



Sioux Valley Energy

Your Touchstone Energy® Partner 

Cooperative Connections

JULY 2017 VOL. 18 NO. 3



Small Towns Give Unique Twists to

Summer Celebrations

Page 8-9

Keep Eyes Open for Utility Crews Working This Summer



Tim McCarthy
General Manager/CEO

Warmer weather means a lot of things for Sioux Valley Energy—in particular, it means we are ramping up construction! Two years ago the Board of Directors made the decision to increase the miles of line that we construct from 100 to 125. That is a significant increase which will allow the Cooperative to replace its aging overhead system. This also means you will see our crews and our contractors out

and about.

When Sioux Valley crews and contractors are working on electric lines off the side of the road, they will utilize “Utility Work Ahead” signs. Those signs are an indicator to slow down and pay attention to your surroundings. We ask that you watch out for our employees and other utility workers because we want them to return home safe at the end of each day.

Here are a few examples of some of the major projects we have been and will be working on. There are many more, but these are noteworthy because of the size of the project. These projects are designed not only to replace old line, but also improve reliability:

Madison to Oldham Project: We are constructing 17 miles of new three phase overhead line to replace old single phase and three phase overhead line. This project will create a three phase tie between the Madison and Oldham substations in South Dakota.

Elkton Area Project: We are constructing 10 miles of new three phase overhead line to replace old single phase and three phase underground and overhead line. This project will create a three phase tie between the Elkton and Bushnell substations, and strengthen the three phase tie between the Elkton and Ward substations in South Dakota.

Steen to Hills Project: This project is complete, but still worth mentioning. We replaced nine miles of old three phase overhead line with new three phase overhead line. This project created a three phase tie between the Steen and Hills substations in Minnesota.

Rutland Area Project: We are replacing seven miles of old three phase overhead line with new three phase overhead line. This project will strengthen the three phase tie between the Rutland, Ward and Egan substations in South Dakota.

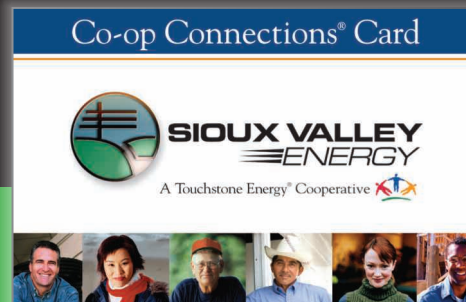
Underground Replacement: We will be replacing a total of 17 miles of underground cable (12.5 miles in South Dakota and 4.5 miles in Minnesota).

Again, thanks for watching out for those working to keep the lights on! We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Available to SVE Members...

The Co-op Connections Card.

Local and national business discounts are available to you as a member of Sioux Valley Energy. Go to <http://www.connections.coop/> and click on co-op deals!





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The power of human connections

Cooperative Connections

(USPS No. 497-440)

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e-mail: sve@siouxvalleyenergy.com

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Keith Nettik Receives 2017 Power and Hope Award

Keith Nettik, a Pipestone area member, was honored as the 2017 Power and Hope Award winner at the Cooperative's Annual Meeting in Brandon, SD on June 6.

Nettik was nominated by Debra Brockberg. She describes Keith as someone who is dedicated, hardworking, kind and always sets a good example.

Nettik is the manager of Coborn's in Pipestone and is the President of the local Kiwanis Club. The club runs a program during Christmas providing

food and toys to those who can't afford to purchase it on their own for the holiday. Nettik spends a great deal of time on this project. He lines up the totes for the food, procures the food, finds enough volunteers to assemble the totes and gets them all delivered to the fairgrounds for distribution.

In addition, he also volunteers his time to gather donations for the "Toys for Tots" organization.

Nettik doesn't stop there—he also is the vice-president of the Pipestone County Food Shelf. He helps the director of that program keep shelves stocked. He also has been very active in helping the high school baseball and softball teams raise money by coordinating a door to door delivery of softener salt as a fund raiser.

As the Power and Hope winner, Nettik will receive \$1,000 to donate to the charity of his choice.

James Slater of Sioux Falls was also nominated for his work with the Shriners. Slater will receive \$100 to donate to the charity of his choice.



Manager, Tim McCarthy thanks Pipestone member, Keith Nettik for his work in the community by presenting him with the 2017 Power and Hope Award.

power + hope

Electrical Safety Tips for the 4th of July

It's finally summer and in just a few days, the biggest holiday of the season arrives: the 4th of July! As you prepare for backyard BBQs and poolside fun, there are some important things to remember to make sure it's a safe holiday.



Whether you are hosting or heading over to a neighbor's or relative's house to celebrate, we have a few safety tips to share with you so that your friends and family enjoy your time together and avoid accidents:

Summer Holiday Poolside Electrical Safety Tips:

Spending time in and around the pool is a big part of summer and celebration during the warmest months of the year. Regardless of whether you are hosting a get-together at your home or someone else's, make sure the chances for accidents are minimal by following these simple safety steps:

- Never run electrical cords over or alongside the pool. Water and electricity don't mix!
- If you are decorating the backyard, string party lights a minimum of three feet away from the pool or any water source.
- Store and activate fireworks as far away from the pool as possible.
- Never use a floatation device to support an electrical appliance (fan, etc.).
- Never cross the pool exit or towel storage area with electrical wires.
- Always use safety caps on electrical outlets near water.
- When possible, use GFCI outlets to protect yourself and your electrical appliances outdoors.

