Volts and Jolts

Published monthly for the members of
RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.
One of the Minnkota Power Systems
SERVING THE FOUR-COUNTY AREA OF MARSHALL, PENNINGTON, RED LAKE AND POLK

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Winter load management hours estimated near averages

An unseasonably warm winter last year reduced electricity demand and helped contribute to the lowest number of winter load management hours in a decade.

This year's forecast suggests that normal weather conditions, low wholesale market prices and no major power plant maintenance will bring control hours closer to recent averages. Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider, estimates 245 hours of load control this year for consumers in the off-peak electric heating program.

The off-peak program is for those who use electricity to heat their homes, while still having a nonelectric backup heating source. Consumers continue to heat their homes with their electric heating system, but during periods of peak electric usage, their electric heating is shut off and their backup system is used. Participants in the voluntary program receive a lower power rate for electricity consumed by their heating systems.

"Electric consumers who have a well-maintained backup heating system should not notice a difference in comfort level when their off-peak heating system is controlled," said Todd Sailer, Minnkota power supply manager. "The transition between the two systems should be seamless."

Sailer said the combination of off-peak electric heat and a nonelectric backup is still less expensive than heating with straight fuel oil or propane.

"The ability to manage costs and plan for the heating season is one of the many benefits of the off-peak electric heating program," Sailer said.

During peak electric demand periods, Minnkota and the associated systems essentially have two options: purchase surplus energy from the wholesale market or initiate load control from its headquarters in Grand Forks.

"Minnkota's first option is always to purchase energy from the market (1217003.04 Jason E. Peterson) and avoid controlling our off-peak loads," Sailer said. "But there are times when affordable power isn't available. By utilizing load management in those cases, Minnkota avoids making costly energy purchases that would force an increase in our regular rates."

Minnkota participates in the market, which extends throughout the Upper Midwest, to both buy and sell surplus energy with other utilities. When energy cannot be obtained economically, Minnkota and the associated systems choose to control off-peak electric systems.

Even though the demand for power is expected to increase from last winter, Minnkota has no major power plant outages scheduled and anticipates it will often be able to purchase economical energy to cover peak loads. However, unexpected outages, transmission line constraints and extreme cold weather periods can cause load control hours to increase.

"The cost to deliver power to the associated systems can change at a moment's notice," Sailer said. "The load management program protects consumers from the volatility of the market and prevents the need to build new power plants just to serve peak loads."

Millions of dollars have been saved due to the successful operation of Minnkota's load management system over the past 35 years.

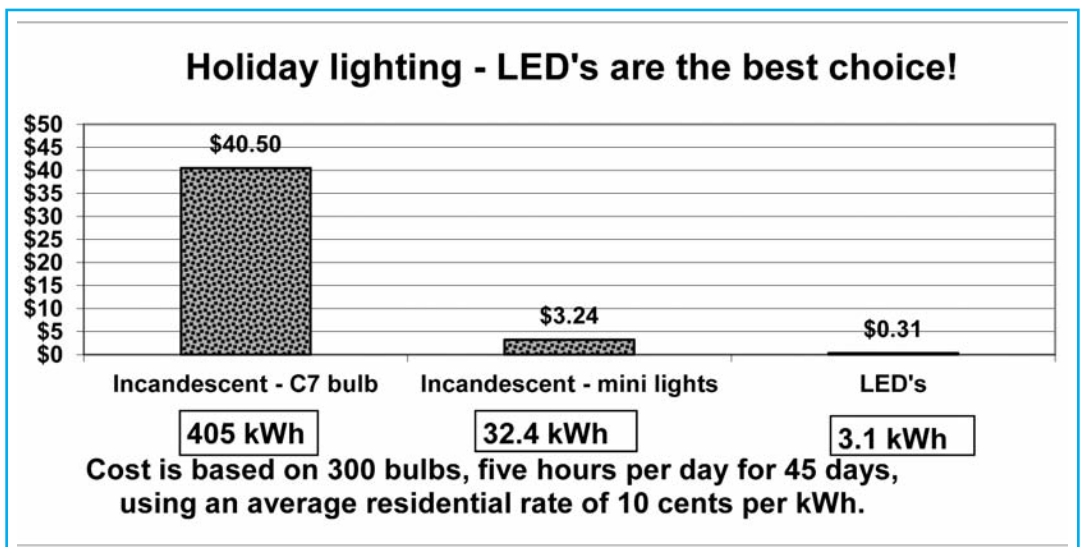
"Load management is a vital tool for Minnkota and the associated systems to use to keep wholesale power prices competitive and winter heating bills low for retail consumers," Sailer said.

In this month's *Volts and Jolts*

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

Consider buying light emitting diode (LED) Christmas lights this year. They are superior to standard bulbs for holiday lighting. LED's use 10 times less energy than mini-lights and over 100 times less energy than C-7 bulbs. LED's have an ultra long life - up to 100,000 hours. LED bulbs are good for all weather, unbreakable and water resistant-good for indoors and outdoors. If one LED burns out, the others stay lit. LED's are safe; cool to the touch and fire resistant. Many LED lights can be connected end-to-end without overloading a typical circuit. Although LED lights may cost more than standard lights, they quickly make up the difference in energy savings as indicated by the chart below.



Leading lignite innovation

Minnkota using new clean coal technology at Young Station

Cuts in emission levels. Big gains in power plant efficiency. The newest ingredient at the Milton R. Young Station is turning North Dakota lignite coal into a cleaner, more dynamic fuel source.

Minnkota Power Cooperative, our wholesale power provider, is seeing results through the use of CyClean, a combustion additive technology that reduces mercury and nitrogen oxides (NOx) emissions and improves operations in the plant's cyclone boilers.

Minnkota's Young Station, located near Center, N.D., is the first lignite-based, cyclone boiler power plant in the country to use CyClean technology.

"We are pleased that we have found a cost-effective technology that can help us meet current and future regulatory requirements and further reduce our power plant emissions," said Mac McLennan, Minnkota president & CEO. "This technology also provides us with another operational tool to deal with the variables of lignite coal and boiler conditions. We are continuing to use and evaluate the longer-term use of CyClean additives."

Following a successful testing period, the Young Station began using CyClean technology in its boilers in 2011. Minnkota is working on the project with Clean Coal Solutions (CCS), a Colorado-based power plant technology and research firm.

The greatest feature of CyClean is its ability to reduce the Young Station's emission levels and provide cost-effective options to meeting future regulatory requirements. The technology has proven the ability to reduce mercury emissions by 40 percent and NOx by an additional 20 percent from previous levels.

How does it work?

