choice Award Thursday and Friday until 6 p.m. Gallery is open Thursdays-Saturdays, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Stop & Stitch meets at the Marcell Family Center the 2nd Tuesday of every month, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. More info, call Debbie at (218) 360-1503.
- Bigfork City Council meets at City Hall, 5:30 p.m.
- ISD 318 School Board meeting at Admin. Board Room Grand Rapids or at [watchictv.org](http://watchictv.org), 6:30 p.m. Open Forum, 6 p.m. Information: [jasmussen@isd318.org](mailto:jasmussen@isd318.org) or call (218) 327-5704. Livestream from link at [isd318.org](http://isd318.org).
- ISD 363 South Koochiching-Rainy River School Board meeting, 7 p.m.
- 11-13 Koochiching County Fair at Northome fairgrounds on Highway 71. See p. 16 for schedule.
- 11-13 Friday: Northwoods Saddle Club 4D Barrels, North Star Stampede grounds, north of Effie. Exhibitions start 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday: Games show. Spectators welcome. See [northwoodssaddleclubinc.com](http://northwoodssaddleclubinc.com).
- Women of the Woods meet at 10 a.m. at Sand Lake Community Center. Call Pat Sievertson at (218) 659-2157.
- ISD 317 School Board meets, 6 p.m., public forum 5:45 p.m.
- Effie City Council meets at Effie Community Center, 6 p.m.
- Blackduck ISD 32 School Board, 6 p.m. in the Media Center.
- 16-20 Itasca County Fair, Grand Rapids. All entries online at <http://www.itascacountyfair.org>
- 19 Backwoods Bash at Blackduck Wayside Rest, 8:30 a.m.-midnight. 5k Dash for Cash registration begins 8:30 a.m., start at 9 a.m. Pancake Feed, 9 a.m. Parade starts at school, 12 p.m. Corn Hole Tourney 3 p.m., live music 4:30 p.m. to 12 a.m. More activities during day. Preregister for race and more info at [www.backwoodsbash.net](http://www.backwoodsbash.net)

## Area Church Directory

**Alvwood Community Church Sun 10:00a**  
58712 Co. Rd. 131  
Blackduck 56630 218-659-4681

**Balsam Bible Chapel Sun 10:00a**  
41516 Scenic Hwy 7  
Bovey 55709 218-245-1960

**Bear River Lutheran Church Sun 10:00a**  
11141 Hwy 22  
Cook 55723 218-376-1012

**Bethesda Lutheran Church Sun 9:00a**  
Mizpah 56660 218-897-5654

**Bowstring Chapel Sun 10:15a**  
45114 Co Rd 133  
Deer River 56636 218-832-3171

**Calvary Covenant Sun 10:30a**  
54764 Co. Rd. 31  
Northome 56661 218-897-5684

**Centennial Lutheran Church Sun 8:30a**  
Hwy 46  
Squaw Lake 56681 218-259-0115

**Deer River Bible Church Sun 10:00a**  
33276 State Highway 6  
Deer River 56636 218-246-9570

**Dora Lake Alliance Sun 10:00a**  
59329 Co Rd 145  
Northome 56661 218-659-4551

**Effie Fredheim Lutheran Church (ELCA) Sun 8:30a**  
Hwy 1  
Effie 56639 218-743-3368

**First Presbyterian Church, BF Sun 10:15a**  
109 Ash St.  
Bigfork 56628 218-743-3783

**Gemmel Community Church Sun 10:00a**  
10609 Town Rd 34  
Gemmel 56660 218-897-5966

**Grace Community Church (ELCA) Sun 10:15a**  
401 State Hwy 38 N  
Bigfork 56628 218-743-3368

**Hope Lutheran Church Sun 10:30 a.m.**  
12234 Third St.  
Northome 56661 218-897-5654

**Jehovah's Witnesses Tu 7:00p., Sun 10:00a**  
Hwy 38  
Bigfork 56628 218-743-3275

**Jesse Lake Lutheran Church Sun 8:30a**  
45834 Co. Rd. 4  
Talmoon 56637 218-832-3883

**Marcell Community Church Sun 10:30a**  
49103 State Hwy 38  
Marcell 56657 218-832-3200

**Northome Community Church Sun 10:00a**  
12071 Bartlett St.  
Northome 56661 218-897-5040

**Northwoods Chapel Sun 9:00a**  
50539 Mushgee Rd. (corner of Co. Rd. 622)  
Deer River 56636 218-659-2784

**Old Scenic Community Church Sun 9:00a**  
25747 Co. Rd. 340  
Bigfork 56628 218-659-2727

**Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church Sun 9:00a** Mass also W, Th, F 9:00a.  
320 Golf Course Ln  
Bigfork 56628 218-743-3255