Electrical Power Line Safety Tips:

Power lines run through neighborhoods and can even pass through overgrown trees. They're often the most dangerous when you don't even notice they're there because you either see them all of the time or they are covered by tree canopies. Stay mindful and remember these safety tips when you're spending time in the backyard or outdoor neighborhoods:

- Never let kids (or adults for that matter) climb trees that are near power lines.
- Make sure your trees are trimmed and out of the way of power lines running through your yard or near your home.
- Never attempt to touch a downed power line. If there is one in your yard, call your local electric cooperative immediately. There can still be current running through the line and an active line is highly dangerous.

Source: www.allstarelectrical.com

Beat the Extreme Heat

During periods of extreme heat, hot weather mixed with outdoor activities can lead to dangerous situations. According to the CDC, people can suffer heat-related illness when their bodies are unable to properly cool themselves. During extreme heat, follow these guidelines to protect yourself and your loved ones.



Stay Informed: Check local news for extreme heat alerts.



Stay Cool: If you do not have access to an air-conditioned space, visit a shopping mall or public library for a few hours. Call your local health department to locate heat-relief shelters in your area.



Stay Hydrated: Drink (nonalcoholic) fluids regularly, regardless of your activity level. Wear lightweight, light-colored, loose-fitting clothing.



Don't leave anyone (or pets) in a closed, parked vehicle.



Do check on elderly friends and neighbors.



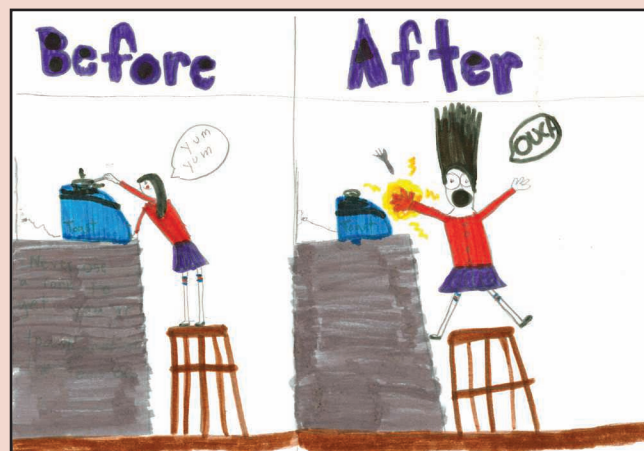
Heat Stress: Who's at Risk?

Adults over the age of 65, children under the age of 4, individuals with chronic medical conditions such as heart disease and those without access to air conditioning.

Source: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Kids' Corner Safety Poster

"Never use a fork to get your toast out of the toaster."



Atoya Howey, 9 years old

Atoya is the daughter of Valerie Howey, Hill City, S.D. She is a member of Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Custer, 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.

Delectable Desserts



Easy Cake Dessert

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 spice cake mix | 6 T. sugar |
| 1 can apple pie filling | 2 tsp. cinnamon |
| 3 eggs | 1/2 cup chopped nuts |

Combine spice cake mix, apple pie filling and eggs. Pour half the batter into a 9x13-inch greased pan. Mix together sugar and cinnamon; sprinkle half over batter. Add remaining batter; top with sugar mixture and nuts. Bake at 350°F. for 30 to 35 minutes. Top with ice cream or whipped cream.

Carolyn Saugstad, Alcester

Bourbon Peach Cobbler

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 2-1/4 cups plus 1 T. flour, divided | 8 T. bourbon, divided |
| 2/3 cup plus 1/2 cup sugar, divided | 1 T. baking powder |
| 2 (16 oz.) bags frozen peaches, 6 cups | 12 T. butter |
| | 3/4 cup half-and-half |
| | 1 large egg |

Butter bottom and sides of 9x13-inch baking dish. Combine 1 T. flour, 2/3 cup sugar, 4 T. bourbon and peaches in a medium bowl. Spread mixture evenly in bottom of baking dish. Whisk together remaining flour, sugar and baking powder. Melt butter in a medium bowl. Mix in half-and-half, egg and remaining bourbon. Stir the butter mixture into the dry mixture (add cinnamon if desired) and whisk until smooth. Drop dollops of batter over peaches evenly. Bake at 375°F. for 50 minutes or until top is golden and toothpick inserted into center comes out clean. Serve with ice cream.

Cortney Reedy, Tea

Raspberry Poke Cake

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1 white cake mix | 1 cup hot water |
| 1 (3 oz.) pkg. raspberry jello | 1 (3 oz) carton raspberry yogurt |
| 1 (8 oz.) container whipped topping | 2 (10 oz.) boxes fresh raspberries |

Prepare and bake cake according to package directions in a 9x13-inch pan. Remove from oven and poke holes in cake while warm with a wooden spoon handle or knife handle. Mix together jello and water, stirring until jello is dissolved. Pour over holes in cake. Cool. Mix whipped topping and yogurt together until blended; gently fold in raspberries. Spread evenly on cake. Refrigerate.

