

**NATIONAL ELECTRICAL
SAFETY MONTH CHECKLIST**

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**STAFF REPORT – MEMBER
SERVICES UPDATE**

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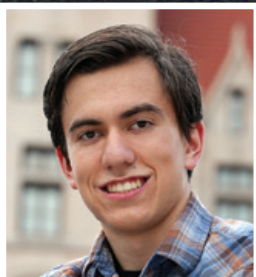
**COWBOY PASTA SALAD
RECIPE**

PAGE 7

CONGRATULATIONS

2026 NORTH STAR ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE KNOWLEDGE SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS!

North Star Electric Cooperative would like to thank the students who took the time to study and take the Knowledge Scholarship test, which was about North Star Electric Cooperative and rural electric cooperatives. This year students took the test between four schools. These scholarships were made possible from funding of unclaimed capital credits. Congratulations to the 2026 scholarship winners!



ROMAN CHLEBECEK
Littlefork
High School
\$1,000 scholarship



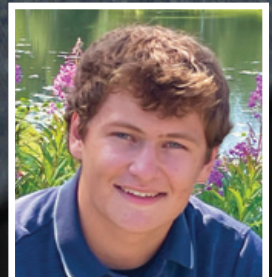
KEEGAN GUSTAFSON
Littlefork
High School
\$500 scholarship



GRACE SWANSON
Lake of the Woods
High School
\$500 scholarship

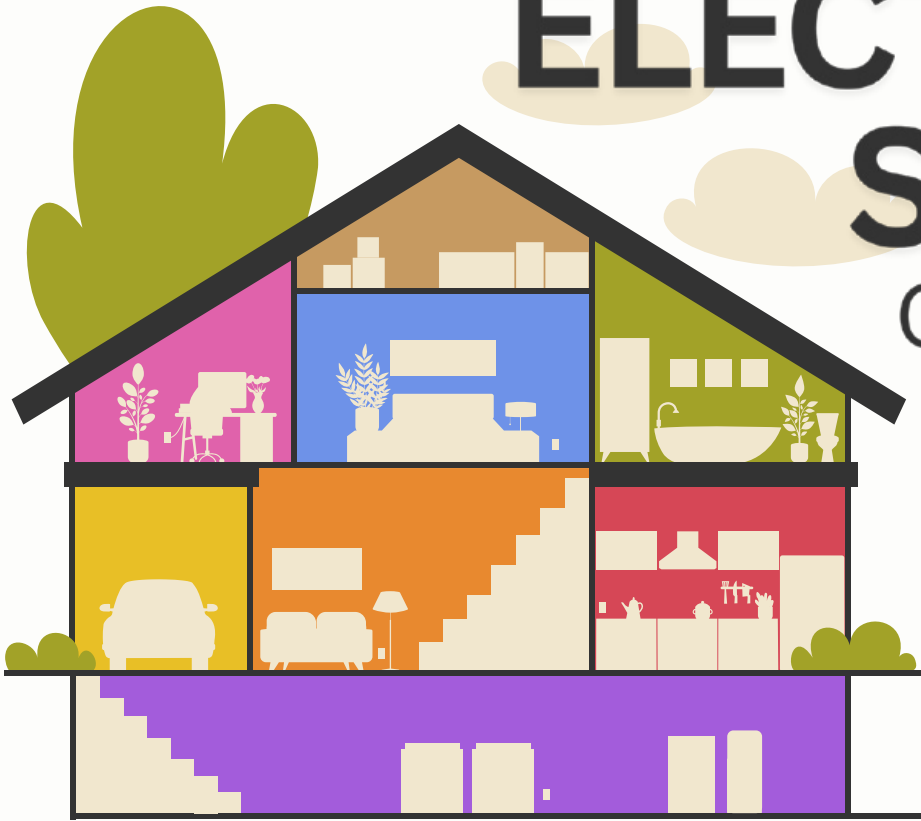


WILLIAM CASTLE
Lake of the Woods
High School
\$500 scholarship



MASON DECKER
New Prague – Rainy
Lake High School
\$500 scholarship

ELECTRICAL SAFETY CHECKLIST



ROOM BY ROOM

Check these monthly to keep your home and family safe.