**Sand Lake Alliance Sun 10:00a**  
55581 Co. Rd 4  
Spring Lake 56680 218-659-2872  
Church website: [www.sandlakealliancechurch.org](http://www.sandlakealliancechurch.org)

**St. Catherine's Catholic Church Sat 4:00p**  
52265 State Hwy 46  
Squaw Lake 56681 218-743-3255

**St. Michael Catholic Church Sat 7:00p; Tu 6:00a**  
12026 Lake St  
Northome 56661 218-743-3255

**Seventh Day Adventist Sun 11:30a**  
12352 Hwy 46  
Northome 56661 218-897-5723

**Suomi Evangelical Lutheran Church Sun 10:30a**  
42935 Co. Rd. 48  
Deer River 56636 218-832-3883

**True Life Church Sun 10:00a**  
45976 Terry  
Talmoon 56637 218-244-7089

**Wilderness Church Sun 9:30a**  
City Hall  
200 Main Ave.  
Bigfork 56628 218-743-3500  
[wildernesschurchMN@gmail.com](mailto:wildernesschurchMN@gmail.com)

Church directory sponsored by North Itasca Electric Cooperative, send changes to editor, [sedgwick@paulbunyan.net](mailto:sedgwick@paulbunyan.net)

- 21 North Country Gardeners meet, 5:30 p.m. at the Marcell Family Center. All are welcome.
- 21 ISD 318 School Board meeting at Admin. Board Room Grand Rapids or at [watchictv.org](http://watchictv.org), 6:30 p.m. Open Forum, 6 p.m. Information: [jasmussen@isd318.org](mailto:jasmussen@isd318.org) or call (218) 327-5704. Livestream from link at [isd318.org](http://isd318.org).
- 26-27 White Oak Antique Tractor Show, 1 mile north of Deer River on Hwy 6. Daily: Pancake breakfast 7-11 a.m. parade 1 p.m., demonstrations, displays, music, farmer's market, flea market and country store. Drawing for raffle tractor. More information (218) 326-5134.
- 28 Women of the Woods meet at 10 a.m. at Sand Lake Community Center. Call Pat Sievertson at (218) 659-2157.
- 30 Open House at Northome School.
- SEPT
- 4 Labor Day.

**PEDERSON HOVILA AGENCY**  
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*friendly, personal service for over 40 years*

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**218-743-3545**  
 Call Kevin for a no-obligation quote or policy review  
 401 Main Ave., Bigfork 56628 next to the post office

**SharMar Optical Solutions**  
**"EYEGLASS BARN"**  
*Exceptional Bargains*  
**(218) 452-1134**



Marcell Family Center • Tues., Thurs. 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or by appointment

**Williams Portables, LLC**  
**Toilet Rentals & Septic Service**



*Clean portable toilet rentals*  
*Affordable prices*

**218-290-7868**  
*Serving Effie-Bigfork and surrounding areas.*

**Playground bonanza!**

*by Sally Sedgwick*

Area children can try out new equipment at a number of playgrounds in the area. Effie, Marcell Township and Deer River have all recently installed new pieces with the help of local volunteers.

Also available: In Bigfork: a large playground at the Bigfork School and a playstation and frisbee golf course at McGarry Park. In Northome, there is a municipal playground downtown.



The new Effie playground next to the old school.

• recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes • recipes •

**Firecracker Shrimp**

*Thank you to Janet Macenthun for this August recipe!*

- 1/4 cup sweet chili sauce (Thai chili sauce)
- 1 teaspoon lime zest
- 2 Tablespoons lime juice
- 1 Tablespoon Sriracha sauce (or few drops Tabasco)
- 1 lb. medium shrimp,peeled and deveined: fresh or frozen, defrosted
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 2 Tablespoons cornstarch
- 2 Tablespoons peanut or canola oil
- 2 cups hot cooked rice or fried rice
- 2 Tablespoons bias-cut green onions
- 1 1/2 teaspoon toasted sesame seeds

Season shrimp with salt. Combine chili sauce, lime zest, lime juice, sriracha sauce and soy sauce. Sprinkle cornstarch on plate and coat shrimp. In a wok or large frypan, heat oil on medium/high and cook shrimp 2-3 minutes until opaque. (Shrimp cook quickly!) Remove.