Barbara Angerhofer, Hendricks, MN

S'mores Pie

Graham Cracker Crust:

- 1-1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 7 T. butter, melted
- 1/3 cup sugar

Filling:

- 3/4 cup heavy cream

- 6 oz. semi-sweet chocolate, chopped
- 2 tsp. McCormick® Ground Cinnamon
- 1 T. plus 1 tsp. McCormick® Extra Rich Pure Vanilla Extract, divided
- 1 (7 oz.) jar marshmallow creme
- 4 oz. (1/2 package) cream cheese, softened
- 1 (8 oz.) container whipped topping

For the crust, mix all ingredients in medium bowl. Press into bottom and up sides of 9-inch pie plate. Set aside. For the filling, bring cream just to boil in small saucepan. Pour over chocolate in medium heatproof bowl. Let stand 1 minute then stir until smooth. Stir in cinnamon and 1 tsp. of the vanilla. Pour into prepared crust. Refrigerate 30 minutes or until chocolate is firm. (Freeze 15 minutes for faster chilling.) Beat marshmallow creme, cream cheese and remaining 1 T. vanilla in large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Gently stir in whipped topping until well blended. Spread evenly over chocolate layer in crust. Refrigerate at least 2 hours or until ready to serve. Garnish with chocolate curls or toasted marshmallows, if desired. Yield: 8 servings

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 600, Total Fat 36g, Sodium 267mg, Cholesterol 75mg, Carbohydrates 65g, Dietary Fiber 2g, Protein 4g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Easy Rhubarb Dessert

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 cake mix (strawberry, white, yellow or lemon) | 1 cup chopped walnuts, divided |
| 3 cups sliced rhubarb | 3/4 cup brown sugar |

Prepare cake mix according to package directions. Fold in rhubarb and 1/2 cup chopped walnuts. Pour into a greased 9x13-inch glass pan. Sprinkle top with brown sugar and remaining walnuts. Bake at 325°F. for 30 to 40 minutes. Serve with lemon sauce, whipped topping or just plain.

Elaine Rowett, Sturgis

French Coconut Pie

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 4 T. butter | 1 cup milk |
| 2 eggs | 1 cup or 3-1/2 oz. can shredded coconut |
| 1 T. all-purpose flour | |
| 3/4 cup sugar | 1 9-inch unbaked pie shell |

In a large bowl, combine melted butter, eggs, flour, sugar, milk and coconut. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 400°F. until firm, about 45 to 60 minutes.

Lynn Holzerland, Waubay

Please send your favorite salad, garden produce or pasta 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 2017. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

1,700 Attend Annual Meeting in Brandon, SD

MEMBERS DONATE RECORD-BREAKING 925 POUNDS OF FOOD TO LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

More than 1,700 members and guests attended Sioux Valley Energy's annual meeting and member appreciation event on June 6th at the High School in Brandon, SD. The family fun event featured something for everyone: bingo, children's activities, a performance from SuFuDu and Classic Oldies Band, Surfin' Safari.

During the business meeting, the membership approved the 2016 meeting minutes and the financial report. Manager Tim McCarthy recognized the current and next year's EmPOWER youth students and introduced the 2017 Power and Hope Award winner, Keith Nettik of Pipestone.

Greg Selken, Journey Lineworker, was recognized for his 40 years of service to the cooperative.

KID'S TRACTOR PULL CONTEST

Age 4 Boy	Age 5 Boy	Age 6 Boy
1 st Matthew Ims 2 nd Carter Stassi	1 st Taylor Cui 2 nd Gabe Horton	1 st Oscar Anderson 2 nd Gerald Rierson
Girl	Girl	Girl
1 st Halle Christenson 2 nd Bristol Patrick	1 st Josie Basche	1 st Ellyse Pantekoek 2 nd Lilly Doyle
Age 7 Girl	Age 8 Girl	Age 9 Girl
1 st Briley Brand 2 nd Adalyn Harskamp	1 st Allie Duenwold 2 nd Kennedy Boomsma	1 st Savannah Wagner
Age 10 Boy	Age 11 Boy	Boy
1 st Karl Benz 2 nd James Dahl	1 st Keaton Harvey 2 nd Beau Johnson	1 st Camden Pantekoek 2 nd Quinn Droge
Girl	Girl	
1 st Camas Johnston	1 st Molly Anderson 2 nd Emma Willis	

SIoux VALLEY ENERGY ROYALTY

King – Camden Pantekoek
Queen – Olivia Tolman
Prince – Hank Crawford
Princess – Maebry Dybedahl

BABY CONTESTS:

Zachary Strunk
Ezrah Reuland
Raymond Lanners





Unique Celebrations

SUMMER BRINGS A VARIETY HOMETOWN CELEBRATIONS to many Main Streets in South Dakota and western Minnesota.

Brenda Kleinjan

Some celebrate heritage and culture such as wacipis in many western South Dakota communities to those celebrating ethnic groups such as Czech Days (Tabor, S.D.), Danish Days (Viborg, S.D.) and Æbleskiver Days (Tyler, Minn.)

And then there's the celebrations that just seem truly unique.

In South Central South Dakota, the community of Burke opens its streets for a cattle drive of long-horned bovines as it kicks off its annual Burke Stampede and Rodeo July 14-16. In addition to rodeo performances, the celebration features a trail

ride and cowboy cookout. Find out more at <http://www.burkestampederodeo.com/home.html>

The town of Custer in western South Dakota taps into its historical roots when it hosts Gold Discovery Days each July.

The 2017 Gold Discovery Days, set for July 21 to 23 includes a Gold Nugget hunt for kids, the area's annual bed races and also daily balloon rallies.

