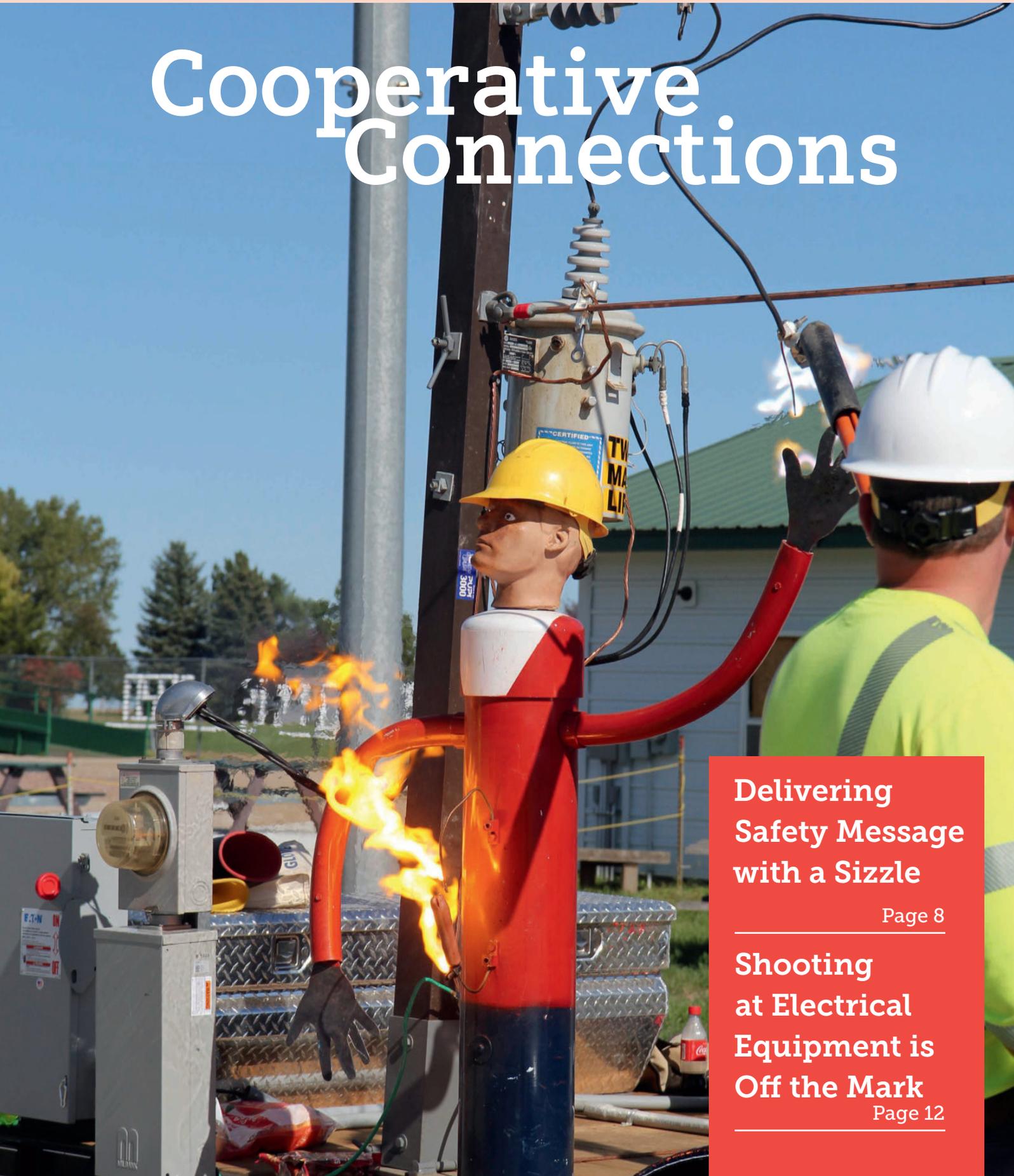




Cooperative Connections



**Delivering
Safety Message
with a Sizzle**

Page 8

**Shooting
at Electrical
Equipment is
Off the Mark**

Page 12

Touchstone Energy® Program for SVE Members

Co-op Connections Card



Tim McCarthy, GM/CEO

tim.mccarthy@siouxvalleyenergy.com

You may see the commercials or notice the co-brand on our logo...Sioux Valley Energy is a Touchstone Energy® cooperative. So what does that exactly mean? A touchstone is a rock that was used to identify precious metals such as gold—it was basically the gold standard for miners. When we use the word touchstone today as a metaphor, it refers to a test or criterion for the qualities of our organization. Over 20 years ago, a group of electric cooperatives banded together to develop a network that would help make co-ops stronger and develop a “gold-standard” for their industry... they called themselves “Touchstone Energy” Cooperatives.