The CyClean system requires no large machinery or major modifications to the plant. A small building was constructed near the coal supply belt as it enters either of the plant's two generating units. CyClean is applied – in both a granular and liquid form – directly onto the coal as it enters the facility on a conveyor belt.

Low initial installation costs and potential operational advantages made CyClean an appealing technology in comparison (2611005.02 Dexter Gonsorowski) to other types of emission control equipment. Early results show that CyClean has the added benefit of reducing several of the plant's operating costs.

The technology was developed by ADA-Environmental Solutions, a major owner in the CCS joint energy venture. ADA-ES President Mike Durham commended Minnkota for taking the initiative to become an early adopter of the innovative technology.

"The important lessons learned in the first use on lignite will be valuable in making this technology and its benefits available to other lignite plants in North Dakota and coal-burning plants across the country," Durham said.

Minnkota Power Cooperative President and CEO Mac McLennan (second from left) explains how a new coal technology works at the Milton R. Young Station to U.S. Sen. John Hoeven and N.D. Gov. Jack Dalrymple. Charlie McNeil, NexGen Resources CEO, and Mike Durham, ADA-ES president, listen in while facing the system. The tour was part of an event held at the power plant in October.

Jerry Daseler, who heads facility operations and management for CCS, said his group and Minnkota are pioneers in the production of refined coal using the CyClean technology on lignite coal.

"We are proud and excited in the results demonstrated thus far and look forward to producing cleaner energy for years to come at the Young Station while taking advantage of North Dakota's low-cost and abundant coal reserves," Daseler said.

Taking notice

Minnkota and CCS joined North Dakota Gov. Jack Dalrymple and U.S. Sen. John Hoeven, N.D., at the Young Station on Oct. 15 to unveil the project. Dalrymple said he was impressed during his first trip to the plant and emphasized the importance of the lignite industry in the state.

"Minnkota's clean coal project supports our commitment to further reduce emissions even though North Dakota is already among the states with the nation's cleanest air," Dalrymple said.

Sen. Hoeven cited the project as another excellent example of the state's utilities being proactive in testing and implementing new technology.

"North Dakota is a powerhouse for the country. And we're not just driving energy development in this country, we're driving the technology development," Hoeven said. "Efforts like this clearly underscore the fact that a true all-of-the-above strategy for American energy independence must include lignite coal if we want to make our nation truly secure and economically vibrant."

The successful implementation of CyClean at the Young Station could pave the way for other coal plants in the state and across the country to adopt the technology.

"We have to find solutions like this to be able to continue to use this great resource effectively, cleanly and more efficiently," McLennan said.

CyClean Facts

Minnkota is working on the CyClean project with Clean Coal Solutions, a Colorado-based power plant technology and research firm.

Minnkota's Young Station began using the CyClean additives in its boilers in 2011.

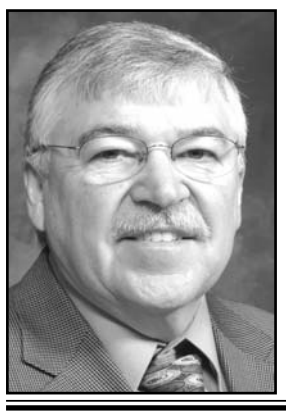
The Young Station continues to test and optimize the use of the technology. Long-term arrangements are pending.

The Young Station is the first lignite-based, cyclone boiler power plant in the nation to use the CyClean technology.

CyClean combustion additives are designed to improve cyclone boiler operations and reduce power plant emissions.

CyClean additives have demonstrated the ability to reduce mercury emissions by more than 40 percent and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions by an additional 20 percent from previous levels.

CyClean additives are applied directly onto the coal as it enters the facility on conveyor belts.



Manager's Comments

by Roger Johanneck

How do we compare

It's been said that if you want to learn something new about yourself or your family, trying running for public office. Political campaigns have a way of digging up stuff that may tilt the public's viewpoint about someone or something. I think that statement was reaffirmed after the recent go round of election ads we heard time and again. I have to admit that even in this electric business, it's hard to get by with anything without someone knowing about it.

Our Cooperative membership seems to do a pretty good job of keeping tabs on our work and the service we do or do not provide; you let us know what you think and that is good. Also keeping us on the straight and narrow are the directors you have elected that meet monthly to go over staff reports and financials; they are doing a good job looking after your electric Cooperative too. In addition to our self governance, we have permits or easements to obtain whenever we build electric facilities; it's tough to sneak a power line across somebody's property without someone noticing. Others watching are the lending agencies that require annual audits of our financial statements; a confirmation, if you will, that what we are reporting is in fact how things are. One of our lenders, the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation, or "CFC" for short, provides Rural Electric Cooperatives (REC's) a summary of financial and operational ratios or comparisons to let us know how we stack up with other REC's across the country. The CFC report consisted of over 800 electric distribution cooperatives across the United States of which 43 were reporting from Minnesota. It also does comparisons to cooperatives similar in consumer size to RLEC, of which there are 95 across the U.S.

This report provides an excellent benchmarking tool for your Cooperative's directors and employees to let us know how we are doing. I thought I would share a few of the 145 comparisons that were made in this report covering the past five years ending with 2011.

Ratio 1: Average total consumers served: Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) ranked 667th out of 814 cooperatives reporting in the U.S; 147 REC's across the country are smaller than RLEC. RLEC ranked 29th in consumer size out of the 43 REC's in MN.

Ratio 5: Total miles of Powerline: RLEC ranked 416th in the country and 17th out of the 43 cooperatives in the state. These first two ratios show that RLEC serves not only (3720021.02 Richard D. Lindquist) a smaller than average number of consumers, but a smaller than average number of consumers (low customer density) for the amount of power lines we have in place. RLEC serves an average of two consumers per mile of power line; that is one-third of the median U.S. density and less than half the state median.

Ratio 8: Operating TIER (Times interest earned Ratio): RLEC ranked 222 in the U.S. and 1st in the state. This measures the ability to generate sufficient revenues from our electric operations to repay interest on our Long Term Debt.

Ratio 16: Equity: RLEC ranked 307 in the U.S. and 9th in the state. The equity of 47% and the high operating TIER are two measures of financial strength for your cooperative and a show that your cooperative is on solid ground financially.

Ration 23: Blended Interest Rate: RLEC ranked 788 out of 805 in the country and 42nd out of 43 in the state. The Cooperative has refinanced some of its long term debt to take advantage of lower interest rates available today and is reflected in the average rate it pays compared to REC's across the U.S. and MN.

Ratio 60: Total kWh sold per mile of Powerline: RLEC ranked 733 out of 814 in the U.S. and 40 out of 43 in the state. RLEC's number is low in comparison and is a reflection of the more sparsely populated service territory we serve. It also is representative of having a fewer amount of commercial loads compared to the majority of other REC's.