Pour sauce mixture into pan and heat to boiling. Return shrimp to pan and coat each piece.

Sprinkle sesame seed and green onions on top and serve with rice. Pairs well with white wine.

*Use for hors d'oeuvres or an entree over white or fried rice. Serves 4.*

**Apple Salad**

*Thank you to Delores Stafford for this August recipe!*

- 1 1/2 cup cold milk
- 1 package (3.4 oz) instant vanilla pudding
- 1 8 oz. container of frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 4 large apples, about 6 cups
- 4 Snickers® bars, cut in 1/2 inch pieces

Mix milk and pudding, let stand for 2 minutes. Fold in whipped topping, apples candy bars.

Makes 12, 3/4 cup servings.

*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.*



# CLASSIFIEDS

**AD DEADLINE**  
for the SEPTEMBER issue: Fri., Aug. 18

## HOW TO PLACE AN AD

### DISPLAY ADS

Email your ad in pdf format or ask us to create one for you.

Ads run from \$12 per month for the business card size (3.25 inches wide x 1.75 inches high) to \$24 per month for a square 3.25 inch ad, which is our largest commercial ad size.

### CLASSIFIEDS

Contact the editor by one of the ways in the coupon at the bottom of the page or bring your ad into the office.

Classified ads are free to members, \$5 per insertion to non-members or businesses. Size is limited.

### SERVICE CLASSIFIEDS

Service classifieds are \$5 per insertion and are all text. Ads are boxed and may be limited in size.

To place a service classified, contact the editor or email content.

**Ads are a service** to our members. North Itasca Electric and the WATTS NEWS do not endorse advertisements. Please use your good judgment.

## -SERVICES-

**Lepinski Painting interior/exterior**  
Call for free estimate  
20 yrs experience  
**218-248-0717**  
or **218-743-3613**

**Monuments and Markers**  
Available in granite and bronze.  
Also do final dating, foundation work and cleaning.  
FREE estimates.  
Serving your area.  
Jerry Pula, sales rep.  
Call (218) 743-3711

**Dahlke Forestry Services, LLC**  
218-929-7228  
DahlkeForestry@hotmail.com  
DahlkeForestry.com  
√ Storm Cleanup  
√ Tree Removal  
√ Trail Development  
√ Habitat Improvement  
√ Private Forest Mgmt.  
√ Firewood processing

**Dahlke Dumpsters**  
218-929-7228  
DahlkeForestry@hotmail.com  
DahlkeDumpsters.com  
Flat rates on dumpster rentals!  
Flexible rental times!  
Great Customer Service!

## -SERVICES-

**Bigfork Mini-Storage**  
Many sizes  
24 hour access.  
For rates/pricing, call 218-743-6566 Ext #202  
Located off Hwy 14 just west of Hwy 38  
For immediate service, call Keith at **612-240-2610**

**Gus's Auto and Recycling of Bigfork**  
Used auto parts, steel, tires and bridge beams.  
A buyer of metals.  
**Snowplowing**  
Over 20 years experience  
(218) 929-7117  
Hm: (218) 743-3598  
Gus David

## -SALES-

*Joyce's New and Used Shop:* Plants and miscellaneous. Open the first Fri. and Sat. of the month. July through Sept. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., 4.5 miles east of Highway 6 or one mile west of Bigfork (Highway 38) on 14. Call (218) 929-9138 9/23

## -WANTED-

*Wanted:* Wide front for Massey 44. Call (218) 659-2779 8/23

## -FOR SALE-

*For sale:* Hulk ladies right handed golf clubs. 3-9 irons, driver, 3 and 5 fairway woods, pitching and sand wedges, cover and bag. Like new. \$75. Call (218) 832-3329 9/23

## -FOR SALE-

*For sale:* New DR Lawn Vac with 9.5 motor, \$1,995. Bear Cat chipper shredder, exc. cond. 8 hp Honda motor. \$2,195. Husquavarna pole saw, extends 14 ft. 327-PT5S, \$300. Exc Ryobi gas leaf blower, exc. cond., \$50. Call (218) 743-3933 9/23