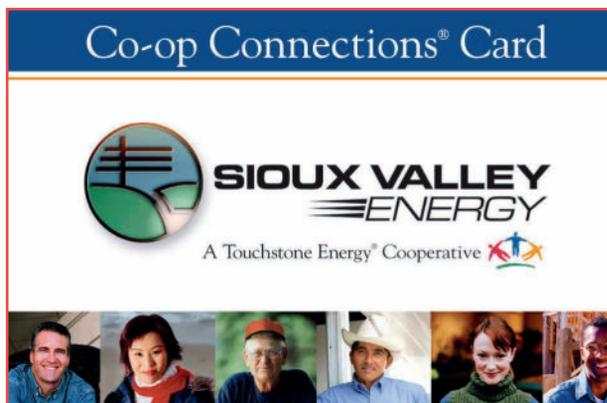
Launched April 4, 1998, the brand is always evolving to better meet the needs of co-ops. Touchstone Energy Cooperatives’ programs support communications, economic development, strategy execution, community engagement, and residential energy programs. The founding values of Touchstone Energy still resonate nearly two decades later--integrity, accountability, innovation and commitment to community. These four values are the foundation of every service we provide our members each day.

Today, Touchstone Energy Cooperatives represent a nationwide alliance of more than 720 local and member-owned electric cooperatives in 47 states working to supply reliable, affordable and safe energy for its 30 plus million members every day and Sioux Valley Energy is one of them! By working together, this network of cooperatives that own and service rural America’s 2.5 million miles of power line generate services that would normally require the resources of a national corporation.

One of the benefits of being a Touchstone Energy Cooperative is that we can take part in the Co-op Connections card program. This program offers a tangible asset for our members. It provides local, regional and national discounts for goods and services. These partnerships help members realize immediate benefits of being a member of a Touchstone Energy cooperative. In this edition of the magazine, we have inserted a list of all the local businesses that are offering our members a special discount—it’s a benefit you receive for being a member of a Touchstone Energy Cooperative! Enjoy shopping and supporting our local communities and businesses! You can just punch the card at the top of the insert and start using it at participating local businesses.

Support your local businesses.

FLIP to Pages 8 & 9 to find local Co-op Connections Card Discounts!



Sioux Valley Energy

Cooperative Connections

(USPS No. 497-440)

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Sioux Valley Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Sioux Valley Energy Recognizes Grace Nelson as "Touchstone Energy® Scholar of The Week"

Madison, S.D. – Grace Nelson, a student at Madison High School, has been chosen as a Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 'Scholar of the Week.' Grace was recognized with a cash award by Sioux Valley Energy and was featured on the KSFY news for her accomplishments. She is the daughter of Steve and Deb Nelson of Madison.

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives, like Sioux Valley Energy, and KSFY Television have joined together to recognize the achievements of high school seniors throughout the region. Recipients are highly motivated high school seniors who excel in the classroom and community. This program was founded on the four pillars of Touchstone Energy: Integrity, Accountability, Innovation and a Commitment to Community.

"Grace has been a leader in her school and is a talented young individual. Her high school academic career has been impressive, and she is very active outside of the classroom with activities and volunteerism. She is an example of what we need in our future leaders," said Tim McCarthy, Sioux Valley Energy General Manager/CEO.

Adam Shaw, principal at Madison High School nominated Grace for her extraordinary high school career. Beyond her 4.05 GPA she has been involved in a number of activities, some of which include: FFA, Student Council, school newspaper, Student Congress, debate, FCA, basketball, volleyball, National Honor Society, FBLA, FCA, Student Body President, Student Council Secretary, Varsity Basketball Captain, Hugh O'Brien Youth Conference Nominee, Girls State Delegate, Local VFW Voice of Democracy winner, Church Youth Group Ambassador, and tutor.

Sioux Valley Energy, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, is a member owned-utility, providing reliable electric service at cost-based rates to over 26,000 homes, farms, businesses and industries in a seven-county area of east-central South Dakota and southwest Minnesota.



Sioux Valley Energy's Amy Voelker, right, presents Grace Nelson with her Scholar of the Week check.

Electrical Safety Tips to Help Protect Homes and Businesses

Every year, electrical equipment, wiring, appliances and tools cause injuries and fires at both homes and workplaces.

Paying close attention to the condition of electrical equipment and taking appropriate and prompt action to correct electrical problems can help to ensure your safety and the safety of those around you.

Below are guidelines to help identify and reduce electrical hazards.

Electrical Outlet Safety

- Avoid overloading outlets with too many appliances, and ensure that electrical loads are appropriate for the circuits.
- Unplug appliances when they are not in use to conserve energy, as well as minimize the opportunities for electric shock or fire.
- Use outlets instead of relying on extension cords and power strips. Consider having additional permanent outlets installed where needed.
- Use Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) in wet/damp areas like kitchens, bathrooms and outdoors.

