

## HASTINGS QUILTERS GUILD, \$250

Quilting Materials  
The veterans of the Korean conflict will be honored with a community service project with the Quilts of Valor Program.

## HASTINGS RURAL FIRE DEPT, \$2,000

Gas Detectors  
This volunteer fire department will be acquiring two gas detectors that will check for carbon monoxide in businesses and homes, as well as other hazardous gases.

## ALDA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, \$2,500

Rescue Spreader Tool & Accessories  
This volunteer fire department will be acquiring a rescue spreader tool, and accessories. The equipment is used to assist fire personnel as they extract vehicle crash victims, or conduct rescues in other small spaces.

## PHILLIPS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, \$2,500

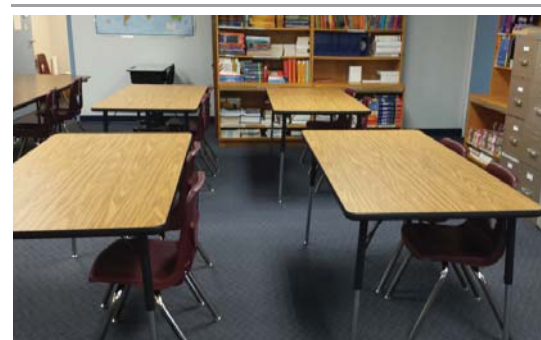
Handheld Radios  
This volunteer fire department will be acquiring new handheld radios to be used for incident scene communication, and will replace several of their older radio models that are lacking in reliability.

## BOY SCOUT TROOP #251, \$1,700

Camping Equipment  
This Scout Troop will replace their older camping gear that is no longer in good condition. New tents will allow the troop to integrate quality equipment into their scouting experience.

## BOY SCOUT TROOP #911, \$1,000

Phillips Community Center Landscaping Funds will be applied toward an Eagle Scout Project, which will ultimately provide landscaping for the new Community Center in the Village of Phillips.



New classroom tables and chairs will be a useful addition for the Hastings Literacy Program students!

## Attn: SmartHub Customers!

Recently, you may have received a text regarding your SmartHub notifications, which will be arriving to you from a new number. Specifically, the code for these texts will now appear from the number: 768482. This transition allows the SmartHub process to be fully supported with text messages and handling of replies from you as a customer, such as STOP and HELP. If you have any questions about the communication process, please contact our Customer Services Department.

## LOADED BREAKFAST QUESADILLA

### INGREDIENTS:

- 4 slices bacon
- 1/2 med. onion, finely chopped
- 4 large eggs
- 1 T sour cream (plus more for serving)
- 2 T Chopped chives
- 4 med. flour tortillas
- Kosher salt
- Freshly ground black pepper
- 1/3 c. Shredded Monterey Jack
- 1/3 c. shredded Cheddar cheese
- 1 avocado, thinly sliced
- Hot sauce, for serving

### PREPARATION:

1. Cook bacon in a medium nonstick pan over medium heat until crispy. Drain bacon on a paper towel-lined plate, reserving about 2 T of bacon fat in the pan.
2. Add onion to the pan and cook, stirring occasionally, until softened, about 5 minutes. Whisk together eggs and sour cream in a medium bowl. Pour egg mixture into the pan. Let set slightly then reduce heat to low. Drag the eggs with a spatula or wooden spoon to create curds. When the eggs are almost cooked to your liking, season with salt and pepper. Fold in chives and remove from heat.
3. Assemble quesadillas. Divide scrambled eggs between two tortillas. Top each with cheese and avocado slides. Place remaining tortillas on top.
4. One at a time, cook quesadillas in a clean nonstick skillet over medium heat until the bottom tortillas is golden, about 3 minutes. Flip and cook the other side until golden. Repeat with other quesadilla. Serve warm with more sour cream and hot sauce, if desired.

## Operation ROUND UP Program Distributes Second Quarter Funds

Southern's Operation ROUND UP Board of Directors approved the distribution of \$27,865 in funds to 18 applicants during the Second Quarter of 2017. Since its inception in 2014, a total of \$127,149 has been applied toward projects throughout our entire service region!

In this newsletter we are pleased to share with you the recipients of grant funds and a brief description of each project. Currently, the program is in its third quarter for the year, and applications are due September 29th. You can learn more about the program at [www.southernmpd.com](http://www.southernmpd.com).

### VILLAGE OF HILDRETH, \$1,100

Overhead Door Replacement  
Larger doors will be installed to the Hildreth Municipal Building and will accommodate larger trucks that are in service today.

### TRUMBULL COMMUNITY CENTER, \$2,000

Double Throw Switch  
The Trumbull Community Center serves a variety of purposes for the Village of Trumbull and in the event of a storm-related power outage, the double throw switch will provide power to the building and shelter to residents of the village.