*For sale:* Tempur-Pedic Queen size mattress, 11" Hybrid Pro Adapt Medium with head lift. Seldom used. \$1,000. Call (218) 966-2052 9/23

*For sale:* LG 29 cu.ft. French door refrigerator, 2015 model LFXS29626 in white, used for 5 years, exc. cond., new cost was \$2,500 then, sell for \$1,050 now. Home Comfort wood cook stove, gray with warming bins, \$250. Coleman 5kW generator \$495. Genesys automotive scanner, needs update, \$275. Frigidaire 25 pt. dehumidifier, \$35. Two Serval gas fridges, \$250 for both. Howard Miller tall clock w/Westminster chimes, \$400. Call (218) 308-1335 9/23

*For sale:* Heavy duty Craftsman router with attachments, manual, in case, \$50. Viking model 150 sewing machine, \$100. 72 piece pink depression glass, \$75. Dog crate, 2 ft x 3 ft, \$35. Also smaller crate, \$10. Call (218) 910-6610 8/23

## Ardenhurst Township Annual Picnic

The annual Ardenhurst Township potluck picnic will be held again this year in August. This will be the 16th year of this annual gathering. It will be held on Tuesday, August 1 at 6 p.m. at Ardenhurst Community Park. Mark your calendars now for this coming event. As usual, it is a potluck picnic. Cold drinks and plastic and paper products are always provided.

Ardenhurst Community Park is located 4.1 miles south of Northome on Highway 46. Turn east on Island Lake Road toward the lake to get to the park. Everyone is welcome to this picnic so come one, come all.

Patricia Mull, pxmull@gmail.com  
Township Clerk, Ardenhurst Township

## -VEHICLES- TRAILERS, ATVs

*For sale:* 6'4" x 12', 2 ramp trailer. Some rust. \$500. Call (218) 743-3933 9/23

*For sale:* 2005 John Deere Trail Buck 650 EX ATV. Excellent cond., 600 miles. Includes winch. Stored inside. \$4,000 or best offer. Call (651) 746-9454 9/23

*For sale:* 1958 Cushman Eagle motor scooter, stored almost 60 years - like a barn find. \$4,500. Call (218) 244-5002 9/23

*For sale:* 2 new stock car racing seats ready to be mounted. they are black and Harley orange colors. \$350 for the pair. Call (218) 246-9457, feel free to leave a message. 8/23

*For sale:* 4 tires and rims P22570R15 Timberline ATs, Daytona, off a 1998 Jeep Grand Cherokee. Two thousand miles on tires. \$400. Call (218) 966-2052 8/23

## -WATER SPORTS- MOTORS, BOATS

*For sale:* Lund boat. 2002 Lund 1775 Pro V tiller. 75 H.P. Yamaha 4 stroke engine. 70 lb. trolling motor 24 volt. Shorelander roller trailer. Very good condition. \$11,000. Call (218) 832-3329 9/23

*For sale:* Floe dock sections. 4x16 feet sections with cedar decking. Adjustable wheels. 6 pieces available. \$900 per piece. Good condition. Call (218) 832-3329 9/23

*For sale:* 14' Ted Williams trihull fiberglass boat. \$200. Call (218) 743-3197 8/23

## -FARM-

*For sale:* 1944 Ford 2N tractor. New rubber; runs great! Includes plow, spring rake, lift and 360 degree blade. \$6,000. Call, come and look, make an offer. Call (218) 743-4025 9/23

*For sale:* Hay, sq. bales, mixed grass, 35-45 lbs., \$5.00 per bale. Call (218) 244-0957 9/23

## WATTS deadlines

Listed below are deadlines for the WATTS News for ads and content. The deadline can also be found on this classified page each month. Dates are subject to change.