Ratio 69: Residential kWh sold per total kWh sales: RLEC has more residential and fewer commercial energy sales compared to REC's across the U. S. and MN. The U.S. and state median for residential sales compared to total sales is 61% while RLEC's portion sold to the residential class is 75%.

Ratio 87: Total Controllable Expenses per Consumer: Controllable expenses include Operation and Maintenance, Administrative and General, consumer accounts and sales expense. RLEC's average cost is $383 per consumer which compares favorably to the U.S. median of $439 per consumer and the state median of $449. One other comparison made is with cooperatives similar in size to RLEC across the country of which the median value for this group of Cooperatives is $532. Despite our relatively small size, this statistic shows that RLEC has done a good job of controlling costs, even when compared to REC's much larger in size which has the advantages of economies of scale.

Ratio 88: Power Cost Per kWh purchased: RLEC ranked 291 out of 813 in the U.S. and 8th out of 43 in the state. Our average cost of 69 mills per kWh compares higher than the U.S. median of 64.7 mills and the state median of 62.4.

Ratio 90: Power cost as a % of Revenue: RLEC ranked 72 out of 815 in the U.S. and 3rd out of 43 in the State. RLEC's portion of revenue to pay for wholesale power cost is 74.1% compared 63.1% in the U.S. and 62.9% in MN.

Ratio 105: Total Cost of Service (minus power costs) per kWh sold: RLEC ranked 690 out of 814 in the U.S. and 41 out of 43 in the state. These are the expenses your cooperative has the most control over and a low number means the system is doing a good job at controlling these expenses. RLEC's cost of service is 23 mills per kWh which is less than the U.S. and State median of 35 mills per kWh, and less than the median of 39 mills per kWh for coops similar in size to RLEC.

I thought November was a fitting month to share the information found in the CFC Key Trend Ratio Analysis. November is the time for our national Thanksgiving Day celebration, and I think it is evident from the report that your cooperative fares well in many financial and operational categories; you are part owner of a business that is providing a good service, and doing a comparably good job at it. That is something all RLEC members can be thankful for.

We know the favorable comparisons in a variety of categories didn't happen by itself. It takes an active participation by the membership for the Cooperative to succeed. Your constant business is the key to your Cooperative's success. By making electricity your energy of choice impacts our sales and when we can spread our fixed cost over more energy sales, it helps keeps our average cost of energy competitive. When energy sales are less, our average cost goes up. It is not complicated math, and how you support your Cooperative business makes a difference; the numbers in CFC's report support that.

Your staying informed about stuff that affects your Cooperative through the news and information we provide in the newsletter, by attending Cooperative meetings, by electing directors that have your and the Cooperatives best interest in mind; It all makes a difference.

The employees are to be commended too for their efforts. They like their work and it gives them great satisfaction in knowing they are providing, not only a meaningful service to all of you, but doing a pretty good job at it. Thanks for your business and Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

Of interest from the Internet

"Stewardesses" is the longest word typed with only the left hand. "Lollipop" is the longest word typed with your right hand. No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple. "Typewriter" is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard. The average person's left hand does 56% of the typing.

Report from the Office

by Shirley Bregier

Off peak meter

With the weather already in winter mode we are depending on our heating systems to keep our homes warm. If you have an off peak heating system and are using your electric heat please be sure the off peak automated meter reading device (turtle) is recording your usage. Sometimes after a period of sitting silent, like they do during the summer months, they don't necessarily want to start working. A quick look at your electric bill to see that the off peak meter is showing kwh usage will tell you if all is well. When your off peak turtle doesn't report readings to us you are being charged the full rate instead of the reduced off peak rate. If you notice your bill is not showing usage for your off peak meter please contact our office by phone or e-mail. We will then check out the system and get the problem solved.

Sales Tax

If you heat your home with electric heat and you do not have it hooked up to an off peak meter we ask you to fill out the form below and return it to our office. Electricity sold for residential heating use is not taxable for the months of November thru April when it is used as the primary source of residential heat. Primary source of residential heat is the source that supplies more heat than any other source for the largest period of time during the heating season. If you have an off peak system and have a meter that records your electric heat usage at your residential account your heat usage is already tax exempt for the months of November thru April. If you have questions on the sales tax on your electric bill, please give us a call or check our website

www.redlakeelectric.com.

New

Red Lake Electric will soon be having a new look to your electric bill. This is something we have looked at for quite some time but were waiting for the right opportunity. We have recently hired Dairyland Power to print and mail our electric statements which will also allow Red Lake Electric to offer our customers the option to look at your bills and billing history online. Keep watching your electric statement, the Volts and Jolts and our web site for more news as this process progresses.

Holiday Wishes

At thanksgiving we take the time to count our blessings. We have the freedom to live in a great country that many men and women fought to protect. We are blessed with the opportunity to serve you, Red Lake Electric members, and enjoy the friendship and confidence you have shown us. Our best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving, a happy Holiday Season and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Closed
THANKSGIVING DAY

Red Lake Electric Cooperative's headquarters will be closed Thursday, November 22 for Thanksgiving.

In case of an electrical outage or emergency, call the after-hour phone number, **218-253-2200**.

Happy Thanksgiving!

ELECTRIC HEAT EXEMPTION

This is to certify that the primary source of heat for my residence is electricity and I am eligible for the electric heating sales tax exemption as provided by Minnesota State Law. The primary source is the source that supplies more heat than any other source for the largest period of time during the heating season.

Date_____ Account number_____

Social Security Number_____

Signature _____

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

Things you should know about your electric service

BILLINGS AND COLLECTION

You will receive your energy bill on or near the 20th of each month.

Payment of your monthly energy bill is due on the 20th of the month. You may pay your bill in person at RLEC during office hours, use the 24-hour drive-up drop box located next to the RLEC office, by Auto Pay, or by mail. Payment must be in the office, drop box, Auto Pay, or in the mail, as evidenced by the postmark, by the 5th day of the following month to avoid a late payment charge. A 1 1/2% monthly late payment charge will be computed on delinquent energy bills, the minimum late payment charge will be $1.00.

If your payment is not received by the 15th of the month, a final notice of disconnection statement will be included on your following bill. The final notice statement will notify you when your electric service will be disconnected if the delinquent amount remains unpaid. If an employee is sent to disconnect your electric service, a $60 collection fee will be charged to your account, even if you pay the collector.

To have a disconnected service reconnected, all amounts owing, a $60 reconnection fee, and a security deposit must be paid. If the service must be reconnected after normal working hours, a $120 reconnection fee must be paid.