Electrical Cord Safety

- Inspect electrical cords to ensure that they are not frayed, cracked or damaged.
- Do not place electrical cords in high traffic areas, under carpets, or across doorways where they pose a potential tripping hazard or could be easily damaged.

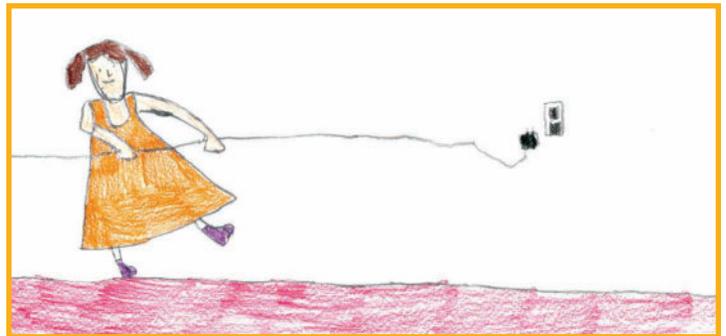
Certification and Awareness

- Ensure that all electrical products and equipment are certified by a nationally recognized testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories (UL), and read the manufacturer's instructions carefully.
- Allow only trained and qualified electrical workers to perform work on electrical equipment.
- Be aware of signs of electrical problems such as flickering lights and/or buzzing, sizzling or humming sounds from electrical systems.

Source: acadiainsurance.com



KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



"Never jerk cords out of the outlets; grip the plug only."

Traci Tschetter, 8 years old

Traci is the daughter of Ryan and Elaine Tschetter, Revillo, S.D. They are members of Whetstone Valley Electric Cooperative, Milbank, 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.

Slow Cooker Sensations

Slow Cooker Egg Casserole

1 (32 oz.) bag frozen hash browns	1-1/2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese
1 lb. ham, cooked and cubed	12 eggs
1 onion, finely chopped	1 cup milk
1 green pepper, chopped	1/2 tsp. salt
1 T. olive oil	1/2 tsp. pepper

Spray inside of slow cooker with cooking spray. In a small frying pan, saute onion and green pepper in oil until tender. Cool 10 minutes. Place 1/3 frozen hash browns in slow cooker. Add 1/3 ham, onion and green pepper mixture and cheese. Repeat layers, ending with cheese. In large bowl, beat eggs, milk, salt and pepper until well blended. Pour over hash browns. Cook, covered, on LOW for 10 to 12 hours or overnight until casserole is set and eggs are thoroughly cooked. Serves 12.

Mary Jessen, Holabird, SD

Cream Cheese Chicken Taquitos

2 boneless chicken breasts	8 oz. cream cheese
1 tsp. chili powder	1/3 cup water
1 tsp. garlic powder	1/2 cup shredded cheese
1 tsp. cumin	12 6-inch flour tortillas

Combine chicken, chili powder, garlic powder, cumin, cream cheese and water in slow cooker. Cover and cook on LOW for 8 hours or 4 hours on HIGH. Place 1/4 cup chicken mixture into each tortilla. Top with 1 to 2 T. shredded cheese. Roll tightly and place in a single layer on greased baking sheet. Bake at 400°F. for 10 minutes or until tortillas are slightly browned and cheese is melted.

Cortney Reedy, Tea, SD

Pork Sausage and Rice

2 boxes Uncle Ben's Wild Rice	1 (8 oz.) can of mushrooms
1 lb. seasoned pork sausage	1 (10.5-oz.) can cream of mushroom soup

Prepare Uncle Ben's rice as directed. Brown pork sausage. Combine all ingredients in slow cooker. Cook on LOW for 3 to 4 hours.

Robert Bernhardt, Aberdeen, SD

Slow Cookers Tamale Pie

2 lbs. lean ground beef	1 (4 oz.) can chopped green chiles
1 pkg. McCormick® Slow Cookers Chili Seasoning	1/2 cup water
2 (14.5 oz. each) cans stewed tomatoes, cut-up	Topping:
1 (14.5 oz.) can kidney or pinto beans, drained and rinsed	1 (8.5 oz.) box corn muffin mix
	1/2 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

Cook ground beef in large skillet on medium-high heat until no longer pink; drain. Place in slow cooker. Add Seasoning Mix, tomatoes, beans, chiles and water; mix well. Cover. Cook 8 hours on LOW or 4 hours on HIGH. For the Cornbread Topping, if using low setting, increase to HIGH. Prepare corn muffin batter as directed on package. Drop batter by spoonfuls on top of simmering chili. Cover. Cook 30 minutes longer or until toothpick inserted into center of cornbread topping comes out clean. Sprinkle with cheese. Makes 10 servings.

Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 362, Total Fat 14g, Cholesterol 89mg, Sodium 9340mg, Protein 26g, Carbohydrates 33g, Dietary Fiber 4g

Pictured, Cooperative Connections

Mississippi Pot Roast

1 3 to 4 lb. chuck roast	1/4 cup butter
1 pkg. ranch dressing mix	4 to 5 pepperoncini peppers with some juice
1 pkg. au jus gravy mix	

Place roast in slow cooker. Sprinkle dressing mix and au jus mix on top. Place peppers on top of the mixes; add butter. Cook on LOW 8 hours. *Note: Do not add any water or broth to this. It will make enough liquid as it cooks.*

Jean Osterman, Wheaton, MN

Please send your favorite holiday, soup or brunch 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 2019. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.



Sioux Valley Energy lineworkers have been trying to locate and fix all areas of sagging lines that need to be adjusted after Winter Storm Wesley. They are asking members to call the co-op if they think their lines are sagging too low.

SAGGING LINES CAUSED BY WINTER STORM WESLEY

SVE asking members to report electric lines that may be too low.

More than 2,500 square miles of Sioux Valley Energy’s electrical system sustained damage from an ice storm that hit the region in April. Director of Engineering and Operations, Ted Smith, says there may be lines that need to be tightened after the storm.

“There are areas of our electrical system where the ice storm caused changes in line clearances and we don’t know about it yet. We have been patrolling line as much as we can, but we really need our members to give us a call to report lines that are sagging or look too low.”

The co-op is especially urging farmers to be aware that there may be some overhead lines that had enough clearance last year during harvest but won’t this year due to the ice storm.

“Field approaches, driveways, roads, etc. need to have 18 feet of clearance for overhead lines. If it looks any lower than that, call us and we will come fix it for you. However, don’t try to measure it--we will do that for you if you suspect the lines are too low,” added Smith.



Please call SVE at 800-234-1960 to report any sagging or low-hanging lines.

Don't Compromise Safety During Harvest

Four S's to Staying Safe

Awareness doesn't spread as fast as an electrical current, but a little goes a long way. Follow these four S's to Stay Safe:

SPOTTER. Get a spotter to be sure you are staying at least 10 feet away from power lines on all sides, keeping in mind that field cultivators and sprayers can reach as high as 12 feet.

STUDY. Educate yourself on any new equipment you may have purchased recently. New equipment has higher antennas and wider attachments than ever before. What cleared in previous years may not in your new ride. Know what you're working with.

SAGGING. If you see a power line sagging on your property, contact Sioux Valley Energy to fix it. That's their job!

SEARCH. Sometimes trees or brush can make power lines difficult to see. Don't just glance up, really take a minute to search your surroundings when moving equipment.

Hitting a power line can be scary. In certain situations, there may be a lot of noise, which will likely cause you to instinctively run—you've got seconds to understand what's happening and respond appropriately. Do you know what to do if you come in contact with a power line?

STAY PUT. Unless there is a fire, you need to stay calm and stay in the vehicle. Touching the ground and the vehicle at the same time (i.e. stepping out of the equipment) can be deadly. Don't risk becoming a conductor for the electricity to move from the vehicle to the ground through you, stay put. Even if it's loud.

CALL FOR HELP. Call for help from the vehicle if possible. 911 is a good place to start, especially if you don't know Sioux Valley Energy's phone number. If you don't have your phone, try radioing for help. If someone comes to assist you, they need to stay at least 30 feet away from the vehicle until professional help has arrived.

JUMP CLEAR. If there is a fire forcing you to leave, or you have no way of calling for help, jump clear of the equipment. Jump with your feet together and with your arms folded across your chest, as far away from the vehicle as possible. Be sure you are not touching the equipment and the ground at the same time. Then, shuffle (tiny, quick steps) away. The ground may be electrically charged in varying points surrounding the vehicle so quick, short, shuffle steps (never allowing your feet to break contact with the ground) are important.





Dakota Energy lineman Brandon Moore draws an arc on the high voltage demonstration as DEC's Greg Palmer explains the dangers of getting close to electrical equipment.

CO-OPS DELIVER SAFETY MESSAGE

High Voltage Trailer Brings Safety Messages to Local Communities

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop

The hum of electric current arcing can be heard split seconds before the eye registers the glowing arc on the wire and the flames shooting from the ends of a grapefruit attached to a human-like model of the rural electric cooperatives' high voltage demonstration trailer.

As the hum subsides and the gasps of Miller High School students dwindle, Dakota Energy Cooperative's Greg Palmer continues his explanation of electricity's need to find a path to ground.

"This will show you what would happen to your body



Moore shows the scorched insides of a grapefruit that had been used on the high voltage demonstration trailer.