For more information, go to www.visitcuster.com/chamber/events/custergolddiscoverydays/

Head north and east of Custer a few hours on July 23 and you'll encounter the 41st running of the Reva Turtle Races.

The races featuring the hard shell contestants bring dozens of people to the unincorporated town





Left: Potato Wrestling is part of Clark's Potato Days celebration. **Below:** Custer's Gold Discovery Days feature bed races. **Bottom:** A variety of old tractors can be seen in use during the Twin Rivers Old Iron Festival in Delmont in September. **Opposite page:** Lawn mower races are featured in several communities. **Cover:** Longhorn cattle make their way into town for the Burke Stampede.

in eastern Harding County.

Be sure to check the event's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Reva-Turtle-Races-124003867629956/> for more information.

In western Minnesota, the town of Tyler, Minn., proudly boosts its Danish heritage with Æbleskiver Days.

The town celebrates the little sphere-shaped Danish pancakes with three shifts of volunteers cooking up the treats throughout the event. The celebration will also include a kickball tournament on July 22 and also a Cruise-In Car Show during Æbleskiver Days from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the fairgrounds in Tyler.

A new addition to the town celebration this year is Rainbow Country Trolley. The 30-foot long trolley will be pulled by two Belgian draft horses. The owner/driver Gerry Buse will entertain with singing and music during the ride. The trolley will be available to ride from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The pick up and drop off sites are: the fairgrounds, the band shell, and Danebod. It will take roughly 30 minutes to go from the Fairgrounds to the Danebod, so please plan accordingly.

To learn more about the event, go to <https://www.facebook.com/aebleskiverdays>

The revving of lawn mower engines can be heard at celebrations across south central South Dakota as drivers in the Pukwana Mower Races make appearances at events in South Dakota from April through October.

Find out more about the schedule at <http://www.pukwanamowerracing.com/race-schedule.html>

According to the Clark Potato Days site, "the potato is king in Clark, S.D., where local farmers grow bushels of the tasty tuber. That's why, each year, the town throws a party in honor of its favorite over-used, under-appreciated starch."

The site goes on to promote the eastern South Dakota's annual event by pointing out, "Mr. Potato Head is proud of Clark's celebration, and will be making an appearance at this year's festivities. The locals vie for top honors in a Best Decorated Potato

Contest. Past winners included an astronaut, farmer, race cars, and tooth. The Potato Dish Cooking Contests always bring out the best cooks in the county. And, the highlight of the celebration involves grown adults wrestling each other in mashed potatoes!

"Besides all the potato stuff, the event features those small-town festival activities that keep families and regular folks coming back year after year," the site continues.

Among the events during the celebration is Mashed Potato Wrestling, which starts this year at 11:30 a.m. on Aug. 17.

On Sept. 9-10, the community of Delmont, S.D., will host its Kuchen Festival and the Twin Rivers Old Iron Festival. The German dessert festival, which was first held in 1997, will be held Sept. 9 while the farm equipment festival is both days.

Find out more http://www.delmontsd.org/kuchen_festival_and_twin_rivers.htm

Be sure to check out other happenings in communities near you on the back page of this magazine.



Life-Saving Equipment Funds Provided to Brookings Health System

For many couples, having a baby is a wonderful experience but sometimes when a child is born they need some extra help from medical professionals and specialized equipment. The Brookings hospital recently purchased four new “infant warmers”-- but these are no ordinary warmers. The equipment is present at every delivery in case the baby is born in critical condition.

The infant warmer keeps the baby warm, can assist in resuscitation and suction, provides monitored oxygen when needed, weighs the child and displays his or her heart rate and oxygen levels.

Prior to specialized equipment, any oxygen assistance for an infant was provided through a bag which was manually squeezed. Obstetrics Director Mary Schwaegerl and nurse Deb Stover says while that resuscitation procedure does work, it had some drawbacks—the staff would need to rotate because of fatigue and the oxygen could not be mixed with room air or to a lower percentage which is better for the infant. In the past few years, before the new warmers were

ordered, the staff had piecemealed a resuscitation kit together and connected it to the old warming beds. This worked better than the oxygen bag, but still was not ideal.

When the baby is born and is placed in the warmer (after mom and child experiences skin to skin contact), the nurse can simply push the “start” button and the warmer will automatically walk them through each step of the exam.

Each infant warmer has a price tag of \$16,000. Sioux Valley Energy’s Operation Round Up provided assistance through a \$2,000 grant. Obstetrics Director Mary Schwaegerl says independent hospitals, such as Brookings Health System, depend on donations such as Operation Round Up to be able to provide life-saving equipment to patients.

Nearly \$1.5-Million has been awarded to worthy causes since the year 2000. More than 75 percent of Sioux Valley Energy members and employees take part in Operation Round Up. The concept is easy, participating members “round-up” their electric bills and the difference of the amount is placed in a trust which is governed by an independent Board.

Pictured Below from Left to Right: Obstetrics Director Mary Schwaegerl and nurse Deb Stover.



Safety Poster Contest Winners

Fourth grade students from across the Sioux Valley Energy service territory submitted over 175 safety posters and three winners were selected. Colman-Egan Elementary student, Jack Mousel; Hill Elementary School (Pipestone) student, Megan Rosendahl; and RTR Elementary student, Autumn LaBrune each had their posters chosen to display on an outdoor billboard.