BAD CHECKS

A $15 charge will be levied each time a check is returned because of nonsufficient funds, account being closed or payment stopped.

OUTAGES

In case your electricity goes out, please do the following:

1. Check your fuses or breakers at the yard pole or meter pedestal.
2. Call your neighbor to see if they are out of electricity also.
3. Call the RLEC office (218-253-2168 or 1-800-245-6068) during working hours or 218-253-2200 after hours. We will accept collect calls for outages only.

METER TESTS

RLEC has a schedule in place to have its meters periodically tested for accuracy. Results from these tests show that meters generally slow down with age; however, if you think that your meter is recording too much usage, RLEC will test it for accuracy. You must pay a test fee in advance of the test. If the meter test shows that the meter was inaccurate, the test fee will be refunded to you.

STOPPED METERS

If you find your meter has stopped and you are using electricity, please contact the office immediately so we can replace it. Average consumption will be billed to the member for the time the meter was stopped so there is no advantage in not reporting a stopped meter.

METER READINGS

An automated meter reading system is utilized to obtain monthly meter readings. Although the system is normally reliable, there is always a chance that the correct reading has not been transmitted to the office for billing. Customers should periodically read their meter and compare it to the reading on the billing statement. If the actual reading is not close to the billing statement reading, please call the office.

GENERAL SERVICE RATES

Facilities charge variable $27 to $35 month
April-December . . . . . 9.5¢ Kwh
January-March . . . . . 9.9¢ Kwh

Multiphase users add $22/month cost of service charge.

Standby, $12/month (meter disconnected but the power line retained; standby is not available on services larger than 15 KVA transformer capacity).

Security light: high pressure sodium, $8/month; mercury vapor, $9/month; water heater flat credit, $7/month (January-April billing); off-peak equipment charge, $5.50/month per heat meter; off-peak energy rate: 5.5¢/kWh long-term control, 7.5¢/kWh short-term control.

Mission Statement

It is the mission of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to enhance the quality of life for people of our service area by consistently providing quality electric service and other valued services while holding our employees, our community and our environment in high regard.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.

VOLTS & JOLTS

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NOTICE

Hidden within the text of the articles of this issue of the Volts & Jolts are the names and account numbers of some RLEC members. They will appear within the articles in parenthesis as such (9999999.99 Roger P. Member). If you find your name and account number, clip it out and send it with your next payment. You will be credited with $5 on your electric bill.

Recipe Corner

Turkey Croquettes With Cranberry Salsa

1/3 cup chopped onion
2 Tbsp butter
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/4 cup milk
1/4 cup chicken broth
2 cups finely chopped cooked turkey
1/2 cup mashed sweet potato
1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp pepper
1/8 tsp cayenne pepper
Salsa:
3/4 cup chopped tart green apple
1 Tbsp lemon juice
1/2 cup chopped cranberries
2 green onions, chopped
2 jalapeno peppers, seeded and chopped
3 Tbsp golden raisins, chopped
1 Tbsp honey
Croquettes:
2 eggs
1 Tbsp water
1/2 cup all-purpose flour
1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
Oil for deep-fat frying

In a saucepan, saute onion in butter until tender. Stir in flour until blended. Gradually add milk and broth. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Remove from the heat; stir in turkey, sweet potato, salt, pepper, and cayenne. Cover and refrigerate for 2 hours or until firm. Meanwhile, toss apple with lemon juice in a bowl. Stir in remaining salsa ingredients. Cover and chill for at least 1 hour. For croquettes, beat eggs and water in a shallow bowl. Place flour and bread crumbs in separate shallow bowls. Shape turkey mixture into 1-1/2 in. balls. Roll in egg mixture, then in crumbs. In an electric skillet or deep-fat fryer, heat 1-1/2 in. of oil to 375º. Fry croquettes, a few at a time, for 2 minutes or until golden brown. Drain on paper towels. Serve with cranberry salsa. Yield: 16 croquettes(2 cups salsa).

Barbecued Turkey

1 fresh turkey (12 to 14 pounds)
1 syringe (12cc), available from veterinarian or farm supply store
Injection sauce:
1/2 cup water
1 Tbsp salt
1-1/2 tsp garlic juice or garlic salt
1-1/2 tsp hot pepper sauce
6 Tbsp lemon juice
Basting sauce:
1/2 cup butter or margarine
1/2 garlic clove
2 tsp all-purpose flour
1/3 cup water
3 Tbsp lemon juice
1-1/2 tsp sugar
1 tsp salt
1/2 tsp pepper
1/2 tsp poultry seasoning
1/8 tsp hot pepper sauce

Combine injection sauce ingredients; fill syringe and inject into all meaty portions of turkey until skin is tight.(Inject slowly, withdrawing needle gradually to allow maximum juice retention.) Cover turkey loosely; refrigerate for several hours of overnight until time to grill. Place turkey on rotisserie or in shallow drip pan on top of grill. Use indirect heat method if cooking on a covered charcoal grill. Use low heat setting if cooking on a gas grill. While turkey cooks, prepare the basting sauce. Melt butter in a saucepan. Add garlic; cook and stir for several minutes. Stir in flour; cook until bubbly. Remove from heat; add the remaining ingredients. Return to heat; cook until the mixture thickens and boils. Brush on the turkey about 15 minutes before removing from grill. Check for doneness after 2 hours by inserting meat thermometer in thickest part of thigh, next to body(not resisting on bone). Turkey is done when thermometer registers between 180º and 185º. (Our test turkey, about 11 lbs., was done in 2-1/2 hours. Time will vary with grill.) Let turkey stand for 15 minutes before carving. Yield: 20 servings.

Turkey Tetrazzini

1 package (8 ounces) noodles
3 to 4 Tbsp margarine
2 tsp salt
6 Tbsp flour
1/2 tsp pepper
1/2 tsp celery salt
2 cups chicken stock
1/2 cup dry sherry, optional
1 can (6 ounces) sliced mushrooms
1 can (103/4 ounces) cream of mushroom soup
1/2 cup slivered almonds, toasted
3 cups cooked, chopped turkey or chicken
1 cup grated cheese
3 Tbsp minced parsley

Cook noodles (wide lasagna noodles are suggested) according to package directions; drain. Heat over to 350ºF. In small saucepan, melt margarine. Blend in salt and flour. Add pepper, celery salt and chicken stock, Cook over low heat until thick. Add sherry, mushrooms, soup and almonds. In greased 2-quart casserole, alternate layers of noodles, turkey and sauce. Top with cheese and parsley. Bake uncovered for 45 minutes. Yields: 8 to 10 servings.