Photos by Brenda Kleinjan/SDREA

“This will show you what would happen to your body internally if you were to come in contact with 7,200 watts of electricity.”

internally if you were to come in contact with 7,200 volts of electricity,” said Palmer, who works out of the Huron, S.D.-based cooperative’s Miller office. Palmer, along with lineman Brandon Moore were part of the Miller High School FFA Chapter’s Ag Safety Day in early October.

The duo used a newly constructed demonstration trailer used by South Dakota’s electric cooperatives to deliver safety messages to student groups, community groups, fire departments and others across the state. The co-ops have been using one trailer for more than two decades and this fall added the second trailer to the safety fleet.

Moore continues the demonstration, draws an arc on the example power lines.

“Electricity travels at the speed of light – you can’t just let go,” explains Palmer. “You can’t see it, you can’t smell it. The only time you see it is when something bad is about to happen.”

Moore removes the grapefruit from the demonstration trailer and cuts it in half.

With this grapefruit, it looks normal from the outside, you can see where the electricity went in and out. But when you cut it open, you see what it does to the inside of the body – it chars everything,” Palmer explains.

“You’ve heard the same story before: don’t climb on the green boxes, don’t fly kites near power lines. But especially this time of year, be aware of where power lines and underground boxes are located,” Palmer said.



Employees at Moreau-Grand Electric helped construct the state’s second High Voltage Demonstration trailer used by South Dakota electric cooperatives.

Photo by Roger Lawien/Moreau-Grand

“This morning we changed a pole because someone ran into it with a (silage) chopper and broke it off,” Palmer said.

Palmer went on to explain that if an accident like that happens and the power line comes in contact with the equipment or tractor, the best plan is to stay in the tractor or piece of equipment until the line can be de-energized.

For information about bringing this safety demonstration or other safety demonstrations to your school, community group or fire department, contact your local electric cooperative.



Miller High School students examine the insides of a hotdog held by Dakota Energy’s Greg Palmer. The hotdog is used as an example of what an electrical contact can do to human muscle. On the Cover: Flames shoot out the ends of an energized hotdog as Brandon Moore guides an electrical current into the demonstration unit to show the impact an electric contact has on the human body.

Workforce Housing Partnership

REED Fund Working for Rural Communities

Avera Health and the Rural Electric Economic Development (REED) Fund have established a new \$10 million workforce housing development financing partnership. Avera has committed \$2 million to the partnership and REED has committed an initial \$4 million, with plans to grow the total fund to \$10 million. The partnership was announced at a joint press conference on September 3.

“Avera is pleased to partner with the Rural Electric Economic Development Fund with this \$2 million investment in workforce housing,” said Avera Health President and CEO Bob Sutton. “Avera is committed to our rural roots and the communities we serve. Workforce housing has become a growing concern in rural South Dakota over the past several years and we’re happy REED is addressing this issue”

The REED Fund is a nonprofit corporation created and operated by electric cooperatives that partners with commercial and other economic development lenders to provide financing and leverage private investment in more than 69 counties throughout South Dakota and Minnesota. Established in 1997, REED is governed by 26 member electric cooperatives and assists projects that promote community well-being and contribute to employment, business and wealth creation, as well as improve the infrastructure, services and economic base.

Sioux Valley Energy is a member cooperative of REED and Sioux Valley General Manager/CEO Tim McCarthy serves on the REED board of directors. The electric cooperatives that manage the REED Fund abide by the seven universal cooperative principles, one of which is commitment to community. This partnership with Avera Health is a prime example of how our cooperative family is committed to advancing the communities in our region.

“REED’s member electric cooperatives are excited to launch this housing development partnership with Avera Health,” said REED Board President Ken Schlimgen. “We want to assist communities in developing housing that meets the needs of today’s workforce. A partnership with Avera will help this region begin to address the urgent need for quality workforce housing.”



Rural Electric Economic Development (REED) Fund Board President Ken Schlimgen (left), Avera Health President and CEO Bob Sutton and East River Electric Power Cooperative General Manager Tom Boyko.

Funds from the partnership will be used for lending in partnership with banks and other agencies to provide loans for housing development and housing infrastructure in Avera-served communities. Communities and developers can contact the REED Fund for more information on the application process.

“All business sectors including health care and electric cooperatives in rural areas are looking for highly-skilled staff,” said East River Electric Power Cooperative General Manager Tom Boyko. “It can be a real challenge to recruit workforce without quality housing options. We’re going to work on solving this critical issue.”

Avera Health Chief Human Resources Officer Kim Jensen, agreed, saying, “Recruiting and maintaining talent throughout the Avera Health organization can be a challenge at times due to the rural nature of our footprint. When we start getting into smaller, rural communities it is imperative that there is quality housing that is affordable for prospective employees.”