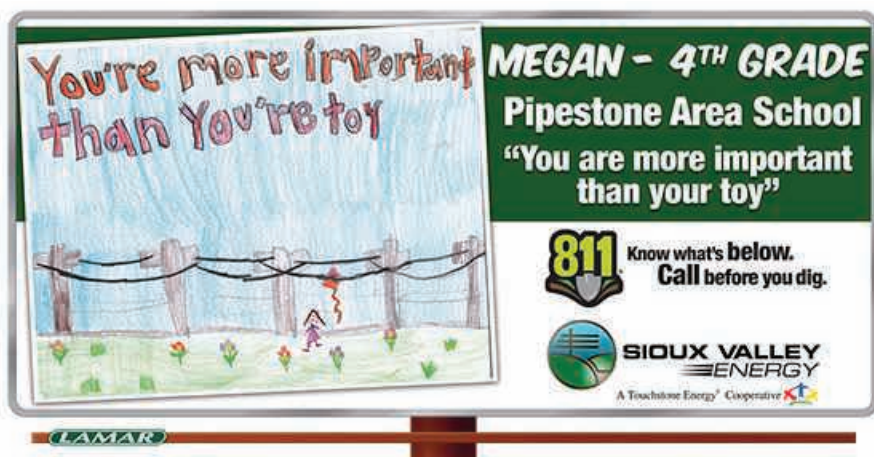
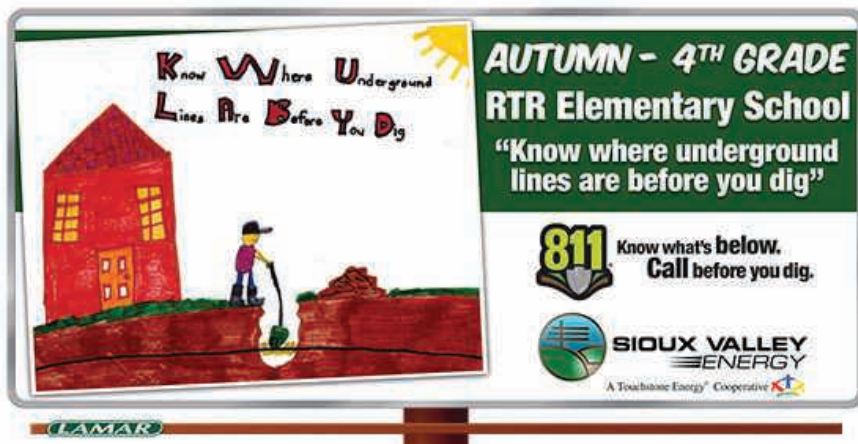
Jack is the son of John and Jessie Mousel of Colman; Megan is the daughter of Melissa and Andy Rosendahl of Pipestone; Autumn is the daughter of Adam and Gretchen LaBrune of Holland. The contest winners received a \$50 cash prize in

addition to having their posters displayed on billboards.

Sioux Valley Energy partnered with Lamar Advertising to construct the billboards, serving as public service announcements for electrical safety awareness. The most important tool in preventing electrical injuries is educating the public about the potential dangers of working and playing around electricity.

Debra Biever, Director of Customer and Employee Relations at Sioux Valley Energy, said, "The safety billboard contest is a great way to showcase the students' creative artwork and lifesaving electrical safety messages."

Pictured Below (Top to Bottom): Autumn is pictured with Jim Beyers (SVE); Jack is pictured with Terry Ebright (SVE); and Megan is pictured with Debra Biever, (SVE).



Engineering Early Electrification

Retired REA Engineer Honored By South Dakota Governor

THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE LEFT WHO REMEMBER what life was like in rural South Dakota in the late 1940s when the countryside was first electrified by cooperatives. However, Jim Duvall, who turned 100 years old on May 29, 2017, is the exception.

"I was one of the pioneers out there," Duvall recalled during a phone conversation in May from his Virginia home just days before his 100th birthday.

Duvall grew up in McIntosh, S.D., but moved away for college and later a job with the Signal Corps in Chicago, Ill., inspecting radar equipment for bombers during World War II.

After the war was over, Duvall started working as an engineer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Rural Electrification Administration. The