Kitchen

- Clean refrigerator coils and allow space for airflow.
- Store and use appliances away from the sink.
- Use and test GFCI outlets.
- Inspect cords for cracks or frays.
- Keep cords off counters; unplug when not in use.

Bedroom

- Place and test smoke and CO detectors on every level and near sleeping areas.
- Keep cords out from under rugs or furniture.
- Unplug devices and chargers when not in use.
- Make sure lightbulbs are the correct wattage.
- Plug window AC units into a dedicated circuit.

Basement

- Ensure washer and dryer are stable and ventilated.
- Remove dryer lint after each use.
- Set water heater to 120°F or lower.
- Have furnace inspected and confirm proper ventilation.

Bathroom

- Keep appliances away from water (sink, toilet, tub, shower).
- Unplug appliances when not in use.
- Use and test GFCI outlets.

Living Room

- Use safety caps on unused outlets, especially if children or pets are present.
- Ensure electronics have space for airflow.
- Replace cracked light switch or outlet covers.
- Avoid overloading outlets, power strips and surge protectors.

Garage

- Use and test GFCI outlets.
- Inspect cords for cracks or damage.
- Unplug tools and appliances when not in use.
- Place garage refrigerators/freezers on dedicated appliance circuits.

Learn more at: [SafeElectricity.org](https://www.SafeElectricity.org)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARDROOM

These are the highlights from the Feb. 25, 2026, regular board meeting. All board members were in attendance. In addition to approving routine actions, the board voted to appoint Mike Hanson as the North Star representative on Square Butte Electric Cooperative's board of directors, to appoint Steve Arnesen as the North Star representative on Minnkota Power Cooperative's board of directors, to accept the 2025 RUS Form 7, to approve the updated CoBank authorized officers form and to accept the 2025 annual cogeneration filings and reports.

Staff reports included the safety report, the monthly financial report, a review of the 2025 RUS Form 7, the workers' compensation retention program, idle service retirements, right-of-way clearing,

rubber goods and ground testing, completion of the arc flash assessment, the new ASV and mulcher attachments, outages, winter load control, off-peak equipment inspections and repairs, the AMI metering system, distributed generation, Generlink sales, rebates, Canadian accounts, a recent Minnkota outage, mapping updates and upcoming meetings.

Detailed minutes are available at the cooperative for member review. Regular board meetings are generally held on the first Wednesday 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 the co-op at least two weeks in advance to be included on the agenda.

ENERGY SAVING TIP

As temperatures start to rise, many homeowners focus on staying cool. Don't forget about the small gaps around windows and doors. While air sealing is often associated with keeping cold air out during winter, it's just as important during summer.



OPERATION ROUND UP® DEADLINE



The deadline to submit Operation Round Up® grant applications is

MAY 31. Community

organizations may apply for a grant by completing and returning an application form. Forms are available on North Star's website. Grants will be awarded to nonprofit or community-based organizations that demonstrate a commitment to enhancing the quality of life in our region (776-13-002-13, Lori Musatov). We would like to say **THANK YOU** to all the North Star members who are participating in the Operation Round Up program.



OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President
Steve Arnesen

Vice President
Michael Hanson

Secretary-Treasurer
Shelley Spears

Directors
Randy Bergan
Richard Ferguson
Douglas King
Tim Mathews

General Manager
Kevin Holen

DIGGING SOON?

One free, easy call gets your utility lines marked and helps protect you from injury and expense. Safe digging is no accident.

ALWAYS CALL BEFORE YOU DIG: 811 or 800-252-1166.
VISIT WWW.CALL811.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?

Past issues of the Enlightener are on our website at

www.northstarelectric.coop

UNCLAIMED CAPITAL CREDIT RECIPIENTS

Listed on the following pages are the names of past members of North Star Electric Cooperative who have unclaimed capital credits remaining on our books. Before year-end, the remaining unclaimed capital credits for the names listed on these pages will be donated to local charitable organizations. If you recognize any names in this publication, please have that person or their authorized representative contact our office for further instructions on how the unclaimed amounts can be disbursed to their current mailing address. Thank you for your assistance.

AITKIN

WENZEL, LINDA

ALBERT LEA

GEORGE, JOYCE (EST.)