Since it was established, REED has invested more than \$100 million dollars in the region through more than 338 loans. The REED Fund and partner lenders have combined to distribute more than \$858 million dollars in economic investment, 9,400 jobs have been impacted, and 2.3 million square feet of facilities have been constructed or renovated.

Want to learn more? Contact the REED Fund today.

www.reedfund.coop / reedinfo@eastriver.coop / 605-256-4536

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Don't Shoot!

Vandals and Errant Shots Wreak Havoc with Equipment

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdrea.coop

"You get really cold weather and the line tightens up and that's when you'll see those weak spots break."

With fall comes an increase of outdoor hunting activities.

One thing not on any responsible hunter's bag list is electrical equipment.

The irresponsible actions of those firing the shots can have costly – and untimely – consequences for electric cooperative members.

Shots fired at electric equipment can cause immediate, noticeable damage, often times causing for emergency, after-hours dispatch of crews to locate and repair the problem disrupting power to members.

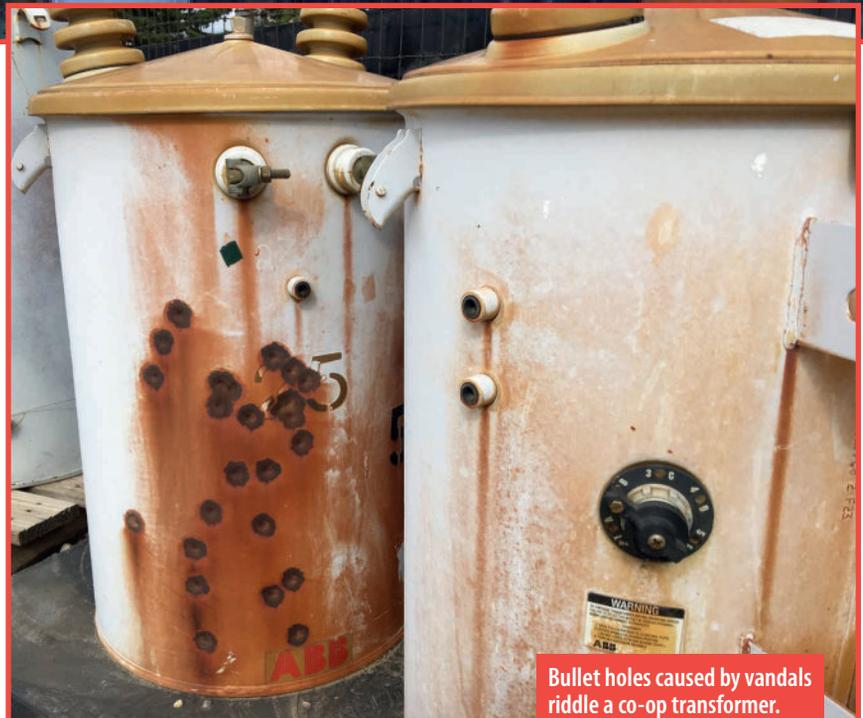
Other times, the damage weakens a line or piece of equipment. Time, weather or storms can cause the weakened area to fail, likely at an inconvenient time for members.

"It never comes at a convenient time," said Dale Schwagel, line superintendent at Traverse Electric Cooperative in Wheaton, Minn., of when the damage occurs...and when past damage usually surfaces.

"You get really cold weather and the line tightens up and that's when you'll see



Fall decor at some South Dakota electric cooperatives carry an important safety reminder about not shooting at or near power lines.



Bullet holes caused by vandals riddle a co-op transformer.



Routers are being installed at Traverse Electric Cooperative in Wheaton, Minn., as part of a system-wide meter upgrade.

When vandals target power lines and electrical apparatus, system reliability is at stake.



A newly installed router at Traverse Electric Cooperative in Wheaton, Minn., was destroyed by a vandal's bullet, causing more than \$1,600 in damage.

those weak spots break," said Schwagel.

The co-op has been relatively vandal-free for the last several years.

However, this summer the co-op encountered damage to newly installed routers which are part of a system-wide meter upgrade.

Schwagel estimates the cost of the damage will total more than \$2,500 once labor is tacked on to replacing the \$1,600 piece of equipment.

"Shooting this piece of equipment is a cost to the co-op and the members. Ultimately that's where the costs go," said Schwagel.

If you see damage to co-op equipment, report it to the co-ops so repairs can be made.



Pierre Junior Shooters took the top spot on the podium at the Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match while the Marshall County 4-H Sharp Shooters took the third tier.

