

est Central Electric

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

September Vol. 19 No.5

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EMPLOYEE NEWS

Sealey Joins WCE Workforce

West Central Electric is glad to announce the hiring of Jay Tee Sealey for the open position of pole tester/groundman.

Jay Tee was raised in the Colome area and after graduating high school in 2001, he attended Dakota Wesleyan University. With a bachelor's degree in history education in hand, Jay Tee worked for Jones County School District for nine years. After working at the school, he also worked at Nix Fencing for six years. Jay Tee has been in the Murdo area for approximately 16 years and couldn't imagine living anywhere else.



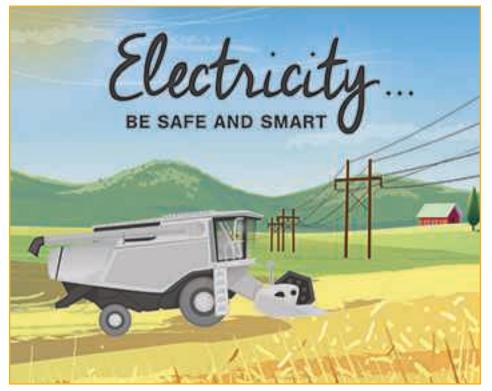
Jay Tee Sealey

"The area is great and there are many good people in the community. It's where I want to raise my children," says Jay Tee, who has two children, Natalie, 10, and Hazen, 7. In his time away from work and much like others raised in western South Dakota, Jay Tee enjoys hunting and spending time with family and friends. He also enjoys competing in ranch rodeos throughout the area.

West Central is required to test our poles for rot and other problems in order to ensure the upmost reliability to the membership. With approximately 70,000 poles total, Jay Tee will have his hands full! As a pole tester/groundsman, Jay Tee will also have many other duties which include assisting linemen with daily activities.

If you see Jay Tee in your field, pasture or just driving the power lines to test the poles, please feel free to stop by and introduce yourself.

"I am glad to be a part of West Central and look forward to helping in any way I can," added Jay Tee.



Thank you

First off, I want to apologize for how late this letter is. It's been a very hectic, but productive summer for me. A lot of this is due to my trip to Washington, D.C. As a girl from a small town, I've always had an incurable curiosity about big cities. That was why I originally applied, hoping that this would be my chance to see the bright lights. However, when I got to D.C. I realized this trip was going to be so much more. I learned about our country and our culture in so many ways. Since D.C., I have stayed in touched with so many friends that I would have never met without this trip. The things I have taken away from this experience are invaluable. Once again, I would like to apologize for how long it took for me to write this letter. D.C., set many wheels in motion for me which is part of the cause of the lateness. Thank you so much!

Marcella Baldwin - Belvidere

I would like to thank you immensely for choosing me as a recipient of the West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc. scholarship. I cannot quite express how thankful I truly am. Seeking a higher education often times results in a heavy financial burden. Receiving your scholarship has really helped in lifting the financial burden of paying for my college expenses. I had a really hard time writing this letter because I am seriously at a loss of words of how to express my gratitude to you. I would just like to reiterate how much I truly appreciate being a recipient of the scholarship. I look forward to learning new things and working hard this coming year in furthering my education and proving my worthiness to the WCE Scholarship Committee. Thanks again, I truly appreciate it!

Katy Jo Manke - Murdo

Thank you so much for the scholarship. I will be attending SDSU in the fall for engineering. Thanks again.

Reese Sudbeck - Kadoka

MANAGER'S COLUMN

West Central Electric Cooperative Connections

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Our Mission is to Provide Safe, Reliable Service to our Member Owners.

West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Call 605-669-8100 24-hour Dispatching

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www.facebook.com/WestCentralElectricCooperative

Design assistance by SDREA

There's an App for That (And we have it!)



In all of today's hustle and bustle, someone can easily miss things. Because of this, we periodically try to remind the membership of some of the programs that we offer at your electric co-op.

We have a levelized billing program in which your bill is averaged based upon the past 12 months of usage. This is particularly beneficial for those with electric heat in the colder winter months. Another service we offer is the SmartHub app that you can download on your phone or view in a web browser. SmartHub gives you access to all your billing information at anytime and you can easily track your daily usage.

Steve Reed, CEO

steve.reed@wce.coop

We also have a program that allows members to settle estates of former members. This program allows you

to receive the balance of the estate's capital credits on a discounted basis rather than waiting until they would normally be paid out. This option is also available to those who are 70 or older.

Another way we try to help the membership is through utilizing a phone answering service to handle after-hours outage calls. The dispatcher is able to enter the outage and



let our Outage Management System "ping" various meters within that area to isolate sections of lines that are out of power. This system has lowered outage times and we are continually seeing additional benefits.

Last but not least, I would also remind you to plan on attending our 69th annual meeting in Philip on Oct. 3 at the Fine Arts Building.

Hope to see you there!