ALEXANDRIA

RURAL CELLULAR CORP
SEVERSON, JANET

ARGYLE

PAGNAC, DUANE

AUSTIN

FISHER, JAMES
KNEESKERN, KENNETH

BAGLEY

DEUSTERMAN, ABRAM

BAUDETTE

AERY, ELDON E. (EST.)
BADER, GLADYS
BELL, ESTHER (EST.)
BRESSON, RAYMOND A.
BROGAN, GARRET
BROOKOVER, ALBERT E.
BURWELL, JOE V. (EST.)
CYR, DAVID

DABY, DR. NEIL
DALE, JAMES T.
DAVIS, STUART J.
DAWLEY, JANIS
EARL, THAD (EST.)
FISCHER, BETTY T.
FLETCHER, MARK G.

FOX, NITA
FRETER, KURT
FUNK, RUSSELL W.
GENEREAU, HARRY
GIBSON, JOHN A.
HAPKA, ADOLPH
HERBOLD, JOE
HUMBARGER, EMMITT
JOHNSON, MILDRED
KABEALO, LINDA
KLAMM, LEONARD W.
KLOPP, JIM
KNUDSON, ROGER
LA DEL BO ESTATES
LAFORE, CHAD
LAWRENCE, LEONARD
LINDSTROM, ROGER (EST.)
LYLE, RICHARD
MAST, SHERRY
MAXWELL, GERALD
MCDONALD, MARK S.
MILLIKAN, DAVID
MORENO, SHENANDOAH
MOSLEY, MARILYN S.
NELSON, ALLEN C. (EST.)
NICHOLS, RICHARD
NOWOTNY, MELVIN
O'BRIEN, LOUISE (EST.)
O'BRIEN, WILLIAM J.
OLMSTEAD, THOMAS

PLUTOWSKI, NICK
QUINN, DOROTHY B. (EST.)
RAWLS, JEFFREY
REFF, STEVE

REIMER, IVAN J.
RUEDIGER, JAY
SANDERS, KEN
SANDSMARK, ED (EST.)
SATHER, DENNIS
SCHATZ, ANDREW
SCHEMPP, DAVID
SCHMIESS, DENNIS (EST.)
SCOTT, KEVIN
SERBINSKI, MICHAEL
SOISETH, KEVIN W.
SOOTER, TOM L.
SPAULDING, JEFFREY L.
STANTON, JAMES F.
STONEMAN, JOHN W.
STUART, ALLEN (EST.)
SUMNER, GILBERT
VRIESENGA, JEFF
WALSH, LEO E. (EST.)
WEEKS, GEORGE
WESLEY, NEWTON (EST.)
WILKIE, GARY
WOOD, SHARON
YOUNG, BARBARA

BEMIDJI

BEAUCHAMP, RAY L.
HOLTZ, C. H.
JACKSON, JOEL A.
LILLEMO, RICHARD
SCHNEIDER, DAVID

BIG FALLS

CHWIALKOWSKI, DAVID
GTE TELE OPERATIONS
HILL, CLIFTON F. (EST.)
LEONARD, MERLE
LINDGREN, WINTER R.
PATCH, KEVIN D.
WHITE, RICHARD L. (EST.)

BIRCHDALE

PORTER, MICHAEL J.

BLAINE

LEPAGE, JEFF

BLOOMINGTON

REICHOW, RICHARD
ROTHE, ELIZABETH
ROTHE, RUSSELL

BRAINERD

FOUNTAIN PROPERTIES LLC
YLINEN, DONALD E.

CAMBRIDGE

TREACY, NANCY

CARLTON

HOLDEN, AMUND (EST.)

CHANHASSEN

SIMS, DON
SOBOLESKI, TIMOTHY

CHISAGO CITY

COLBERG, DALE
OLSON, GREG A.

CLEAR LAKE

PETERSON, E. A.

CLOQUET

EMMERT, MARY JO (EST.)

COKATO

CAMP, MARLIN H.

CROOKSTON

MILLER, L. E. (EST.)

DONALDSON

BOGESTAD, ROGER

DULUTH

MCDONALD, JANICE
OSWALT, TARA
SCHULKE, MARK J.
WIMMER, RICHARD

EDEN PRAIRIE

DOWNS, SETH A.
HEYER, MARK A.

ELY

HOULE, DANIEL G.