South Dakota Youth Are

NATIONAL TOP GUNS

Daisy®

<https://www.daisy.com/daisy-nationals/>

Each year the Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match features youth teams from across the nation competing in this five-meter, four-position National Championship match, and this year the Pierre Junior Shooters from Pierre, S.D., edged the team out of Walton County, Ga., to take home the Gold Medal and traveling trophy. The event wrapped Saturday night, July 6, with a festive medal ceremony that named not only the Team National Championship, but also Championships in Individual, Alternate and Champion Divisions.

Sixty-four teams converged on Rogers, Ark., for the 54th year of the “Daisy Nationals.” Teams consist of five shooters and two alternates ages 8 to 15, who have completed the Daisy Curriculum and other training provided by organizations such as the 4H Shooting Sports, Royal Rangers, the American Legion and other community and youth-based clubs. Teams must also place first, second or third in their state’s NRA-sanctioned contest to get an invite.

“The Daisy Nationals is a celebration of youth competitive shooting,” said Daisy Public Relations Director Lawrence Taylor. “Competitive BB gun shooting is your gateway to the shooting sports. We’ve had youth compete in the Daisy Nationals who went on to compete – and win – in Olympic shooting events.”

Youth competitors shoot 10 shots from each of four positions – standing, kneeling, sitting and prone – at the target placed at 5 meters. They shoot Daisy Model 499B Champion BB guns, billed as the world’s most-accurate BB gun. Each year multiple shooters place all 10 shots in the bullseye.

There’s also a safety aspect to this match. On the first day, every competitor takes a 50-question written test that covers gun safety, match rules and shooting knowledge. The results of the test make up 20 percent of each competitor’s final score and that can be the difference between the Gold and Silver medals.

- Daisy National BB Gun Championship Match Top 5 Teams**
- Pierre Junior Shooters**
Pierre, S.D.
- Walton County 4H**
Walton County, Ga.
- Marshall County 4H Sharp Shooters**
Marshall County, S.D.
- Humboldt Sharpshooters**
Humboldt, S.D.
- Permian Basin Young Guns**
Midland, Texas

An award is given to the team that scores highest on the test, and this year for the first time, three teams from South Dakota tied to win this award: the Humboldt Sharpshooters, Marshall County and the Pierre Junior Shooters.

Eric Bird from Wyandotte County, Kan., shot a 488 with 21 bullseyes to win the Individual National Championship, and he had a perfect score on the written test. Right on Bird's heels was Anthony Stacy from Walton County, Ga., who shot a 485 with 21 bullseyes. The tightest race in the Individual Division was between Stacy and bronze medal winner Irene VanDyke of Carvelius, Ore., who also scored 485 but had two less bullseyes.

In the Team Division, winning the Silver Medal was Walton County 4H out of Georgia. Walton County scored 2,382 with 87 bullseyes – two more than the Pierre Junior Shooters, who won the event with 2,385. The Marshall County 4H Sharp Shooters took the Bronze Medal with a score of 2,363 with 70 bullseyes. Rounding out the top five was the Humboldt Sharpshooters from Hartford, S.D., followed by the Permian Basin Young Guns from

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Midland, Texas.

“Competitive shooting teaches mental focus, patience, coordination and the bigger lessons of practicing to improve a skill,” Taylor said. “That’s very easy to see in shooting because your shot groupings

are big when you first start, but as you practice those groups shrink and get tighter – it’s the perfect illustration of how you improve through practice.

“We’ve also seen how this program improves the lives of those with attention disorders or issues. Competitive shooting requires disciplined breathing and muscle memory and tack-sharp focus. Coaches have repeatedly told us how kids who were struggling with school or other issues have improved in those areas after getting into competitive shooting.”

The Daisy Nationals match rules state that a youth who shoots on a team this year must sit out and let another youth have the opportunity to shoot on the team. But, these former team members are not left out – they can attend and compete in the Champions Match.

The Pierre Junior Shooters have captured national titles in 2004, 2005, 2008, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2016, as well as 2017, to go along with the 2019 crown. South Dakota has also had strong national finishes in the 1980s and ’90s – as well as top 10 finishes in other years of competition.

S.D. 4-H Shooting Sports Teams Finish Strong

South Dakota 4-H members received national recognition during the 2019 4-H Shooting Sports National Championships held in Grand Island, Neb. June 23-28, 2019.

Of the 659 youth from across the United States who competed, 36 were South Dakota 4-H members who qualified during the 2019 4-H Spring Shoot in Pierre and the 2018 4-H Fall Shoot in Mitchell.

The South Dakota teams who received national recognition include:

Hunting Skills placed third overall, third in Wildlife ID, second in General Skills and third in Decision Making. The team had top ten finishes throughout the competition including Kaylee Bosma of Lincoln County who placed ninth in General Skills, Hunter Laverack of Bennett County who placed fifth in Decision Making and Dylan Singrey of Brookings County who placed second in General Skills and sixth overall. The hunting skills team was coached by SDSU Extension Youth Safety Field Specialist John Keimig.