SAFETY TIPS

College Bound? Keep Safety in Mind

There are several specific causes for fires on in on- and off-campus college housing, including cooking, candles, smoking and overloaded power strips. For most students, the last fire safety training they received was in grade school, but with new independence comes new responsibilities. It is important that both off-campus and on-campus students know their fire risks and prevention actions that could save their lives.

Cooking

- Cook only where it is allowed.
- Keep your cooking area clean and free of anything that can burn.
- Keep an eye on what you are cooking, especially if you are cooking at high temperatures.
- If a fire starts in a microwave, keep the door closed and unplug the unit.

Candles

- Place candles in sturdy holders.
- Never leave a burning candle unattended.
- Keep candles away from anything that can burn.
- Use safe flameless candles.

Smoking

- Make sure cigarettes and ashes are out. Never toss hot cigarettes butts or ashes in the trash can.
- Use deep, wide ashtrays. Place ashtrays on something sturdy and hard to burn.
- After a party, check for cigarette butts, especially under cushions. Chairs and sofas catch on fire fast and burn fast.
- Don't smoke when you have been drinking or are drowsy.

Electrical safety

- Keep lamps, light fixtures, and light bulbs away from anything that can burn.
- Never use an extension cord with large appliances, like a refrigerator.
- Do not overload outlets.
- Use only surge protectors or power strips that have internal overload protection.

Source: U.S. Fire Administration

https://www.usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/college.html

Are You Registered?

National Voter Registration Day is a national holiday celebrating our democracy. It was first observed in 2012 and has been growing in popularity every year since. Held on the fourth Tuesday of September, National Voter Registration Day will be observed on Tuesday, Sept. 25, this year. The holiday has been endorsed by the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). It is further supported by the National Association of State Election Directors (NASED).

South Dakotans seeking to vote in the Nov. 6 general election must be a U.S. citizen residing in South Dakota and be 18 years old on or before Election Day. Voter registration forms must be received by the county auditor 15 days before the election day. Additionally, those seeking to vote may register at the county auditor's office, a driver's license station, city finance office, public assistance agencies providing

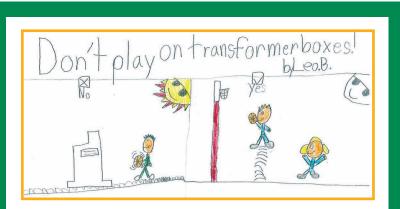


food stamps, TANF or WIC, Department of Human Services offices which provide assistance to the disabled or military recruitment offices.

Minnesotans must be a resident of the state for 20 days prior to the election. They can register online, in person or on election day.

For more information, visit https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/ register-to-vote/ or call the Minnesota Secretary of State's office at 1-877-600-VOTE (8683) or contact your county election office.

KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



"Don't play on transformer boxes."

Leo Bakeberg IV, Second-grader at Dupree Public School

Leo is the son of Leo Bakeburg and Amanda Grewe, Dupree, S.D. They are members of Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative, Timber Lake, S.D.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

Garden Goodness

Cheesy Sausage and Potato Skillet Casserole

8 oz. bulk breakfast sausage, crumbled	1/4 tsp. McCormick® Black Pepper, Coarse Ground
1 medium onion, chopped	1-1/2 cups shredded
1 medium green bell pepper,	mozzarella cheese
chopped	1 cup crumbled feta cheese
6 eggs	2 plum tomatoes, seeded and chopped
1 cup milk	
1 T. McCormick® Oregano	1 T. oil
Leaves	1 (20 oz.) pkg. refrigerated
1/2 tsp. salt	shredded hash browns

Cook and stir sausage in large skillet on medium heat 5 minutes or until lightly browned. Add onion and bell pepper; cook and stir 5 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Set aside. Beat eggs in large bowl with wire whisk. Add milk, oregano, salt and pepper; mix well. Add sausage mixture, cheeses and tomatoes; mix well. Set aside. Pour oil into same skillet, swirling to coat the pan. Spread hash browns in bottom and up sides of pan. Pour egg mixture over potatoes. Cover. Cook on medium heat 10 to 15 minutes or until eggs are set. Makes 12 servings

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 221, Total Fat 13g, Saturated Fat 6g, Cholesterol 122mg, Sodium 477mg, Protein 12g, Carbohydrates 14g, Dietary Fiber 2g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Zucchini Hot Dish

1 medium unpeeled	Sliced onion
zucchini, washed, seeded and cut into chunks	Sliced green pepper
1-1/4 cups uncooked rice	American cheese slices
Fresh sliced tomatoes	Uncooked bacon

Spray a 10x10-inch casserole dish. Layer zucchini chunks in bottom of pan. Sprinkle rice over top of zucchini. Place a layer of tomatoes, sprinkled with oregano, salt and pepper over rice. Next, top this with a layer of onion, green pepper and cheese slices. Lastly, place layer of bacon over all. Bake, covered, at 350°F. for 1-1/2 hours. The raw ingredients will provide enough moisture to cook the rice.