ESKO

MCDOUGALL, NICK

FARIBAULT

GRUNZ, ELSIE

FERGUS FALLS

ADKINS, KYLE
DARVAL, ERNEST
WHITFORD, JEFF

FOREST LAKE

ANDERSON, KEITH F.
DUNN, JAMES E.

GILBERT

COREY, WAYNE S. (EST.)
MACKAY, JOHN E.

GLENCOE

PHILLIPS, EUGENE

GOLDEN VALLEY

HOLDAHL, OLAF R.
VANCE, CAMI

GRAND RAPIDS

RABBERS, KEVIN
WHERLEY, JAMES R.

GREENBUSH

ERICKSON, BRADLEY
HALL, BERKLEY T.

HALLOCK

JOHNSON, CECIL A. (EST.)
WUNSH, PATRICIA

HIBBING

HACKEY, JACK (EST.)
TILANDER, THEO

INTERNATIONAL FALLS

ALMBLAD, DONALD F.
BARNEY, BARRY
BELANGER, JOE (EST.)
BLUME, RONALD
BOWMAN, LESLIE R.
BRADBURN, JOHN G.
BRYANT, MONTY
CARLSON, HAROLD A.
CARRIVEAU, KEVIN LEE
(EST.)

CASTLE, YULA
CHRISTIANSON, MELVIN
CHRISTIANSON, ROBERT
CONNER, GRADY
CRUM, EUGENE A.
CWIK, KEVIN F.
DANIELS, CINDY A.
DILWORTH, GEORGE
FIELD, JOHN W. (EST.)
FREDERICKSEN, JOHN
GANZENMULLER, AUGUST III
HARGIS, NOLAN
HOLWELL, ALLISON
IRWIN, EVERT (EST.)
JENSEN, DALE
JENSEN, GREG
JOHNSON, MURIEL
JOHNSON, ROGER A.
JOHNSON, WESLEY (EST.)
JOHNSTON, LYLE E.
KARPESH, MIKE
KIMBLE, RAY
KING, DARLYNN
KLIMP, DAVID
KNUFFKE, DARRELL R.
KRENIK, DIANNE
KRUEGER, JEFF
LAGER, VICTORIA
LARSON, DALE R.
LARSON, GARY B.
LEHMAN, KELLI A.
LLOYD, MARK
LOFSTROM, TIM
MAISH, SCOTT
MATTSON, CORRINE
MATTSON, JAN
MAUNDER, ED
NICHOLSON, SHIRLEY A.
OLSON, TOM (EST.)
OWENS, EUGENE T.
PARNHAM, ELAINE
POISSON, SCOTT

REINECK, TIFFANY N.
RIGDON, DAVID
RONNING, WAYNE
SAWYER, JULIE
SCHMIDT, LONNIE
STAFFORD, JAMES
STONE, STEVE
TCI OF NORTHERN MN
THOMPSON, MYRA
TURNER, LISA
WALDORF, RUSSELL
WATTS, MARK
WEUM, CLIFFORD S.
WHITE, SAM (EST.)
WILLIAMS, CRAIG
WILSON, DONALD

INVER GROVE

ELLIS, RONALD W.

ISANTI

JENSVOLD, LARRY O.

KABETOGAMA

BONNICKSEN, KEVIN
BRAGG, JAMES H.
BROECKER, LAWRENCE
HAMMON, IOTA L.
JEPSON, SANDRA
KOENITZER, C. RUSSELL JR.
MAASS, STEVEN J.
MISS. VALLEY MICROWAVE
PETERSEN, DELMER
READER, WILBUR
SCHAFFROTH, EUGENE (EST.)

KASSON

BLAZEK, ROBERT

KNIFE RIVER

ROSTEN, BETTY
ROSTEN, DONALD (EST.)

LAKE BENTON

LAFLIN, THERON

LAKE CITY

GUSTAFSON, BILLY

LAKE PARK

ANDERSON, RICHARD G.