Turkey Lattice Pie

3 tubes (8 ounces each) refrigerated crescent rolls
4 cups cubed cooked turkey
1-1/2 cups (6 ounces) shredded cheddar or Swiss cheese
1 package (10 ounces frozen chopped broccoli, thawed and drained.
1 can (10-3/4 ounces) condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted
1-1/3 cups milk
2 Tbsp Dijon mustard
1 Tbsp dried minced onion
1/2 tsp salt
Dash pepper
1 egg, lightly beaten

Unroll two tubes of crescent roll dough; separate into rectangles. Place rectangles in an ungreased 15-in. x 10-in. x 1-in. baking pan. Press onto the bottom and 1/4-in. up the sides of pan to form a crust, sealing seams and perforations. Bake at 375º for 5-7 minutes or until light golden brown. in a bowl, combine the turkey, cheese, broccoli, soup, milk, mustard, onion, salt and pepper; mix well. Spoon over crust. Unroll remaining dough; divide into rectangles. Seal perforations. Cut each rectangle into four 1-in. strips. Using strips, make a lattice design on top of turkey mixture. Brush with egg. Bake 17-22 minutes longer or until top crust is golden brown and filling is hot. Yield: 12-15 servings.

Turkey With Cherry Stuffing

3/4 cup chopped celery
1/3 cup chopped onion
2 Tbsp butter or margarine
3/4 tsp dried thyme
1/4 tsp poultry seasoning
5 cups seasoned stuffing cubes
3/4 cup golden raisins
3/4 cup chicken broth
1 can (14-1/2 ounces) pitted tart cherries, drained
1 turkey (10 to 12 pounds)
2 Tbsp vegetable oil

In a saucepan, saute celery and onion in butter until tender. Stir in thyme and poultry seasoning. In a large bowl, combine stuffing, raisins and celery mixture. Add broth and cherries; toss to mix. Loosely stuff turkey just before baking. Skewer openings; tie drumsticks together. Place the turkey, breast side up, on a rack in a roasting pan. Brush with oil. Bake, uncovered at 325º for 4 to 4-1/2 hours or until a meat thermometer reads 180º for the turkey and 165º for the stuffing. Baste occasionally with pan drippings. Cover loosely with foil if turkey browns too quickly. Cover and let stand for 20 minutes before removing the stuffing and carving the turkey. If desired, thicken pan drippings for gravy. Yield: 10-12 servings (6 cups stuffing). **Editor's Note:** The stuffing may be prepared as directed and baked separately in a greased 2-qt. baking dish. Cover and bake at 325º for 50-60 minutes. Uncover and bake 10 minutes longer or until lightly browned.

Herb-Roasted Turkey

1 turkey(14 pounds)
1 Tbsp salt
1 tsp pepper
18 sprigs fresh thyme, divided
4 medium onions, sliced
4 celery ribs, sliced
2 medium carrots, sliced
3 bay leaves
1 Tbsp peppercorns
1/2 cup butter or margarine, melted
1 tsp minced fresh sage or 1/2 tsp rubbed sage
1 tsp minced fresh thyme or 1/2 tsp dried thyme
1 tsp minced chives

Rub the surface of the turkey and sprinkle cavity with salt and pepper. Place 12 sprigs of thyme in cavity. In a large heavy roasting pan, place onions, celery, carrots, bay leaves, peppercorns and remaining thyme sprigs. Place the turkey, breast side up, over vegetables. Drizzle butter over turkey and sprinkle with minced herbs. Cover loosely with foil. Bake at 325º for 2-1/2 hours. Remove foil; bake 1-1/2 to 2 hours longer or until a meat thermometer reads 180º basting every 20 minutes. Cover and let stand for 20 minutes before carving. Discard bay leaves and peppercorns; thicken pan drippings for gravy if desired. Yield: 12-14 servings.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Operating Report

MONTHLY COMPARISON

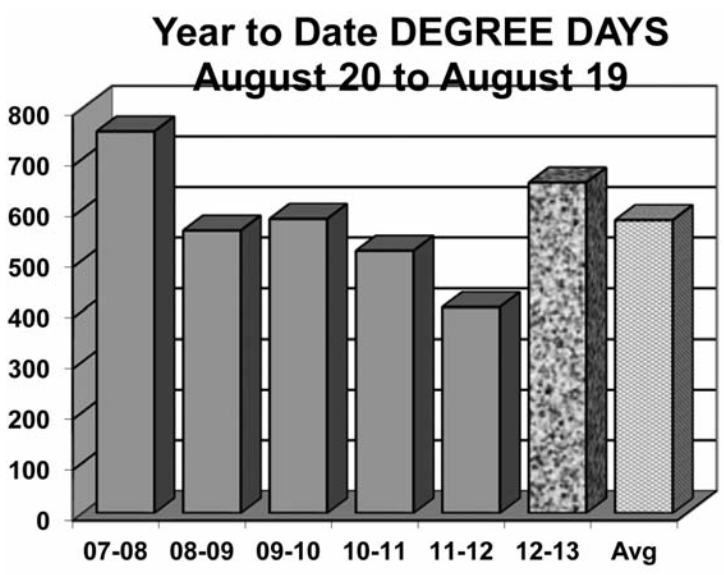
	SEPT 2011	SEPT 2012
Total Revenue	$ 915,309	$ 909,792
Total Margins	$ (102,664)	$ (27,128)
Cost of Power	$ 753,382	$ 683,362
KWH's Purchased	9,255,124	8,252,453
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	$ 4,952	$ 4,169

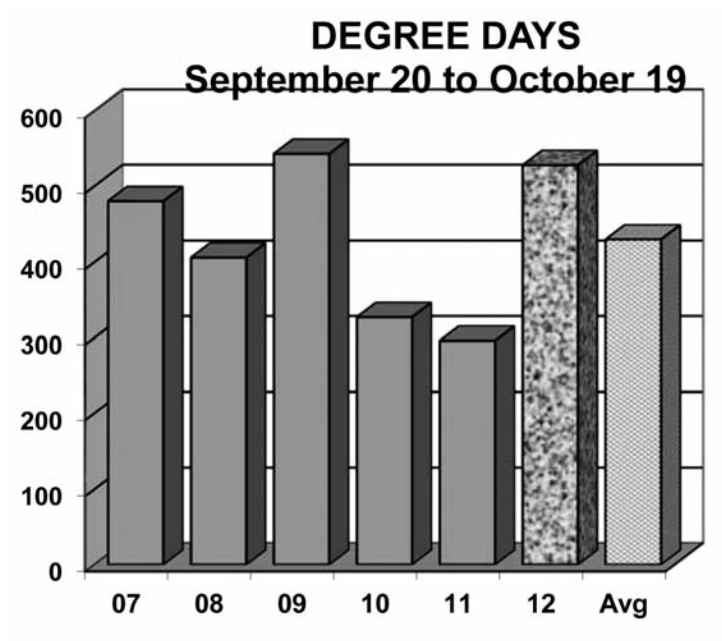
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON

	SEPT 2011	SEPT 2012
Total Revenue	$9,480,709	$ 9,771,033
Total Margins	$ 142,697	$ 615,869
Cost of Power	$7,038,510	$ 7,028,195
KWH's Purchased	104,811,431	94,064,215
New Service Connections	46	29
Customers Served	5,213	5,216
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	$ 70,730	$ 75,102
Miles of Line		
Overhead	2,324	2,323
Underground	239	249

DEGREE DAYS

To determine degree days, you must calculate the daily mean temperature for the time period you are measuring. Degree day computation is based on the assumption that a building does not require any heat if the outside temperature averages 65 degrees during a 24-hour period. To obtain a degree day figure, the high temperature and the low temperature for the day are added and the total divided by two. That figure is then subtracted from 65. For example, if the high temperature was 30 degrees and the low temperature 10 degrees, the figure would be 30+10=40; 40/2=20; 65-20=45. This would be a 45-degree day. The higher the degree day figure, the more heat required to warm your home.





From the Mail Bag

Dear RLEC:

Just a quick note to say "Thank You!" for restoring our power during the snowstorm on Thursday night. I know the weather was not cooperating with the wind and heavy snow. Our power flickered a few times during the day with a short outage and a couple longer outages later in the evening and into the night. Thank you to the crews for their hard work.

Derek and Stacy Lee
Thief River Falls, MN

Dear RLEC Trust Board of Directors and customers of Red Lake Electric Operation Round Up:

Thank you for the grant money of $1,200. This money will be used to replace pagers that are greatly needed by our firefighters. We realize you receive many requests for your grant money and we feel very fortunate to be one of the recipients of this grant and all the grants and support we've received in the past. Thank you again and remember to keep checking your CO and smoke detectors.

Sincerely,
Thief River Falls Fire Department
Barry Newton Co-Fire Chief

Dear Operation Roundup Supporters/Red Lake Electric Trust Board Members:

Thank you for the generous support of $1200 from your organization to support our fire and rescue squad. Your continued charity to help better our community is so appreciated. It was ironic that the notification and check came during the recent wild fires around the area when the fire department was answering pages relentlessly. The $1200 was used to help defray the cost of updating the ratio frequency. The extra good news of support was appreciated during the fires and thank you so much! Appreciate your pennies!

Goodridge Fire and Rescue

Dear RLEC:

I would like to extend a special thank you to all Red Lake Electric members who voluntarily round up their electric bill each month. By doing this it allows our 4-H after school enrichment programs extra funds to purchase jump ropes, frisbees and healthy eating incentives. Thanks so much.

Tammie Malwitz
Community Nutrition Educator
Red Lake/Pennington Counties

AFTER-HOURS OUTAGE PHONE 218-253-2200

VOLTS AND JOLTS FEATURE OF THE MONTH

Century Farm status given to Henry and Deloris Bendickson

Henry and Deloris Bendickson feel honored that they live on a century farm. The farm, located in rural Goodridge, Minn, gained the distinction in 2012.

Henry's maternal grandparents, Henry and Anna Longevan, moved to the area in 1912 with their two children, Helen and Melvin. Henry was a bricklayer in Steven's Point, WI, and moved the family here to farm grain and dairy cattle. Shortly after the move, Anna passed away. Helen and Melvin attended Germantown country school. Marvin later left the farm while Helen remained.

Helen married Bernhard Bendickson in 1921. They began farming the land while her father Henry returned to Wisconsin to resume his job as a bricklayer. The couple had two children, Henry and Madeline. Bernhard died in 1931. Henry was ten years old at the time and Madeline was just one year old. They also both attended Germantown country school, just one mile west of the homestead. Henry later graduated from Goodridge High School in 1939 and stayed on the farm to help his mother.

Henry married Deloris Panek in 1945 and the couple took over the farm while his mother moved into Thief River Falls, Minn with Madeline, who graduated from Lincoln High School. Deloris grew up on her family's farm, just 8 miles west of their current farm, and graduated from Lincoln High School in Thief River Falls, Minn.

Deloris and Henry Bendickson

Henry bought his first tractor in 1939, a new Z Minneapolis Moline, as well as 2 more quarters of land just across the road from the homestead. Electricity and running water were installed in 1948 and the couple purchased a refrigerator and a stove. More improvements to the property came in 1956 when a new barn was built and milking machines were installed, and again in 1963 when a new home was constructed. In 1969 they switched from dairy cattle to beef cattle and later sold off all the livestock in 1983 to focus on grain.

Both Deloris and Henry spoke about how much farming has changed over the years. They remarked about how much the machinery had changed and how they used to separate the milk and cream themselves when they had dairy cattle. They also talked about how the farms have gotten so big and there aren't any little farms anymore.

Deloris also worked off the farm at Arctic Cat. "There are times I worked all day at Arctic and then rode till dark on the tractor with him," She says. "I enjoyed working on the farm. I liked being outside, I really did." Henry said he enjoyed, "The freedom of being on your own farm and being your own boss. Its not easy, but it's a lot of freedom."

Henry farmed the land until 1992 when he retired at the age of 70. The farm land is now rented out but the couple continues to live on the homestead Henry has lived on his entire life. Henry is glad to have the century farm distinction stating, "Its an honor to know my family has lived on the farm all that time." They still keep up the large farmyard themselves, including a vegetable garden and many flowers. "I love the farm, the fresh air and the gardening," said Deloris. In the past they have also enjoyed fishing and snowmobiling. They are both active members of Faith Lutheran Church in Goodridge.

The couple has been married for 67 years. They have four children, Dennis, Robert, Karen and Tom. All four graduated from Goodridge High School and left home. They have 8 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Henry and Deloris Bendickson maintain the iconic rounded roof barn and silo that are part of their newly designated Century Farm near Goodridge.

Maintenance never ends

Maintaining the 2572 miles of power line, throughout Red Lake Electric Cooperative's Service area, is a never ending task. Maintenance includes everything from security light repairs to pole replacements, to repairing underground faults. The unusually dry conditions of the past summer and fall allowed Cooperative line personnel (4403035.05 Brian and Teresa Fay) to change out poles in areas that are normally not accessible by truck and in areas that normally sport standing water. Maintenance also includes making repairs to equipment that is hit by motor vehicles or farm equipment. As long as there are power lines, there will be need for maintenance.