Gail Lyngstad, Pierre, SD

Sandi's Tomato Garden Salad

1/2 cup olive oil

3/4 cup sugar

- 2/3 cup tarragon vinegar
- 2 T. yellow mustard
- 2 T. parsley
- 1 tsp. basil
- 1 tsp. thyme

Salt and pepper to taste

6 large tomatoes, coarsely chopped

RECIPES

- 1 large onion, coarsely chopped
- 2 green peppers, coarsely chopped
- 2 cucumbers, coarsely chopped (optional)
- Rotini noodles, cooked

In a large bowl, mix together first 8 ingredients. Add vegetables. Refrigerate overnight.

Sandi Polkinghorn, Lake City, SD

Apple Corn Bread Crisp

4 cups peeled, sliced tart apples, about 4 to 5 medium	1 (8.5 oz.) pkg. corn bread/ muffin mix
3/4 cup packed brown sugar, divided	1 tsp. ground cinnamon (or to taste)
1/2 cup quick-cooking oats	5 T. cold butter, cubed

Stir together apples and 1/4 cup brown sugar. In another bowl, combine corn bread mix, oats, cinnamon and remaining brown sugar. Cut in butter until crumbly. Add 1/2 cup corn bread mixture to apples. Transfer to a greased 8-inch square baking dish. Sprinkle remaining corn bread mixture over top. Bake at 350°F. for 30 to 35 minutes or until filling is bubbly and topping golden brown. Serve warm.

Jean Osterman, Wheaton, MN

Please send your favorite pasta, slow cooker and holiday favorites recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3).

Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2018. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

ENERGY CENTS

Attractive, Convenient Combo Screen/ Storm Door Saves Energy Year-Round



James Dulley Collaborative Efficiency

Before you consider adding a new combo screen/storm door, make sure your primary door closes tightly and seals well.

The following companies offer combo doors: Andersen, (800) 933-3626, www.andersenwindows.com; Homeguard Industries, 800-525-1885, www.home-guard.net; Larson, 888-483-3768, www.larsondoors.com; Pella, 800-374-4758, www.pella.com; and ProVia, 800-669-4711,

www.proviadoor.com.

Send inquiries to James Dulley, Cooperative Connections, 6906 Royalgreen Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45244 or visit www.dulley.com. **Dear Jim:** My screen door needs replacement. I thought about getting screen/storm combo door with a glass panel for winter. Is it worthwhile to spend extra for the combo door? – Seth G.

Dear Seth: A primary door is a relatively small area, but even an insulated one can lose a significant amount of energy. Doors typically have glass (lower insulation value) and the 10 feet of weatherstripping leaks air, so adding a combo door makes energy sense.

Before you consider adding a new combo screen/storm door, make sure your primary door closes tightly and seals well. Adding a combo door will certainly improve energy efficiency, but it is not designed to correct problems with an old warped primary door.

If possible, purchase replacement weatherstripping for your existing doors from the original manufacturer. If you cannot find it, most home center stores sell styles of generic weatherstripping which should fit. Pry off the old door molding, fill any gaps around the framing with foam insulation and caulk around the primary door frame.

The combo door construction is important for a nice appearance, long life and security. It must withstand a lot of abuse, so don't just pick the cheapest one. High quality ones, like Provia Spectrum, have internal polymer corner supports, rigid insulated foam core, reinforced kick panels and triple bottom sweep weatherstripping.

Buying an aluminum combo door and installing it yourself is typically the lowest-cost option. Aluminum combo doors are lightweight with the glass panels removed so installing one is a simple do-it-yourself project. They are made to the standard sizes of primary door frame openings.

With the store display door attached to a wooden door frame, the aluminum frame feels strong. When you open the box at home, the unattached aluminum frame strips are flexible. Be careful not to kink them during handling. Apply a bead of silicone or siliconized acrylic caulking on the aluminum frame before screwing it to the door opening.

The most convenient design of combo door uses one or two spring-mounted roll-up retractable screens built into the door. For ventilation, just lower the glass and pull the screens down. This design is attractive because the screening is hidden away during winter.

If you plan to use natural ventilation during the summer, a self-storing triple-track combo door is a reasonably priced option. The screen panel has its own vertical track in the door, so it never has to be removed. At winter's end, slide one of the glass panels down and slide the screen panel up.

For families with large pets or active children who may damage the screening, durable stainless steel screen fabric is available in retractable screen doors. It also is a simple DIY project to add this durable screening to a panel door. Buy a slightly smaller spline because the new screening is thicker. A spline installation roller tool costs only a few dollars.

If your budget is tight, consider making your own door. Mount hinges in the existing door opening for the storm door. Make a simple wood frame for the new door with only the top half open and a plywood lower panel. This panel improves the door's rigidity for a more airtight seal and better durability.

Most home center stores carry sheets of clear acrylic plastic to mount in the frame. Make another narrow wooden frame slightly larger than the open half and mount the acrylic sheet in it. Screw it over the door opening. Make a similar frame with screening in it for summer use.

If you prefer more durability and efficiency and a perfectly clear view outdoors is not critical, select double-walled polycarbonate instead of acrylic.