LAKEVILLE

AXELSON, JOHN A. (EST.)
FOSBURGH, CLAYTON
REED, WANDA

LAPORTE

BEARD, RONALD

LITTLEFORK

ANDERSON, ALFREDA A.
(EST.)
ANDERSON, ELZA
ANDERSON, ERIC

BELISLE, KEVIN D.
BROWN, DAYMON
BROWN, DOUGLAS W.
CRESS, KATHY
DRESSLER, DANIELLE
FRAHM, EUGENE H.
FRIESZ, CHAD K.
FUNLAND RBS INC
HILLIARD, MARSHA
JENNINGS, DALE
JONES, ROBERT D.
KRASIVSKY, YAROSLAV
LOCKMAN, ELEANOR
MANN, DEVIN
MARTIN, CLYDE
MORGAN, JAMES R.
MORRIS, RICHARD W.
MURPHY, DON
NALAND, ROB
OPITZ, DANIEL
PITMAN, JOEL
RAHMAN, FAIZUR
SAMPSON, DIANA (EST.)
SATER, ELVA
SILVER, VICTOR
WELLS FARGO BANK
WOOD, SEAN
ZEMEK, MICHAEL (EST.)

LOMAN
BEHR, HAROLD
BRUNNER, JOHNATHAN

MAHNOMEN
GOLDSMITH, MARK J.

MAHTOMEDI
CROMER, PAUL J.

MANKATO
AKKERMAN, MARLYS

MAPLE GROVE
ASPEN HILL LLC
DICKMEYER, DANIEL

MARGIE
TANK, AARON

MILACA
GRIMSON, HANS

MINNEAPOLIS
BAILEY, WILLIAM
JAAKKOLA, WALTER
LARSON, STEPHEN J.
PERRY, MICHAEL R. (EST.)
SUNDT, LEROY
VLCEK, GEORGIA

MINNETONKA
STIER, MARLENE

MONTEVIDEO
BELSHAW, WILBUR

MOORHEAD
JENNI, MARK
STEPP, CHRIS

MOOSE LAKE
SCHWOCHERT, JACQUELIN
E. (EST.)
SCHWOCHERT, MICHAEL L.

MOUND
CURTIS, ALLISON

NEWFOLDEN
MAGNUSON, KERMIT

NISSWA
ANDERSON, DEBORAH

NORTH BRANCH
JONES, DUANE
MCCORMICK, AMANDA

ORONO
GRADY, PAUL D.

ORR
CAYTON, HAROLD
CURRIE, JANICE
EBEL, MARY LOU
HODOR, JOSEPH J.
JOHNSTONE, TIM
KING, MARGARET A. (EST.)
LINDGREN, RICHARD T.
MORGAN, LINDA
NELSON, LAVERNE
PETRICH, NICK

OWATONNA
SMITH, RYAN

PARK RAPIDS
MAGILKE, JOHN

PLYMOUTH
LORENCE, BESS M.
PILON, DANIEL D.

PRINCETON
STEPANYUK, NICKOLAI

PUPOSKY
MAI, MARK A.

RAMSEY
PROKOPCHUK, ROZA

RANIER
STAGG, MICHAEL

RAY
DARST, NANCY M.

DEGOOD, RALPH (EST.)
GUTZ, JULIE (EST.)
PHELPS, MIKE
TERION INC.

REDWOOD FALLS
HOPPKE, SHAWN

RICHFIELD
REID, VALORIE

ROCHERT
NOLAN, BARBARA

ROCHESTER
IMHOF, THERESA
MOHLER, DARREL

ROOSEVELT
ARLIEN, CAROLYN
BANK OF AMERICA
BERGER, LARRY
FANSON, JEFFREY A.
FISH, MORGAN
GARD, WILLIAM (EST.)
GERRETY, MICHAEL
GLEASON, STEVE
HALVERSON, SELENA
HILLAERT, ROBBIN
JOHN, BRANDON K.
JONES, RONALD A.
NEUMANN, MATTHEW
OTTO, MARK T.
PULKRABEK, BRADLEY
PULKRABEK, JACOB P.
SOLIEN, ERNEST (EST.)

ROSEAU
BRENHAUG, MELVIN
FRIESNER, NEIL
NORMAN, GAIL A.
WALZ, SHELLEY

SAINT CLOUD
BURGESS, RICHARD E.
KRAEMER, TERRANCE

SAINT MICHAEL
JOHNSON, ROBERT W.

SAINT PAUL
MN POLLUTION CONTROL
AGENCY
ROCKY POINT RESORT LLP
WILK, RAYMOND J.