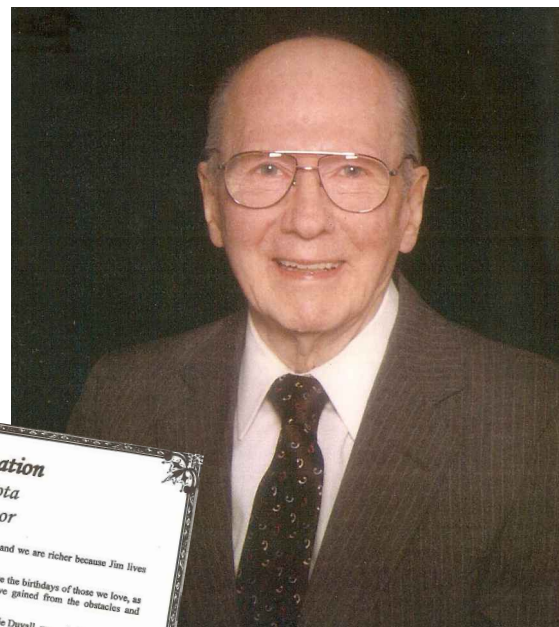
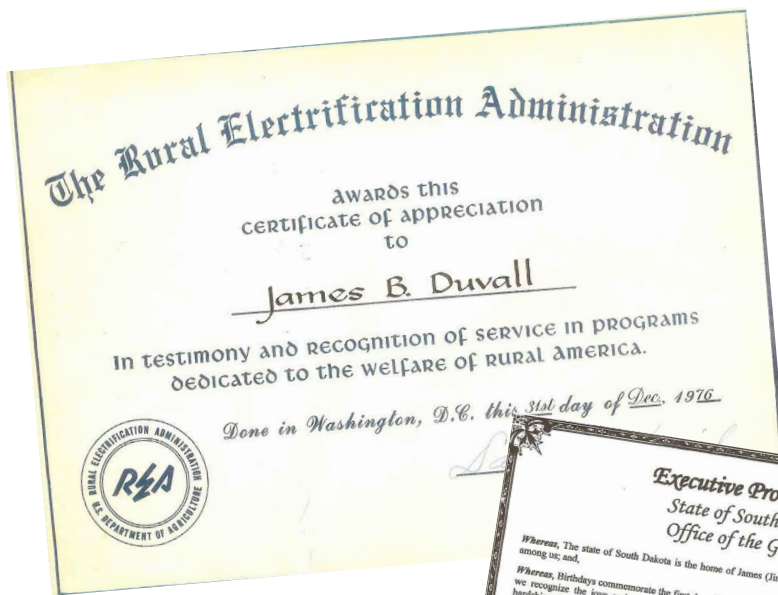
centenarian knows the exact day he started his job with REA; he reported to the St. Louis, Mo., office on Nov. 19, 1945.

After spending a few months in St. Louis, Duvall was moved to Washington, D.C., and in 1947 he requested a transfer to South Dakota. He spent 13 years stationed in Aberdeen as a REA field engineer where he inspected new co-op lines that were being constructed and energized for the very first time following the war.

"The transformers and wire and everything became available and lines could be staked out and construction could start again (after the war)," Duvall said. "Everything is flat (on the Great Plains) and there aren't a lot of obstructions and a contractor could get a

Ben Dunsmoor





lot done in a day, so it kept me busy.”

During his time in Aberdeen, Duvall oversaw electric and telephone line construction loans and building projects in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa and Wisconsin. He very likely inspected Northern Electric Cooperative lines as the first poles, wires and meters were energized starting in 1945 with construction continuing through the late 1940s and into the 1950s.

“A big part of my job was to make the final inspection and to make any modifications before the lines were energized and before the contractors got paid,” Duvall said.

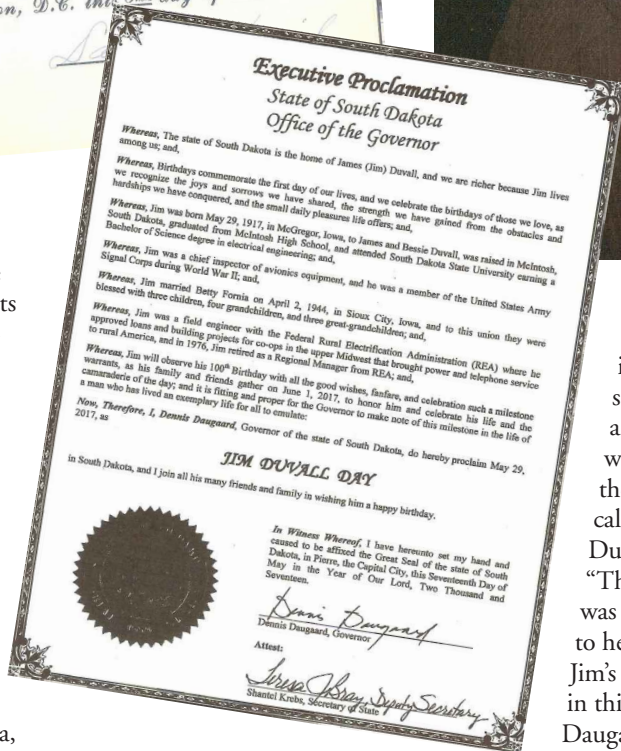
Following his work in South Dakota, Duvall was transferred back to Washington, D.C. where he became the REA Chief Engineer for the southwest and western regions. In 1959, he was given a Meritorious Service Award for his 13 years of service in Aberdeen. Duvall was also honored in 1958 and 1959 as ‘Engineer of the Year’ for the REA.

This spring, South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard also honored Duvall for his role in electrifying rural America when he issued an Executive Proclamation proclaiming that May 29, 2017, Duvall’s 100th birthday, be known as Jim Duvall Day in the state of South Dakota.

“It was really a terrific surprise and I felt so honored,” Duvall said.

The proclamation was issued after Jim Duvall’s son, Don Duvall, called the offices of governors in the states his dad worked in during his career. Don Duvall asked the offices for a signed picture for his dad’s birthday. Governor Daugaard’s office instead reached out to Don Duvall and said they would like to issue a proclamation.

Opposite Page: In this January 1959 photo, Dave Hamil, administrator of the Rural Electrification Administration, presents Jim Duvall a Meritorious Service Award for his 13 years as an REA field engineer. Duvall would later become the REA’s chief engineer. COURTESY PHOTO



“I said, ‘wow, this is a super surprise – I’m amazed you would pick up the phone and call me,’” Don Duvall said.