Nail 1/2-inch-wide spring steel weatherstripping in the door opening on the latch side and top and bottom. This type of weatherstripping is very durable where there is sliding friction. Adhesive backed 3/4-inch foam weatherstripping is effective in compression on the hinge side.

Dedication, Service Recognized

Area duo to be inducted into South Dakota Cooperative Hall of Fame

Two area men – Dale Locken of Akaska and Kermit Pearson of Lake City – will be inducted into the South Dakota Cooperative Hall of Fame during the Co-op Month Banquet and Induction Ceremony Sept. 11 at The Lodge at Deadwood, S.D.

Induction into the South Dakota Cooperative Hall of Fame is the highest honor that the cooperative community can bestow on those whose endeavors in the cause of the cooperative form of enterprise have been genuinely heroic.

Dale Locken, Agtegra Cooperative

Locken served as the CEWO of South Dakota Wheat Growers Association (now Agtegra Cooperative) from 2002 to 2017. As CEO, he had the vision to always pursue the next step to maintain the relevance of the cooperative system in South Dakota. Under his leadership, he saw the need for a merger with North Central Farmers Elevator (which occurred shortly after he stepped down as CEO). While at the helm at Wheat Growers, he developed the cooperative's strong safety culture, established the Connecting to Tomorrow Initiative to improve

established the Connecting to Tomorrow Initiative to improve grain handling systems at 12 SDWG locations, established the Growing for Tomorrow Initiative which upgraded 15 locations to expand capacity in both grain handling and agronomy, led construction of the Kennebec Facility which involved rehabilitation of the railroad line along with construction of a new facility.

Kermit Pearson, Lake Region Electric Association

First elected to the Lake Region Electric Association board of directors in 1980, Kermit Pearson has spent the last 38 years as a dedicated leader of electric cooperatives. By 1989, Pearson would be selected to represent LREA on the East River Electric Power Cooperative board and from there, in 1997, would become East River's voice on the Basin Electric Power Cooperative board. In 2013, he was selected to represent Basin Electric on the South Dakota Rural Electric Association board of directors.



Kermit Pearson

Under Pearson's leadership, LREA, East River and Basin Electric have engaged in innovative and visionary programs to best serve their members. He works to ensure that decisions made at the Basin Electric level are in the best interest for the regional East River Electric membership and local Lake Region Electric membership.

"He embraces and promotes the new innovations that benefit the membership," wrote LREA manager Tim McIntyre. "...his commitment to community and the membership shines as he inspires development and growth within each community."

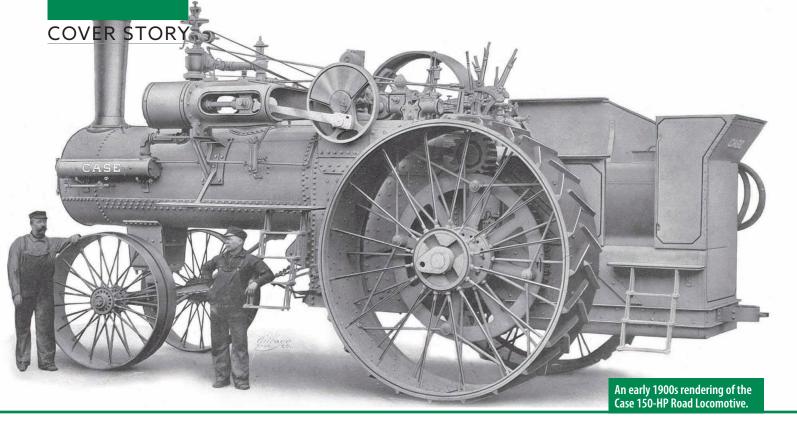
Interested in attending?

To purchase tickets for the banquet, contact the South Dakota Association of Cooperatives by Sept. 1 at 116 N Euclid, Pierre, SD 57501. Tickets are \$40.