SALOL
BAILEY, JANICE
HEDTKE, KATIE

SCANDIA
KLINDT, ZOE

STACY
OLSON, KENNETH
PHILLIPE, RONALD

STILLWATER
HONSVALL, RALPH (EST.)

THIEF RIVER FALLS
JABLINSKE, PHYLLIS
MILLSOP, STEPHENIE
BORG, JOHN A.

TWO HARBORS
FOSTER, GEORGE H. (EST.)

WARROAD
ABER, PEARL
BROWN, STACEY
CARLSON, CONNIE
HANSEN, CHRIS R.
HELMSTETTER, EVERETT (EST.)
JARVA, SCOTT
JOHNSON, JOE
MCLAUGHLIN, JEAN
MCLAUGHLIN, JOHN
NELSON, LUKE
OLSON, BOBBY J.
PEDERSEN, JAMES M.
REGNIER, BRAD
WADEY, DAVID F.

WEST SAINT PAUL
BURKE, MICHAEL P.
GILES, WARREN (EST.)

WHITE BEAR LAKE
WICKLUND, ARLEY J.

WILLIAMS
BAKER, LEWIS E.
BROWN, TREVOR
CARSON, TERRY
CENEX
EISELE, NATHAN J.
ELKINS, JENNIFER
GONSOROWSKI, LOUIS
HALL, CHARLES W.
HARDWICK, MICHAEL L.
JOSACK, ROBERT
LALLI, HARRIET
MCCANN, WILLIAM A.
MCINTYRE, DOLORES
MAGNELYCHUK, CHRIS
NAGEL, DAVID
NASH, PAUL
PETERSON, DOROTHY A. (EST.)
RAMSEY, ROGER D.
SAFEGUARD PROPERTIES
SOLI, DARRELL L.
STULL, MARK W.
TROTTER, BEN
WALKER, WILLIS F. (EST.)
WILLIAMS AREA COMMUNITY
CENTER

WINDOM
SMITH, ROSELLA


WINONA
ALEXANDER, JEFFREY

WORTHINGTON
BASILIERE, JAMES L. JR.

ZUMBROTA
ZIELSDORF, ARLENE (EST.)
ZIELSDORF, HAROLD (EST.)

PLANT TREES SAFELY

Before you dig, call 811 to locate buried utility lines.



LOW TREE ZONE

Avoid planting within 30 ft. of power lines. If planting is unavoidable, only plant shrubs and small trees that reach a mature height of 15 ft. or less.

MEDIUM TREE ZONE

Plant medium trees (under 40 ft. when mature) at least 40 ft. away from power lines.

LARGE TREE ZONE

Plant large trees (over 40 ft. when mature) at least 50 ft. away from power lines.

0 15 ft. 30 ft. 40 ft. 50 ft. 60 ft. 70 ft.

WATCHTHEWIRES.COM

PROBLEMS PAYING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL?

ENERGY ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE!

If you recently lost your job or had your hours cut, the following agencies may be able to help you with your electric bill. You may have never needed help before, but maybe today you do.

LAKE OF THE WOODS COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES

206 8th Ave SE, Suite 200
Baudette, MN 56623-2895
218-634-2642

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL

PO Box 67
Badger, MN 56714-0067
800-568-5329

KOOCHICHING COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES

1000 5th St
International Falls, MN 56649-2243
218-283-7000

KOOTASCA COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

Grand Rapids, MN 55744-3984
Toll free 877-687-1163
Direct 218-999-0800
Fax 218-999-0220

ARROWHEAD ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AGENCY

703 3rd Ave S
Virginia, MN 55792
800-662-5711



STAFF REPORT – MEMBER SERVICES UPDATE



Clayton Gubbels
*Member Service
Manager*

I just want to talk a little about what is going on in the Member Services Department. We just finished the Knowledge Scholarships. We had great participation this year. North Star awarded one \$1,000 and four \$500 scholarships. This is funded by unclaimed capital credits. Having the students take the test not only gives them the opportunity to earn some money for school but also it gives them knowledge about electric cooperatives. Someday they might be a member!

May is National Electrical Safety Month. This year we went to Littlefork Big Falls School and Lake of the Woods School. Kindergarten through third grade attended the demonstrations. We show a short video, hand out safety gear for the students to look at and give a safety demonstration (424-23-013-01, Taras Martynenko). Believe me, these students have plenty of questions for us to answer. There were probably around 200 students that we presented to.