Red Lake Electric line personnel travel through the brush and swamp with the track digger to change out poles in the swamp that in most normal years would be standing in water.

The dry land conditions allowed line personnel to get cooperative vehicles into a pasture that under normal conditions would have required the use of a track digger. Several poles in this pasture were changed or reset.

This three phase underground junction box was hit and damaged by farm equipment. Cooperative line personnel work to repair and/or splice many pieces of underground cable. The junction box had to be replaced.

Red Lake Electric Apprentice linemen Aaron Derosier (left) and Jordan Gervais scrape mud from the auger of the track digger. The slimy dirt is unable to be shaken from the auger. Cattails in this area stand 6' to 8' high.

Cooperative line personnel used a tarp to carry crushed rock into the swamp. The rock is dumped into the hole alongside the new pole. The rock is tamped in the hole to help make the pole more stable under the normal wet, swamp conditions.

Informational Web Sites

The following is a list of Web sites that can provide information and education in reference to electrical safety and energy conservation. These Web sites are listed as links on Red Lake Electric Cooperative's Web site at www.redlakeelectric.com.

- Electrical Safety Foundation International: **www.esfi.org**
- Alliance to Save Energy: **www.ase.org**
- US Environmental Protection Agency: **www.epa.gov/greenhomes**
- Energy Star: **www.energystar.gov**
- Minnesota Safety Council: **www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org**
- Safe Electricity: **www.safeelectricity.org**
- Lighting Controls Association: **www.aboutlightingcontrols.org**
- US Consumer Product Safety Commission: **www.cpsc.gov**

Don't let energy savings go up in smoke

By Kelly Trapnell

Your fireplace creates a warm, cozy atmosphere during wintry weather, but don't let it add unnecessary dollars to your electric bill.

Fireplaces heat the room they're in but at the expense of the rest of the house. Most of the heat in traditional fireplaces goes up the chimney instead of warming living space, and the draft pulls heat from other rooms. So if your thermostat is located away from the fireplace, it will work harder to maintain room temperatures for the rest of the house.

Fireplace "inserts" help boost energy efficiency. However, emissions from old inserts and fireplaces without inserts are up to 20 times worse than using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-certified wood stoves, pellet stoves, or gas/oil furnaces. So look for an EPA-certified insert if you want to supplement your home's heating.

Contact a local retailer to learn about efficient stoves and inserts that will circulate hot air into a room to help lower heating costs. But keep in mind the disadvantages of using high-maintenance fires as heat sources, including constant attention and ash disposal.

If you don't have an efficient insert but love a crackling fire, follow these measures for safety and improved efficiency.

• **Seal those cracks.** While sealing drafts around your home, don't forget to check the chimney. Smoke and heat that escape through cracks can pose a fire hazard. It's best to hire a professional to fix cracks in high-heat areas.

• **Fight the draft.** If you plan on a long-lasting fire, lower the thermostat to save energy. Be prepared to wear a sweater in other rooms and resist the temptation to crank the temperature back up after the fire goes out.

• **Clean sweep.** A National Fire Protection Association standard suggests having your chimney and fireplace inspected once a year, and cleaned or repaired when necessary. Even if you don't use your fireplace often, an annual inspection will find (4509008.02 Beverly Nething) any blockage from animal nests or other deterioration.

Fires are a low-efficiency, high-maintenance source of heat requiring constant tending and ash removal.

• **Batten down the hatch.** Keep the chimney flue closed when not using your fireplace to prevent conditioned or heated air from escaping.

• **Choose your wood wisely**. Wood that's dried at least six months provides the best heat, so avoid any that's wet or newly chopped. And the harder the tree species, the longer your fire will burn. This makes ironwood, rock elm, hickory, oak, sugar maple, and beech good choices. Store wood off the ground and away from your house to remove the threat of termite infestation, and cover the top to lessen moisture but leave the sides open for circulation.

Sources: U.S. Department of Energy, Consumer Reports, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Chimney Safety Institute of America

Kelly Trapnell writes on safety and energy efficiency issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

Open the fireplace flue when logs are burning to let smoke and heat out. But remember to close it when not in use to keep conditioned or heated air inside.

Bemidji to Grand Rapids transmission line energized and in service

The final stretch of the new Bemidji to Grand Rapids 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line was energized and placed in service Sept. 17. The successful commissioning of the line directly benefits people in north central Minnesota by providing reliable, long-term electric service.

The 70-mile line connects Minnkota Power Cooperative's Wilton substation near Bemidji to Minnesota Power's Boswell substation near Grand Rapids. The project was completed in partnership with several neighboring utilities as part of the CapX2020 initiative. Minnkota is the majority participant in the project with a 31.5 percent ownership share, while Otter Tail Power Company was the construction lead. Other partners (5811001.03 Robert A. Schmitz) in the project include Minnesota Power, Great River Energy and Xcel Energy.

Wally Lang, Minnkota vice president of transmission, was pleased to see participating utilities working together on a project that benefits thousands of electric consumers.

"It's hard to overstate just how much work went into getting this project completed successfully," Lang said. "These days, building any kind of national infrastructure faces many hurdles that take a long time to resolve. I commend the project partners for all they did in shoring up what was a weak spot in the regional high-voltage power grid."

The line uses steel H-frame single-circuit structures that are between 70 and 90 feet tall. The distance between structures is 600 to 1,000 feet.

The project marks the most significant transmission project in north central Minnesota in more than 30 years. Allowing more electricity to flow to and from the region helps relieve bottlenecks that sometimes occurred during periods of high demand.

Besides enhancing reliability, the line provides additional capacity to serve the area's growing demand for electricity.

The 70 mile transmission line built between Bemidji and Cohasset was energized and placed in service Sept. 17. It is the most significant transmission project in North Central Minnesota in more than 30 years.

Manufactured savings

How to boost efficiency of mobile homes

By Brian Sloboda

Manufactured homes, sometimes dubbed mobile homes, often log disproportionately higher energy bills than traditional wood-frame or modular homes. But you can take steps to help manage energy costs and increase comfort.

Manufactured homes come in several configurations: singlewide, doublewide, and triplewide. Doublewides and triplewides require a crossover duct to provide air flow between the sections—a major culprit in air leaks that contribute significantly to wasted energy.

Manufactured units must also be transported to a site, and movement can disrupt the integrity of the original construction. Also, homes that sit on jack stands or blocks allow air to flow underneath.