Past Inductees

- 1985 Arthur Jones (1905-1985) and Emil Loriks (1895-1985)
- 1986 Albert Schramm (1916-2000) and Herman D. Holt (1909-1986)
- 1987 John Riedy (1911-2001) and August Dahme (1901-1980)
- 1988 J. Evan Rasmussen (1905-1990) and John Skage (1904-1989)
- 1989 Darrell Moseson and Warren G. Grebner (1920-2014)
- 1990 J.E. Krull Sr. (1909-1999) and Lawrence Stoley (1901-1987)
- 1991 Clifford G. Bell (1904-2000) and Warren Moe (1925-2011)
- 1992 Ken Holum (1915-1998) and John A. Cink (1911-2002)
- 1993 Clement J. Kloucek (1925-2005) and S. Douglas Murphy (1904-1996)
- 1994 Philip Testerman and Max Farrar (1897-1980)
- 1995 Quentin E. Louden (1919-2012) and Oscar C. Johnson (1880-1965)
- 1996 Vernon L. Berg (1920-1998) and Leo P. Flynn (1908-2001)
- 1997 Ben Radcliffe (1915-2014) and G.L. Moseson (1894-1973)
- 1998 J.D. Lynd (1933-2013) and George A. Hargens, Jr. (1921-1999)
- 1999 Raymond M. Judy (1919-1997) and Virgil Fodness (1922-2013)
- 2000 Keith Taylor (1923-2002) and Joseph Hieb (1924-2017)
- 2001 Robert A. Johnson (1921-2014) and Donald N. Olson (1928-2006)
- 2002 Vincent Erz (1926-2012) and Donald Wynia
- 2003 Brian Meyer (1943-2003) and Don Paulsen (1930-2018)
- 2004 Ed Fritzsche (1923-2005) and Dean Rasmussen
- 2005 Robert Ching (1924-2012), Darrell Henderson and Alex Stoeser (1925-2000)
- 2006 Dennis Hagny and Robert Rademacher
- 2007 Leroy Schecher, Ralph Schreurs and Merlin VanWalleghen
- **2008 -** Charles Olsen and Donald Fieber
- 2009 Delbert Bushong and Owen Jones
- 2010 Jake Boomsma, Milo Gilbertson and Barry Jensen
- 2011 Jeffrey L. Nelson and Wayne Wright
- **2012** Luverne Crosser, Gary French, Ron Minnaert and Larry Wilson
- **2013** Thomas Hueners, John D. Johnson and Loren Noess
- 2014 Gene Kroell, John Van Beek and Harvey Wollman
- **2015** Keith Hainy, Roy Ireland, Rodney Renner and Carlyle Richards
- 2016 Bill Bielmaier, Mark Hofer and Ronald Sandine
- 2017 Jerry Heiberger and Clair Bonebright

7



STEAM POWER DREAM

Recreating the Case 150-HP Road Locomotive

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop A legacy preserved in pictures and technical drawings has been brought back to life and debuts Sept. 7-9 at the James Valley Threshing and Tractor Club Show at Andover, S.D.

More than 100 years ago, the largest steam tractor ever produced – the 150-horsepower Case Road Locomotive – rolled off the drawing boards and onto the landscape. Fewer than 10 were produced and the behemoth's sheer power created technical issues for its ongoing reliability. But despite the issues that would eventually silence its massive engine, the giant – its rear wheels stood 8 feet tall and the front wheels reached the shoulders of a full-grown man – made an impression on Kory Anderson.

Anderson, an entrepreneur and mechanical engineer started with an idea 12 years ago to build a scale-model replica of the 25-foot, 10-foot wide machine. He spent the ensuing years researching the machine – including a visit to the Case archives in Wisconsin, recreating the drawings in CAD and researching what materials would overcome the original issues caused by lack of metallurgical advancements 100 years ago.

Anderson crafted mahogany molds for the parts that would need to be cast at Dakota Foundry in Webster. The services of an Amish boilermaker in Ohio would be secured.

The machine's rear wheels - each standing 8 feet tall and

<complex-block>



measuring 3 feet wide – would need to be fabricated. Finished, they would weigh three tons each. Parts would be painted, lettering and graphics would be applied. And thousands of hours would be spent breathing life into a machine not heard from since the 1920s.

In the age of railroads and horse-drawn power, the turn of the 20th century saw some innovative tractors that would transform the agriculture. The Case Road Locomotive had the potential to eclipse them all. Designed to move heavy loads where rail lines didn't exist, it was used to haul copper ore in New Mexico, and was used for jobs ranging from plowing beet fields, threshing and hauling stone from a quarry in states including Georgia, Kansas, Kentucky, New York and Wisconsin.

The thing was built for power, if not speed. (In low gear, it crawled along at just over 2.5 miles an hour, while high speed doubled the pace, reaching more than 5.6 miles per hour.)

While the original machine sold for around \$4,000 in 1904 (roughly four times the cost of a 1904 Cadillac). The 2018 version will cost considerably more: an estimated \$1 million.

For more about the build, visit https:// www.facebook.com/Anderson-Industries-LLC-115448931876302/

For more about the Threshing Show, go to https://www.facebook.com/jvthreshers/ or http://www.jamesvalleythreshers.com/



Case 150-HP Road Locomotive Specifications

from the Case archive documents:

- BOILER Shell 42 inches in diameter.
- TUBES Ninety-three 2 inch tubes, 108 1/2 inches long, of cold drawn, seamless steel tubing
- FIRE BOX 58 1/4 inches long, 39 1/4 inches wide, and 45 inches high, made of the best openhearth flange steel.
- HEATING SURFACE of boiler, 515 square feet. Grate area of boiler is 15.8 square feet.
- BOILER PRESSURE The boiler tested at 350 pounds hydrostatic pressure, and can carry 160 pounds as a working pressure.
- WATER TANK The capacity of the tank is about 500 gallons
- WATER FEED An ejector will fill the water tank in eight minutes from any stream or other accessible water supply
- FUEL CAPACITY The coal capacity is about 2,750 pounds.
- ENGINE CYLINDER 14 inches diameter by 14 inch stroke.
- HORSE POWER The engine easily develops 150 brake horse power running at its normal speed of 300 revolutions per minute.
- TRACTION POWER The engine has been built for heavy hauling purposes and is capable of drawing 40 to 50 tons up grades from 5 percent to 10 percent. The engine itself, not loaded, will go up a 40 percent grade.

www.jamesvalleythreshers.com/ case150.htm **CO-OP NEWS**

Coopera

Remember to

Cash prices will be given and giveaways include

a pizza cutter and

wireless speaker!