“The Governor was very pleased to help celebrate Jim’s milestone in this way,” Gov. Daugaard’s Chief of Staff Tony

VenHuizen said. “As the proclamation said, South Dakota is a strong state today because of the contributions of people like Jim Duvall. It’s hard to understate the transformative impact that rural electrification had on South Dakota.”

Don Duvall said his dad enjoyed working for REA and took pride in overseeing early line construction for electric and telephone co-ops in rural South Dakota. Duvall said his dad would even point out his work during family vacations.

“Whenever we were in a rural area, he would pull over and say that’s a REA line over there,” Don Duvall said.

Jim Duvall retired from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1976 as a REA regional manager stationed in Washington, D.C., but he says his greatest memories and accomplishments came during his time as a field engineer in South Dakota.

“My best days were actually in the field. I felt like I was doing something. I had my hands on,” Duvall said.

And, as Duvall celebrates his 100th birthday at his home in Virginia, that is what he will remember about a career that helped electrify and connect the countryside.

“It was interesting work and I enjoyed it.”

Duvall says his greatest memories and accomplishments came during his time as a field engineer in South Dakota.

Balancing the Grid with Demand Response

By Scott Gates

KEEPING THE LIGHTS ON ISN'T A CAKEWALK. Electricity, unlike other commodities, must be consumed on the spot – technology that will store it for future use, especially on any large scale, is still largely under development. And if the electricity being produced can't keep up with what's needed in real-time, brownouts or blackouts will follow.

Many electric utilities work to avoid such problems through energy efficiency initiatives most often called load management or demand response. These

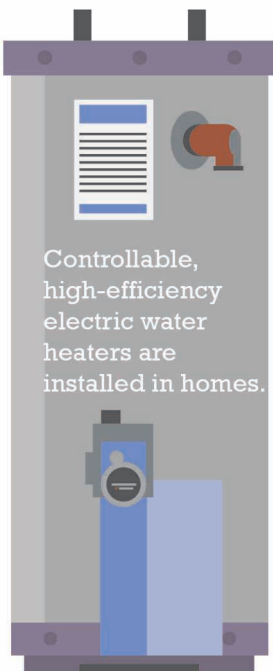
programs allow the utility to reduce power consumption—and keep the lid on wholesale generation costs – by controlling when electricity gets used.

On the residential side, utilities can interrupt electric service to water heaters, air conditioners, electric thermal storage units, and other specialized appliances in the homes of volunteer consumers. On the commercial and industrial side, service gets cut off to irrigation pumps, manufacturing equipment, and even entire businesses, some of whom

WATER HEATER DEMAND RESPONSE

HOW IT WORKS...

1



Controllable, high-efficiency electric water heaters are installed in homes.

2

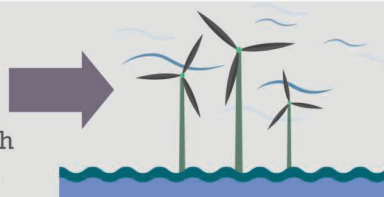
During times of high demand, co-op cuts power to water heaters.

3

When demand drops, water heaters are turned back on to run during the night and provide warm water for the next day.

FUN FACTS

Water-heater-control programs let co-ops take full advantage of wind generation, which is most active at night.



About 250 co-ops in 35 states currently have load management programs that include water-heater control.

BENEFITS:

- Co-ops avoid peak pricing.
- Members use power when it's cheaper.
- Helps avert need for new power plants.

have installed backup generation.

In most cases, control takes place for a brief period (typically just a few hours) during times of peak demand – the electric utility industry’s equivalent of rush-hour traffic. It’s then that demand is at its highest, and power costs skyrocket because natural gas and other pricey standby generators are used.

“Nationally, electric co-ops are leaders in demand response,” says Ed Torrero, executive director of the Cooperative Research Network, a division of Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association. “Roughly 37 percent of all co-op systems can direct-control appliances, chiefly electric water heaters and air conditioners. Overall, co-ops can control 6 percent of their peak load; some can control more than 25 percent.”

An industrial consumer of Bluebonnet Electric Cooperative, Inc., based in central Texas, recently signed up to be a part of a demand response program called “Load Acting as Resource.” In short, if more power is needed system-wide, the participating consumer will go without for the greater good.

The participant – an oil field owner – foots a massive 25 MW power bill to keep pumps productive. When the amount of available electricity dips into the danger zone, Bluebonnet gets a call from its wholesale power supplier to free up megawatts, and word trickles down from there.

“We give the participating consumer a courtesy call, and just say we’re shutting down,” explains Eric Kocian, Bluebonnet manager of engineering. “From the time of the order, there’s 10 minutes before we actually trip the breaker that serves them.”

As technology moves forward, more finesse can be employed in trimming consumer loads. Advanced, or “smart,” meters may make it possible to offer lower electric rates when power is abundant, such as later in the evening. With incentives like this, consumers could shift electricity use in simple ways to cut their monthly bill, such as washing clothes before bed instead of after work.

In conjunction with smart meters, “smart” appliances could detect when the electric grid becomes stressed and reduce energy use – a clothes dryer could shut off its heater while continuing to tumble, for example.

Cooperatives in eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota have had a load management program for decades which has saved members more than \$188 million dollars.