### PHELPS COUNTY AG SOCIETY, \$1,000

Siding & Insulation  
Metal siding on the Ag Center Building will be replaced with newer materials including much needed insulation, which will make the building more energy efficient.

### KEARNEY COUNTY AG SOCIETY, \$1,000

Amp Breaker for Livestock Building  
Every year during the fair, fuses are blown as 4-Hers work to blow dry and clip their show animals. A new amp breaker will prevent this from occurring.

### PLAINSMAN MUSEUM, \$2,415

Replacement of Main Entry Doors  
The weather-damaged, heavy door is 40 years old and is difficult for seniors and children to open. A tempered insulated glass door in weather-resistant aluminum will be installed. The door will be light weight and will feature a wireless handicap accessible button.

### STATE THEATER FOUNDATION, \$1,000

Decorative Wall Sconces  
The historical State Theater is being restored to its original beauty and new sconces will enhance the acoustic panels in the auditorium.



Members of the Plainsman Museum Board receive a check from Jayne Mann, Chairperson of the Operation ROUND UP Board.

### FIRST CHRISTIAN PRESCHOOL ACADEMY, \$1,000

Security System  
A new security camera and doorbell will be installed at the main door to increase security for students in the facility.

### AXTELL LIBRARY, \$1,500

Furniture Upgrades  
Improvements to the library will include a new windowed door for the teen room, providing natural lighting to the space. Furniture upgrades are also planned to optimize library space.

### HASTINGS LITERACY PROGRAM, \$1,200

Classroom Tables & Chairs  
Current tables and chairs are not designed for a classroom setting. New tables will provide a functional environment for students.

### HAMILTON RC RACEWAY, \$1,500

RC Racetrack  
This new racetrack will provide a safe place for the general public to run remote control cars free from fees and charges. It is open to people in Hamilton County 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

### YEP (YOUTH EMPOWERED BY PLAY), \$2,500

Special Needs Playground  
An all-inclusive playground will be built at the North Park in Holdrege, and will provide the opportunity for kids with special needs to play freely and interact with their peers--facilities will be walker and wheelchair friendly, and ADA compliant.

### ROSELAND BALL PROGRAM, \$1,700

Batting Cage  
A new batting cage facility will be constructed to develop batting and pitching skills for local boys and girls teams.

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This newsletter is published as a service to Southern Power District's customers.

Comments or questions?

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## Sights & Experiences

### Dark Island Trail

Dark Island Trail is a treasure and outdoor escape, which entails eleven miles of walking and biking trails that begin in Central City and extend to a spot one mile south of Marquette. The trail features entry and exit points at intervals of approximately one mile throughout the length of the trail. Along the well-maintained path, patrons enjoy a variety of settings, including corn fields, pastures, and shaded cover with canopies of trees. The trail passes alongside a school in Central City, a park in Marquette and the most breathtaking scenes can be enjoyed from Bader Bridge, which completely crosses the Platte River.

This trail acquired its name from legends handed down from the days of the Pawnee Indians. It is a lengthy story that is best captured by visiting [www.darkislandtrail.com](http://www.darkislandtrail.com), and reading the story from beginning to end. Summed up, the legend told of a sacred site called "Dark Island" along the Platte River where mystical councils between animals and people took place. The exact location has been lost in the passage of time, but according to Pawnee legends of these councils, animals passed wisdom on to young Indians. The Dark Island site is believed to be within a mile of the trail.

If you do partake of the trail's scenery, we remind you to read the signs before beginning your journey along the trail. Pick up your trash, and clean up after your pets, which need to be kept on a leash at all times. This is not a location for hunting, and motorized vehicles are not allowed along the trail.

## Hotline Trailer Demonstrates Safety

Lineworkers from our Central City service area provided hotline trailer demonstrations in July at the Hamilton County Fair, and as this newsletter was being published, lineworkers also participated in demonstrations at the Public Power Booth at the Nebraska State Fair.

These demonstrations provide a unique opportunity for our linemen to share the dangers of power lines. Whether booth visitors are adults or children, the information they share is uniquely tailored to illustrate safety at home, on the farm and after severe weather.

If you would like to see a Hotline Trailer Demonstration at an event in your community please contact LeAnne Doose at Southern Public Power District.



## Stepping Up Your Insulation Game?

Walls. Floors. Ceilings. Attic. These are some of the prime areas of a home that need insulation in order for you to maximize energy efficiency. According to the Department of Energy (DOE), adding insulation to your home is a sound investment that is likely to quickly pay for itself in reduced utility bills. In fact, DOE estimates that you can reduce your heating and cooling needs up to 30 percent by properly insulating and weatherizing your home.

If your home is more than 20 years old and was not specifically constructed for energy efficiency, additional insulation can likely reduce your energy bills and increase the comfort level of your home. The actual amount of savings for each home depends upon several factors—the current level of insulation, varying weather conditions, and the efficiency of your heating/cooling system. On average, older homes have less insulation than homes built today, but even adding insulation to a newer home can pay for itself within a few years.