CENTRA

ATEND Your Annual Meeting

EST CENTRA

Come Join Us for Your 69th Annual Meeting on Oct. 3 at the Fine Arts Building in Philip, S.D. **Registration Starts** at 4 p.m. Mountain Time. The meeting starts at 5 p.m. and the delicious meal follows.

Kristi Thomp

Coming to A Home Near You: Smarts



Kit Talich

Staff Engineer kit.talich@wce.coop Lately, you may have been hearing about smart homes or home automation. These two phrases have been a hot topic in the last few years. It is a new trend in the housing industry and I don't think it is going away. Over the last few years, this area of technology has pretty much exploded. Recently, an employee from Leviton stated that they have never seen sales grow as fast in any other product line in the company's 112-year history. So, what is a smart home?

Smart homes or home automation are really parts of the Internet of Things (IoT) revolution. The Internet of Things refers to devices that have built in communications, so they can be remotely controlled from your phone or tablet. Aside from the communications, these devices can also give you usage data and diagnostic data. Someday your refrigerator will be able to tell you when something is broken and even contact the repair folks for you.

As far as home automation goes, systems today are close to a state of "If you can dream it, it can be done". For example, today you can purchase a smart light switch, motion sensors, security cameras, electrical outlets, flood sensors and much more. A few examples of things people are doing: The system can be set up so that if the flood sensor next to the hot water heater goes off, the switch on the supply line will turn the water off! You can also set up a routine to send a little snippet of video when someone approaches your front door or when you turn the corner to your house, the garage door automatically opens for you (and closes after a certain amount of time if you forget!). Want coffee ready when you get out of the shower? You can set up a routine that will start the coffee brewing when you enter the shower. Now there are a few appliances that are not quite fully integrated with this technology but within the next few years, I expect it will be hard to find one that doesn't have at least basic communications.

If you are interested in implementing some of these things I would suggest you do a little research online first. There are a few options and all have their own pros and cons. The biggest difference today is in the device (called a hub) that communicates with all the devices. This hub works to talk to the individual devices wirelessly with either the Zigbee or Z-Wave protocol. Two of the most popular hubs today are the Samsung Smart Things and Wink 2. Though there are a number out there from various manufacturers; Insteon, Lowes, GE, the list goes on.



Amazon, Google and Apple are all getting into the game also. Their devices – Echo, Home and HomeKit, respectively – can also control devices around the house. Though in general, these use the home's Wi-Fi network to communicate. Wi-Fi takes quite a bit more power than Zigbee or Z-Wave, so these devices are more likely to have to be plugged into the wall or if not, expect to be replacing batteries regularly.

I think it is safe to say that these types of networks are here to stay and will only expand in usage and abilities. If you are a techy person like me, then this is indeed an exciting time. If you are not so techy I think within the next five to 10 years, you might be pleasantly surprised at some of the things your home can start to do for you, automatically.

CO-OP NEWS

Power in Preparation

Co-ops Committed to Preparedness Every Day

Derrill Holly

NRECA

Preparation is the key to success in many things we do in life. Planning, practice and thoughtful assessment provide opportunities to work out potential problems in advance.

September is National Preparedness Month, and the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency is encouraging all of us to prepare for emergencies. But most of us do better when we prepare for the routine, the extraordinary and the unexpected.

For electric cooperatives in South Dakota and western Minnesota, preparation plays a huge role in ensuring that our members have the electricity they need as soon as they flip a light switch or start an appliance.

When a co-op crew pulls a truck into a loading bay, warehouse workers have already pulled the parts and equipment needed for that crew's scheduled day's work. When a member services representative discusses balanced billing by telephone, they're helping a member with preparations to ease the impact of seasonal high bills.

When meteorologists call for exceptionally hot or cold weather, electric co-ops work closely with their generation and transmission cooperatives (G&Ts) to ensure adequate supplies of electricity are reserved to meet anticipated demand.

South Dakota and western Minnesota electric co-ops are constantly preparing for the future. Engineers and construction crews design, build and upgrade the electric system to move electricity from

Be Prepared Before the Storm

Here are some basic items you should store in your home in case of emergency:

- 🚯 Water: Three day supply, one gallon per person per day
- 🜔 Food: Three day supply, non-perishable, high-energy
- Clothing, bedding, and sanitation supplies
- Tools: Can opener, plates, utensils, flashlight, batteries, cash, bleach, hand sanitizer
- 📢 First aid supplies, medicine
- Important documents

Visit redcross.org/domore to learn more about disaster kits. Photo Caption.

power plants and substations to farms, homes and businesses.