Also, one last thing. If you are looking at getting an air-source heat pump, don't forget that we have rebates available. Feel free to give me a call if you have any questions.



UPCOMING DATES/EVENTS

**25
MAY**

North Star's offices will be closed on Monday, May 25, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

**03
JUN**

North Star will hold its next monthly board meeting on Wednesday, June 3. Please contact us ahead of time if you would like to be added to the agenda.

Member Appreciation Days

Thursday, June 11, 2026
Littlefork: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Friday, June 12, 2026
Baudette: 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Member Appreciation Days are approaching fast and we would love for you to join us! There will be refreshments with brats, chips, cookies, popcorn and cotton candy (673-25-028-03, Douglas Bryan). Adults can register for DOOR PRIZES and we will also have a KIDS DRAWING.

There will be face painting, electrical safety demos, balloons and bucket truck rides. We will also have some of the tools and equipment that our linemen need to use to perform their work safely and efficiently.



**DOOR PRIZES
 AT MEMBER
 APPRECIATION
 DAYS!**

CURRENT ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS

State law requires that every new electrical installation in any construction, remodeling, replacement or repair shall file a certificate for inspection and be inspected by a Minnesota electrical inspector. For more information, go to the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industries website (dli.mn.gov) and go to the electrical page.

ST. LOUIS and KOOCHICHING COUNTIES

Brian Johnson
 612.757.9458

Call to set up an appointment
 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m., Monday - Friday

LAKE OF THE WOODS and ROSEAU COUNTIES

Ronald Ditsch
 651.368.2195

Call to set up an appointment
 7 a.m. - 8:30 a.m., Monday - Friday

HOME COOKING

Cowboy Pasta Salad

This tex-mex pasta salad is fully loaded with everything delicious and makes not only a crowd pleasing potluck side but is a great stand-alone meal as well.

Prep Time	Cook Time	Total Time	Servings
15 mins	10 mins	25 mins	10-12

INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb ground beef
- 1 taco seasoning packet
- 12 ounces bowtie or rotini pasta, *uncooked*
- 8.75 ounces canned corn (1 can), *drained*
- 15 ounces black beans, (1 can), *drained and rinsed*
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes, *halved*
- ½ red onion, *diced*

- 8 ounces cheddar cheese, *cubed*
- 1 green bell pepper, *chopped*
- 1 cup mayonnaise
- ¼ cup barbeque sauce
- 1 Tbsp spicy brown mustard
- 2 tsp hot sauce

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Cook the bowtie or rotini pasta according to package directions. Drain and cool.
2. In a skillet over medium heat,

brown the ground beef with taco seasoning and black beans until fully cooked. Drain excess grease and let cool.

3. In a bowl, whisk together mayonnaise, barbeque sauce, spicy brown mustard and hot sauce to create the dressing.
4. In a large mixing bowl, combine pasta, beef mixture, corn, cherry tomatoes, cheese, onion and bell pepper.
5. Pour the dressing over the salad and gently mix until well coated. Serve immediately or chill in the fridge.



Receive a \$20 energy credit if you submit a recipe and it is selected to run in a future issue of the Enlightener newsletter.

SPRING PLANTING

Spring planting is just around the corner and North Star is here to remind you that one of the best ways to avoid costly accidents is to always watch the wires! Before getting back in the field, here are a few tips to help keep you and your equipment safe.



▶ Review your work route and mark any potentially dangerous areas

▶ Never assume new equipment fits under power lines

▶ Maintain a 10-foot clearance from all power infrastructure

▶ Call 911 or 634-2202 if your equipment comes in contact with a power line

Visit WATCHTHEWIRES.COM to learn more about how to stay safe around power lines.



OFFICE HOURS | 7:30 A.M. - 4 P.M. | MONDAY - FRIDAY

Baudette 218-634-2202 or 888-634-2202 | **Littlefork** 218-278-6658 or 888-258-2008

For credit card payment 855-938-3492 | **Online billing** info available via SmartHub app

Electrical after-hours emergencies 1-888-6OUTAGE (1-888-668-8243)

Email us at nsec@wiktel.com | **Visit our website at** northstarelectric.coop

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