The website, www.easyenergywins.com explains the benefit of the program:

“Think supply and demand: When demand for a product is high, prices rise. The same is true for electricity. On hot sum-

mer afternoons or cold winter nights, your home is using a lot of electricity. When everyone’s air conditioners or furnaces are on at the same time, demand for electricity is high. Your electric cooperative purchases wholesale power based on how high that demand is,” the site reads.

Load management helps keep rates affordable by shifting select electricity usage from peak times to lower-demand times.

Load management is a means of controlling the amount of electricity being used during times of peak demand. Peak demand is the greatest amount of electricity used at one time by an electric system, normally when a large number of customers are using appliances at the same time. These peaks determine how much we must pay for power. When periods of peak demand occur, load management reduces the demand and lowers the cost to all members.

Load management program has saved co-op members more than \$188 million in avoided wholesale power costs since it launched in 1985. More than 75,500 electric loads in homes, farms and businesses of member consumers throughout eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota currently participate in the program. These loads include electric water heaters, air conditioners, irrigation systems and other big energy users.

Special switches are attached to the loads when a member enters into the program. Our dispatch center sends a radio signal to the switching units and shuts off power to the connected units for short periods during our peak demand. Typically, this happens on hot summer and cold winter days. The co-op cycles off appliances in such a way that reduces the chance of inconveniencing the participating members.

Contact your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative to find out if they

have a load control or demand response program and which electric equipment or appliances (“loads”) you can enroll. At home, that could mean water heaters and air conditioners. On the farm or at work, that could mean larger systems like irrigation units, bin fans and other industrial processes.

After you enroll, the electricity to the equipment will be remotely managed by your co-op to make efficient use of electricity during peak times to keep costs low.

Load control typically happens on hot summer days and cold winter days. Loads are cycled off in such a way that reduces inconveniences.

More than 70,000 member homes, farms and businesses are already enrolled in the program and are saving money and energy right now. The more members who sign up, the more everyone saves.

THREE REASONS

To Look At Your Cooperative’s
Load Control/Demand Response Program

Reason 1

Lower wholesale power costs for your electric
cooperative — savings passed on to you.

Reason 2

Reduced energy use is not only budget friendly
— it’s environmentally friendly, too.

Reason 3

Special rebates on select new equipment
— including electric water heaters.

Regional Dateline

June 24-25

Dakota Royal Charity Draft Horse Show, 1 p.m.
Swiftel Center, \$10 Adults
\$5 Youth, Free 5 and under
Handicapped accessible
Brookings, SD
www.facebook.com/dakotaroyaldraftshow/

July 1

Marv's Free Gospel Sing
1 to 4:45 p.m., Brandon Valley
Assembly of God Church
201 Sioux Blvd., Brandon, SD
605-582-8714 or
605-728-4560

July 1

Holy Rocka Rollaz Concert
Prairie Village, Madison, SD
605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

July 1-2

Railroad Days, Prairie Village
Madison, SD, 605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

July 29

Sherwin and Pam Linton and
the Cotton Kings Concert
Prairie Village, Madison, SD
605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

July 29-30

Honey Days, Erik Apland/
Shawn Cable concert, car show,
street dance, volleyball tournament,
pancake feed Bruce, SD,
605-627-5671
Find us on Facebook

August 5

Belgian-American Days Ghent
Cruisers 11th Annual Car Show



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.

Open to cars, trucks
motorcycles and tractors
Registration: 9 to 11 a.m.
Car Show: 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Awards: 3 p.m., Held in
conjunction with Belgian-American
Days on shady
West McQuestion Street
Ghent, MN, Contact
Joette at 507-428-3504
www.ghentcruisersmn.com

August 5

Bloomin' Quilt Party At the
Barn, Noon to 5 p.m., Home of
Theresa and Mike Bennett
47439 214th Street
Aurora, SD, 605-693-4078
Free, Donations Accepted
www.brookingsquiltguild.com

August 6

24th Annual Madison Car
Show, Prairie Village
Madison, SD, 605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

August 11-13

27th Annual Old Fashioned

Threshing Show, Bahnson
Farm, Humboldt, SD
605-526-3459 or
605-251-9974

August 19

Hillbilly Junker Jamboree #3
Flea Market, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Community Center, Inside and
Outside, Live Music 11 a.m. to
3 p.m., Crooks, SD
605-360-0861

August 24-27

55th Annual Steam Threshing
Jamboree featuring
Allis-Chalmers, Prairie Village
Madison, SD, 605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

August 26

McCrossan Boys Ranch Xtreme
Event Rodeo, 4:30 p.m. -
Pre-show entertainment
5:30 p.m. - Rodeo Show
McCrossan Boys Ranch Campus
605-339-1203
www.mccrossan.org

Events of Special Note

June 25

Variety Show, Prairie Village
Madison, SD, 605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

July 14-16

Burke Stampede Rodeo
Burke, SD, 605-830-5540

August 28

The 23rd annual "Bishop's
Charity Golf Tournament"
for Broom Tree Center
Call 605-988-3765 for location

September 4

Closing Day, Prairie Village
Madison, SD, 605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

September 16

Joseph Hall's "Elvis Rock n
Remember" Tribute, Prairie
Village, Madison, SD
605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org

September 22

22nd Annual "Bishop's
Charity Hunt" for Newman
Campus Ministry, Call
605-988-3765 for location

October 7

Pumpkin Train, Prairie
Village, Madison, SD
605-256-3644
www.prairievillage.org