All of these actions prepare electric co-ops to deal with the daily challenges of meeting the electricity needs of their members. But working together, we put in just as much effort preparing for the uncertainties posed by flooding, tornadoes, wildfires, high winds, blizzards and ice storms. Electric co-ops maintain and constantly update emergency response plans. Employees train for major events and know in advance what their primary and secondary roles would be. Electric co-ops also subscribe to mutual aid agreements. That's why you see trucks and crews from co-ops in other states in your communities when major power outages occur.

We also work with state and national

officials to help ensure that crews can get to your communities when they are needed and have the lodging, food and support necessary to work effectively far from home.

September may be National Preparedness Month, but the region's electric cooperatives are committed to preparedness every day – for the routine, the extraordinary and the unexpected.

Derrill Holly writes on consumer and cooperative affairs for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the national trade association representing more than 900 local electric cooperatives. From growing suburbs to remote farming communities, electric co-ops serve as engines of economic development for 42 million Americans across 56 percent of the nation's landscape.

Are You Ready?

The heat of August and September make it hard to remember that winter snows will be here before we know it.

The South Dakota Office of Emergency Management offers the following preparedness tips:

Winter storms, especially blizzards, can be very dangerous. Preparing before extremely cold, snowy weather occurs can save your life. Know what winter storm watches and warnings mean. If a Winter Storm Watch has been issued for your area, hazardous winter weather conditions (such as snow greater than 6 inches in 24 hours, winds gusting over 35 mph, or visibilities less than a 1/4 mile) are expected in the next 12 to 36 hours. A Winter Storm Warning means the conditions listed for the Watch exist.

Try to stay indoors during a blizzard. If you have to go outside to check on animals or for another reason, be sure to dress warmly in loose fitting layers of clothing.

Wear heavy gloves to protect your hands and heavy socks with boots that will not absorb water. Cover your mouth so that you don't breathe in freezing cold air that can damage your lungs. Keep your body dry.

Know the signs of hypothermia or frostbite.

If you are traveling at all when a winter storm is possible, then you should always bring emergency supplies with you. You can never predict when you might get stranded and need them. If stranded, make sure you stay in your vehicle. Run your vehicle about 10 minutes every hour. Open windows a little for fresh air to avoid carbon monoxide poisoning. Make yourself visible to rescuers by turning on the dome light at night, tie a colored cloth to your antenna, and raise the hood after the snow stops falling.

If you are caught outside, find a dry shelter and cover all exposed parts of the body. If shelter is not available, prepare a lean-to, wind break, or snow-cave for protection from the wind.

Build a fire for heat and to attract attention. Place rocks around the fire to absorb and reflect heat. Do not eat snow, it will lower your body temperature. Melt it first.

Weather related dangers can be very unexpected. Being prepared for a potential hazardous situation could save your life.



HTTP://BREADY.SD.GOV/

Supply Kit

Prepare your family for any disaster by putting together an emergency supply kit. Make sure your kit is always ready, easily accessible and stored in a durable container.

Recommended Kit Supplies

- Water, one gallon per person per day for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered radio and extra batteries
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask or cotton t-shirt to help filter the air
- Moist towelettes for sanitation
- Wrench or pliers
- Can opener for food
- Plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Unique family needs, such as daily prescriptions, infant formula or diapers, and copies of important family documents
- Garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation

Other Items to Include

- Change of clothing
- Sleeping bag or blanket
- Hat, mitten, scarf
- Waterproof matches
- Toys, books, puzzles, games
- Extra house and car keys
- List of contact names and numbers
- Sturdy shoes
- Gloves for clearing debris
- Tent
- Fuel for cooking
- Plastic knives, forks, spoons
- Paper plates and cups
- Paper towels
- Heavy-duty aluminum foil
- Hand sanitizer
- Bar soap and liquid detergent
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Feminine supplies
- Toilet paper
- Household bleach with no additives
- Newspaper to wrap garbage and waste
- Ax, shovel, broom
- Screwdriver, hammer
- Coil of one-half inch rope
- Knife or razor blades
- Garden hose for siphoning and fire fighting

Source: https://dps.sd.gov/emergency-services/ emergency-management/preparedness



Electrifying Ways to Help Kids Be **SMART ENERGY USERS**

"Did you turn off the lights in your room?"

"We're not paying to heat the whole neighborhood!"

"Save some hot water for the rest of us!"

Across America, parents utter these phrases to their children countless times each day. Despite their best efforts, it can be tough to help kids understand the importance of saving energy – and to put that knowledge into action.

Few people have more experience talking about energy efficiency than the communication professionals who work at America's electric cooperatives. So we asked them how they persuade the toughest audience they face every day: their kids. Here are a few of their tips.

Deputize an "energy enforcer"

Several parents recommended deputizing children to investigate wasteful energy practices.

When her children were young, Heidi Smith of Tideland Electric Membership Corporation in North Carolina let them take turns playing the role of energy deputy.

Each week, the appointed child was given a badge and empowered to seek out energy waste and hold the offending



party accountable.