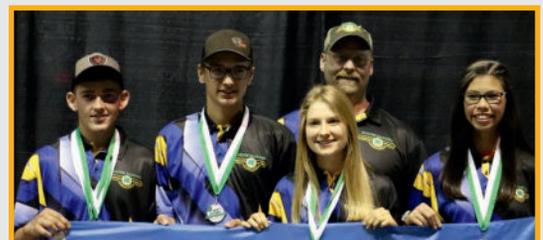
Air Rifle placed third overall, second in 3 Position, second in Standing, and fourth in Silhouettes. Throughout the competition, members of the team were recognized with top ten finishes in different phases. Justin Merriman of Hughes County was recognized as first in 3 Position, fourth in standing and eighth overall, Jessica Hays of Hughes County placed in each phase and seventh overall and Alexandra Smith of Hughes County placed seventh in Standing, 10th in Silhouettes and 10th overall. The air rifle team was coached by Sean Kruger, a 4-H Volunteer in Hughes County.

For more information on 4-H shooting sports, contact John Keimig, SDSU Extension Youth Safety Field Specialist by email or call 605.688.4167.



Third-place Hunting Skills team consisted of, from left, Cloe Swanson of Minnehaha County, Kaylee Bosma of Lincoln County, John Keimig with SDSU Extension, Dylan Singrey of Brookings County, Hunter Laverack of Bennett County.

Photo Courtesy of Dawn Foiles



Third-place Air Rifle members were Justin Merriman of Hughes County, Eli Dissing of Minnehaha County, Alexandra Smith of Hughes County, Sean Kruger of Hughes County and volunteer Jessica Hays of Hughes County.

Photo Courtesy of Dawn Foiles

October 19

Spooky Science, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-367-6000

October 19-January 5

Pheasant Hunting Season, Statewide, Pierre, SD, 605-223-7660

October 25-27

Autumn Festival, An Arts and Crafts Affair, Sioux Falls, SD, 402-331-2889

October 25-27

ZooBoo, Great Plains Zoo, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-367-7003

October 26

Hartford Women of Today Fall Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., West Central High School Becker Center, Hartford, SD, 605-359-2049

October 26

ZOO BOO, Bramble Park Zoo, Watertown, 605-882-6269

October 31-November 2

Ringneck Festival and Bird Dog Challenge, Huron, SD, 605-352-0000

November 1-2

First Chance Bonanza, PRCA Rodeo, Brookings, SD, www.suttonrodeo.com

November 2

Fall Fling Craft/Vendor Fair, Dakota Christian School, Corsica, SD, 605-243-2211

November 2

Mark Wills Concert, High School Gymnasium, 7 p.m., Sponsored by Turner County Charity Youth Pheasant Hunt to benefit McCrossan Boys Ranch, Parker, SD, 605-505-1003



Photo courtesy: Harvest Halloween

November 9

Area Merchants and Crafters Annual Holiday Extravaganza, Sisseton, SD, 605-698-7425

November 9

Hairball, Mitchell, SD, 605-995-8430

November 15-December 18

Black Hills Christmas Tree Permit Season, Custer, SD, 605-673-9200

November 16

Christmas Craft Fair, Legion Hall on Main Street, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Free admission, Tripp, SD, Contact Becki Hauser at 605-480-3009

November 22-23

Holiday Arts Christmas Craft Show, Masonic Hall, Mitchell, SD, 605-359-2049

November 22-January 5

Winter Wonderland, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-275-6060

November 23-24

Winterfest: A Winter Arts Festival, Aberdeen, SD, 605-226-1557

November 26-December 26

Christmas at the Capitol, Pierre, SD, 605-773-3178

December 1

Home Town Christmas, Free Will Breakfast, 12 to 4 p.m. Vendor show, Lunch, Inflatables, Snow globe pictures, Community supper, Parade of lights, Mr. and Mrs. Claus photos, Fireworks, Ginger bread houses, Hartford, SD, 605-201-7136, See Hartford Hometown Christmas Facebook page for locations and details

December 6-7

Strawbale Winery Twilight Flights, Renner, SD, 605-543-5071

December 7

Frontier Christmas, Lake City, SD, 605-448-5474

December 7-8, 14-15, 21-24 and 27-28

1880 Train Holiday Express, Hill City, SD, 605-574-2222

December 15-March 31

South Dakota snowmobile trails season, Lead, SD, 605-584-3896

January 7-9

Dakota Farm Show, Vermillion, SD, 800-873-1411

January 16-17

Media One Funkski, Sioux Falls, SD, 605-339-0000

January 24-25

Pro Snocross Races, Deadwood, SD, 605-578-1876

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.