### So, where do you start?

You first need to determine how much insulation you already have in your home and where it is located. Here is what you should look for:

- Where your home is, isn't, and/or should be insulated.
- The type of insulation in your home.
- The R-value and thickness or depth (inches) of insulation.

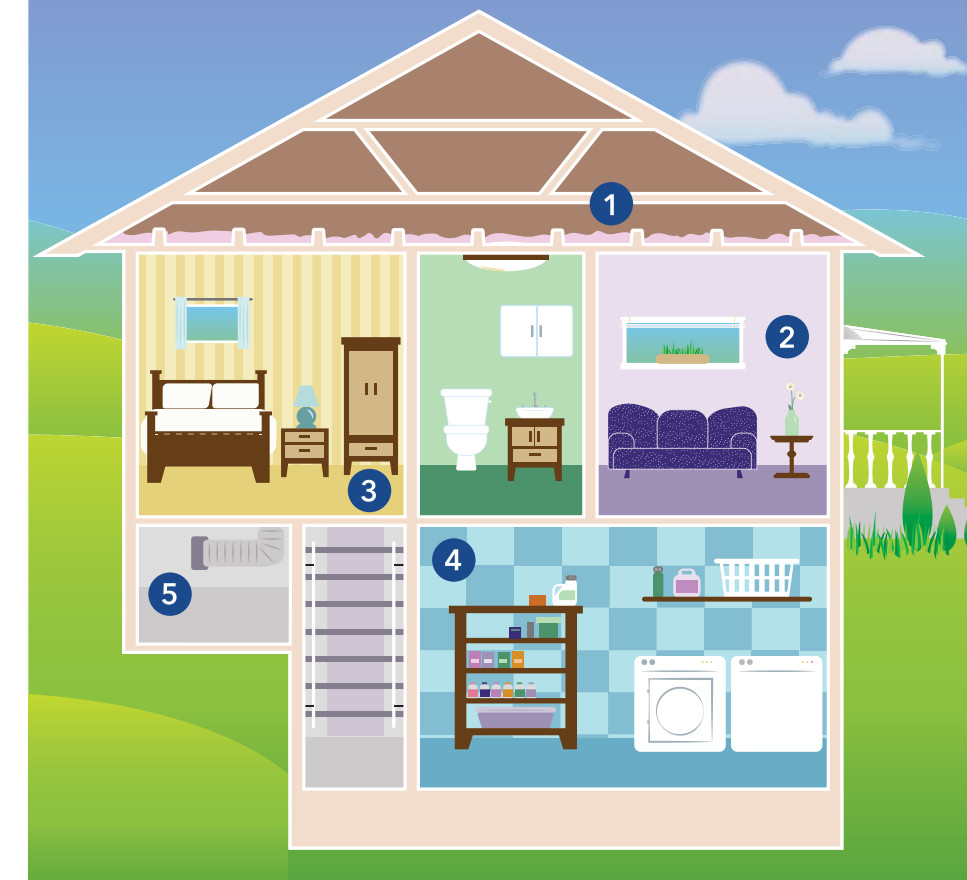
A prime area that is chronically under-insulated is the attic. Attic insulation is essential to help keep warm air inside in the winter and prevent hot attic air from heating your living spaces in the summer. If you have R-19 or less insulation in your attic, consider bringing it up to R-38 or R-49.

### How does insulation work?

Heat flows naturally from a warmer space to a cooler space. During winter months, this means heat moves directly from heated living spaces to adjacent unheated attics, garages, basements and even outdoors. It can also travel indirectly through interior ceilings, walls and floors—wherever there is a difference in temperature. During summer months, the opposite happens—heat flows from the exterior to the interior of a home. Proper installation of insulation creates resistance to heat flow. Heat flow resistance is measured or rated in terms of its R-value—the higher the R-value, the greater the insulation's effectiveness. The more heat flow resistance your insulation provides, the lower your heating and cooling costs will be.

### Get started and get saving

An older home will never be as efficient as a new home, but an insulation upgrade will make a noticeable difference in your energy use and wallet. A well-insulated home is one of the most cost-effective means of saving energy and decreasing heating and cooling bills.



Adding insulation in the areas shown in this graphic may be the best way to improve your home's energy efficiency. Insulate either the attic floor or under the roof. Check with a licensed contractor about crawl space or basement insulation.

- 1 Attic 2 Walls 3 Floors 4 Basement 5 Crawl Space

Southern offers a Residential Attic Insulation Incentive Program for customers utilizing a heat pump, electric furnace or electric heat including baseboard or radiant heat. Pick up an application at any SPD service office or online at [www.southernppd.com](http://www.southernppd.com).



**LOOK FOR THE HOTLINE TRAILER THIS YEAR AT HUSKER HARVEST DAYS, LOCATED IN BOOTH #S55**