"My youngest son took it so seriously that he once cracked open the bathroom door and reached in to turn off the light on his dad after he decided daddy had been in there long enough," Smith said. "All five of my children are now grown, but they continue to practice energy efficiency in their own lives."

Diana Hersch of Hancock-Wood Electric Cooperative in Ohio offered a slightly different twist on the same idea. She suggests offering your little energy deputies a bounty for finding leaks, drafts and other wasteful energy practices around the house.

Their progress can be tracked with stickers on a calendar, and when the kids reach their goal, they can be rewarded with a sheriff's badge or another small toy of their choice.

Penalty stroke

In addition to teaching her patience and discipline, the rounds of golf Jim Nimmo plays with his 11-year-old-daughter have turned into valuable lessons in energy conservation. When the kids reach their goal, they can be rewarded with a sheriff's badge or another small toy of their choice.

Nimmo, of Farmers Electric Cooperative in Texas, has started adding a penalty stroke to his daughter's score for each time he's had to turn off her bedroom light and fan since their last round.

"It gives new meaning to the term penalty stroke," Nimmo said. "We don't have much of a problem anymore." No word on whether his daughter is allowed to return the favor.

The invisible hand

If your child's hand never seems to find its way to the light switch, perhaps the invisible hand of the free market can help them out.

Katie Kothmann Haby of Medina Electric

Cooperative in Texas said her dad used to fine her 25 cents for every light bulb she and her siblings left on in their rooms. For her ceiling fan with four bulbs, that was a costly mistake.

"It taught us that electricity really did cost money since we had to pay when we didn't conserve it," Haby said. Though her daughter is very young, Haby says she plans to use the same approach when she's older.

Game Theory

Other creative strategies to inspire kids to do their chores and keep peace in the home can be found in *The Game Theorist's Guide to Parenting*. The recently published book, written by Paul Raeburn and Kevin Zollman, shows how Game Theory can be applied to many of daily transactions of parenting, such as sharing, dividing, collaborating and compromising.

No matter what the approach, talking to kids about energy use is sure to pay dividends. They might not always follow through, but they'll be learning important lessons about the value of energy and the importance of conservation that can last a lifetime.





August 23-25

Senior Games, Watertown, SD, Contact Jeremy Herrboldt or Josh Maag at 605-882-6260

August 25-26

Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival, Sunrise each day at airport, Activities all day, Night Glow Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Hot Springs, SD 605-745-4140

August 25, September 8 and 22, October 6

Lawn Mower Races, Pukwana, SD, 605-680-1718 or 605-682-9781

August 30

Value Added Ag Day and Specialty Crop Workshops at the State Fair, SD Value Added Ag Development Center and SD Specialty Producers, Huron, SD, 605-681-6793 or SDSPAinfo@gmail.com

September 2

Studebaker Car Show, Custer, SD, 605-673-2244

September 2

Billy Bolander Memorial Demolition Derby, Winner, SD, 605-469-6232

September 6-9 Senior State Games, Sioux

Falls, SD, Howard Bich at 605-491-0635 or visit southdakotaseniorgames.org

September 7-8 Ribs, Rods & Rock n' Roll, Main Street, Vermillion, SD, 605-624-2021

September 7-9 Sixth Annual S.D. Fiddle Festival & Contest, 4-H Grounds, 901 Whiting Drive, Yankton, SD, fiddlersofsouthdakota.com



September 7-9 James Valley Threshing and Tractor Show, Andover, SD, jvthreshers@gmail.com

September 8

Beef N Fun Festival, Mobridge, SD, 605-845-2387

September 8 Sidewalk Arts Festival, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-367-7397

September 8

Eggs, Mushrooms and Microgreens Tours, Noon to 4:30 p.m., Free, Brandon, SD, Contact 605-681-6793 or SDSPAinfo@gmail.com

September 8-9

Fifth Annual Grape Stomp Festival, With the Wind Winery, Rosholt, SD, 605-212-5166, www.withthewindwinery.com

September 8-9

Twin Rivers Old Iron & Kuchen Festival, Delmont, SD, Contact George Sandhoff at 605-505-0535 September 8-9 Quilt Show, Hill City, SD, 605-574-2810

September 11 S.D. Co-op Hall of Fame Induction Banquet, The Lodge, Deadwood, SD, 605-945-2548

September 13-15 St. Joseph's Indian School Annual Powwow, Chamberlain, SD, 605-234-3452

September 14-15 NESD Celtic Faire and Games, Aberdeen, SD, 605-380-5828

September 14-16 North Country Fiber Fair, Watertown, SD, 605-956-7909

September 14-16 Dakota Western Heritage Festival, Fort Pierre, SD, 605-222-0079

September 14-16 German-Russian Schmeckfest, Eureka, SD, 605-284-2332

September 16

Stirling Family Memorial Ranch Rodeo, Fort Pierre, SD, 605-223-7690

September 21-22 Holiday Arts Fall Craft Show, Masonic Temple, Mitchell, SD, 605-359-2049

September 21-23

South Dakota Quilt Guild, Crossroads Event Center, Huron, SD, 605-352-9953

> To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.