September	8/18
October	9/15
November	10/18
December	11/15

### 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.

# Koochiching County Fair is August 11-13

## Friday, August 11

9 a.m. to 7 p.m. - Exhibit building open  
 9 a.m. Rummage sales, 897-5980  
 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Northern Star Cooperative  
 Customer Free Appreciation Lunch  
 4-8 p.m. Youth Food Booths  
 4:30-6 p.m. -Veggie Creature Creation Class  
*Entry required for the Veggie Creature Contest*  
 5 p.m. - American Legion Flag Disposal Ceremony  
 5 p.m. - Let's Talk Gardening in the Garden Park  
 5-7 p.m. - All open class entries  
 5-6:30 p.m. - Spaghetti Dinner, Mustang Girls  
 Basketball Team  
 7 - 8:30 p.m. - Variety Show, sign up at 766-5693  
 8 p.m. -1:00 a.m. - Fireman's Dance at the  
 Fire Barn in Northome

## Saturday, August 12

7 - 11 a.m. - Breakfast at the Legion Stand  
 8 a.m. registration, 9 a.m. start, 11 a.m. awards  
 41st Scenic Sinkhole Scramble, 897-5065.  
 8 a.m. - Youth Food Booths  
 8-11 am. - All open class entries  
 11:30 a.m. - Judging begins; Exhibit halls closed  
 for judging until 12:30 p.m.  
 Noon - Parade, 3rd street in Northome  
 Before and after parade: Author Corinda Edevold  
 After Parade: Antique Car Show at Fairgrounds  
 1-7 p.m. - Kids Party House Rides & Amusements  
 2 p.m. Bingo  
 2-5 p.m. Pier Country Revue music  
 2 p.m. Firemen's Bean Bag Toss Tournament, 21  
 and up, sign up on FB  
 3 p.m. - Antique Tractor Demonstration  
 3 p.m. - Youth Bean Bag Toss, [txt] (218) 368-3743

5 p.m. Let's Talk Gardening in the Garden Park  
 5-6:30 p.m. Ham Dinner by Hope & Bethesda  
 Church Youth Groups  
 7-9 p.m. Grandstand Show: Figuring It Out  
 Dusk - Fireworks

## Sunday, August 13

7 - 11 a.m. - Breakfast at the Legion Stand  
 9 am. - Youth Food Booths  
 9 a.m. - Community Church Service at the  
 Grandstand- Sponsored by Hope &  
 Bethesda Lutheran.  
 11 a.m. Bingo  
 11 a.m. Kiddie Races and Medallion Hunt  
 11 a.m. - Bocce Ball tourney, (612) 554-7350  
 Noon - Country Music Jam  
 12:30 p.m. - Olson's Kid' Tractor Pull  
 2:30 p.m. - Antique Tractor Demonstration  
 3 p.m. - Cattlemen's Assoc. Meat Raffle

## "Best Weekend Ever!"

It's the weekend to hop in the car and come to the Northome Fairgrounds on Highway 71 just north of town for a real country county fair experience.

For 117 years the Koochiching County Fair has hosted the event. There's no parking fee and no admission; lots of food, garden produce and other displays, competitions and music. Please, no pets on the grounds.

The Kids Party House Rides and Amusements will be one day only: 1-7 p.m. and wristbands are \$10.

Can't miss events? Well, everything. But make time for the parade, Sinkhole Scramble and the fabulous fireworks.

Drawings for County Fair Button prizes begin Saturday afternoon, buttons \$2.

### Photography Contest!

*Categories: Scenery, Black & White, My Minnesota, Other, Three Photos that Tell a Story*  
*One photo per category, up to 8x10 with backing but no glass, taken last three years, no alteration except red eye and cropping. See complete rules at [koochichingcountyfair.org](http://koochichingcountyfair.org) > competitions.*

Meet Corinda Edevold, author of *The Other Side of the Fence* and *Ana & the Lilys*

ART BARN: Open Saturday and Sunday afternoons featuring Kristy Lievsay and other local artists. Saturday: Meet Cyclist Shayne Stillar. More info, call Rena (218) 766-8907.

Register for the Sinkhole Scramble by Aug. 7: \$15. and guarantee a T-shirt. Registration Aug. 7 and later: \$20. Checks to: Mike Lorenzen, 11036 Co. Rd. 25, Mizpah, MN 56660: Call (218) 897-5065.

Check out the FARM MUSEUM with photos of Northome and Mizpah areas.

Veggie Creature Contest: 12 and under. Make your creature Friday, 4:30-6 p.m.

The FAR NORTH CHALLENGE: Grades 5 through 12. Compete all weekend to earn team points. Two person teams register by Aug. 7, (218) 766-3571.

Medallion Hunt  
 \$100 prize!



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