There isn't a magic bullet to lower the energy consumption of a manufactured home. It takes time and hard work to troubleshoot all of the possible causes of energy loss. The most common culprits and ways to remedy them are:

Belly board problems—In most manufactured homes, the belly board holds the insulation in place under the floor and serves as a vapor barrier. Plumbing that runs under the floor is on the warm side of the insulation to keep it from freezing in winter. However, the belly board can be damaged by animals, deteriorate over time, or become torn, allowing the floor insulation to become moisture laden or to simply fall out, exposing ductwork and dramatically increasing energy losses. Often there is also long-term water damage from leaky pipes, toilets, and showers that has compromised floor, insulation, and belly board integrity. These problems must be addressed prior to basic weatherization. Replacing the belly board and repairing leaky plumbing should be the first thing on your to do list.

Air leakage/infiltration—Infiltration of excessive outside air can be a major problem. Specific problems include deteriorated weather stripping; gaps in the "marriage wall" that joins multiple units making up the home; holes in the ends of ducts; gaps around wall registers and behind washers and dryers; and unsealed backing to the electrical panel. This is a dirty job and will require you to crawl under the home and into the attic looking for gaps. Gaps can (6631005.01 Richard D. Bergeson) be filled with weather stripping and insulation. You should consult your local hardware store for the exact type of insulation needed for the specific area of the home.

Crossover ducts—Sealing the ducts than run under the sections making up your mobile home will result in tremendous energy savings and increased comfort. Crossover ducts are often made of flexible tubing and are therefore prone to collapse and are easy for animals to chew or claw into. Crossover ducts made of thin sheet metal can leak air heated or cooled air to the great outdoors, which is what happens when ductwork connections are made with duct tape. Repairs are generally easy, using either special duct sealant or metal tape that can be found at most home improvement stores. If you can afford the upgrade, consider replacing a flexible crossover duct with metal ductwork.

Lack of insulation—Insulation levels and associated R-values in walls, floors and ceilings in manufactured homes can be woefully inadequate. If it is easily accessible, adding additional insulation to ceiling and floors will help. However, adding insulation to walls will be a problem without major renovations that are often not cost justified.

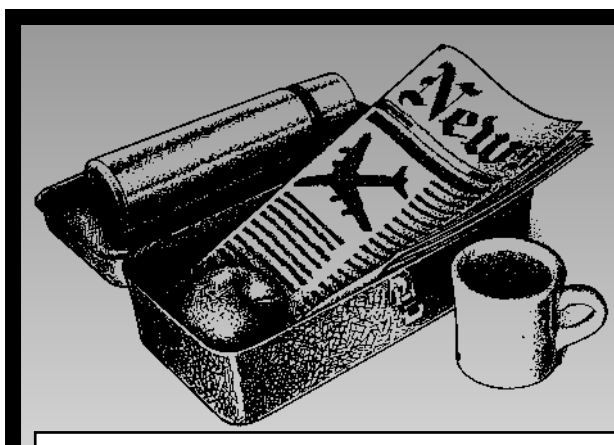
Uninsulated ductwork—Ductwork itself may not be wrapped with insulation, allowing heating and cooling losses. Wrapping ductwork will lead to energy savings. You should be able to find insulation specifically made for ductwork at your local hardware store.

Single-glazed windows and uninsulated doors—Most manufactured homes come with single-glazed windows and uninsulated doors, which have a low R-value. That means the rate of heat transfer between finished interior spaces and the outdoors is higher than what's ideal. Replacing the windows with double- or triple-glazed windows or adding storm windows will help to make the home more comfortable. An insulated door will also help. However, these (6715001.02 Michael Bachand) solutions can be very expensive. At a minimum, you should add weather stripping to doors and windows. Also, a window film kit is a cheap and easy-to-install upgrade that will help to keep winter winds out of the home.

It may take a couple of weekends and a few hundred dollars, but basic repairs can see significant savings. Savings of up to 50 percent have been reported in manufactured homes that have been properly sealed and had old electric furnaces replaced with new electric heat pumps. The key is to get out there and start hunting for the savings lurking under and inside your manufactured home.

Brian Sloboda is a program manager specializing in energy efficiency for the Cooperative Research Network, a service of the Arlington, Va.-based National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

After-Hours Outage Phone
218-253-2200



Your key to buy, sell or trade anything is the

CLASSIFIEDS

The members are invited to use this FREE WANT AD service.

If you have anything to trade or sell, just drop a card to Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750.

For Sale

One maple rocking chair. Make an offer. Ken Boucher 796-5259

New 2-8" tires on 5 hole wheel, very good shape. Rocker recliner, target stand, come over and give me a bid. Call 681-2109

British lab puppy for sale. One black male still available from this repeat breeding. Hips/elbows/eyes and EIC tested, both parents are well-socialized hunters. British labs are bred for their calm disposition and compact, muscular frame. Sire is 70 pounds, dam is 60. Excellent bloodlines. 7 weeks old on 11/18/12. $800. 218-327-8079.

Real Estate

To give away

Wooden Reels: Red Lake Electric Cooperative has several wooden reels to give away on a first come first serve basis. The reels can be picked up on normal business days, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative

Want Ad Order Form

Use this handy form to submit your want ads.

PLEASE PRINT.

Mail or bring your ads to the RLEC office by the tenth of the month. Commercial ads are 10¢ per word with a minimum charge of $4 per insertion.

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Member want ads are FREE. One want ad per member per month.

Please PRINT . . .

Your Name, Address and Phone Number. Mail with your power bill payment, if you prefer, or fax to 218-253-2630.

AFTER-HOURS OUTAGE PHONE 218-253-2200

Boost savings today for a more secure retirement future

by Lisa Hughes-Daniel

Is a "retirement savings check-up" anywhere on your to-do list? In honor of National Save for Retirement Week, recognized October 21-27, it probably should be—even if your retirement is decades away. That's because even small actions today could have a big impact on your quality of life down the road.

Little increases make a big difference

Take Max, a 32-year-old who earns $50,000 a year. He's already saved $24,000 in his 401(k) account and socks away 5 percent of his salary each month.

At that savings rate, and assuming his 401(k) investments grow at an annual rate of 7 percent (of course, actual investment growth isn't guaranteed), Max could have $450,439 available at age 62, according to Bloomberg's 401(k) Savings Calculator. Not bad, especially when his pay stayed the same for 30 years. But if he saves just 1 percent more of his salary every

month—that's $42—he could have $50,000 more in his 401(k) account at retirement.

Even better, if Max saves 10 percent of his salary, his retirement savings could total $706,082—or an additional $250,000 in his 401(k). That's not a bad move, considering most of us are living longer than ever, and many future retirees will have to rely more heavily on personal savings for retirement income.

What you can do now

Want to jump start your own savings? It's never too late. Try these three steps:

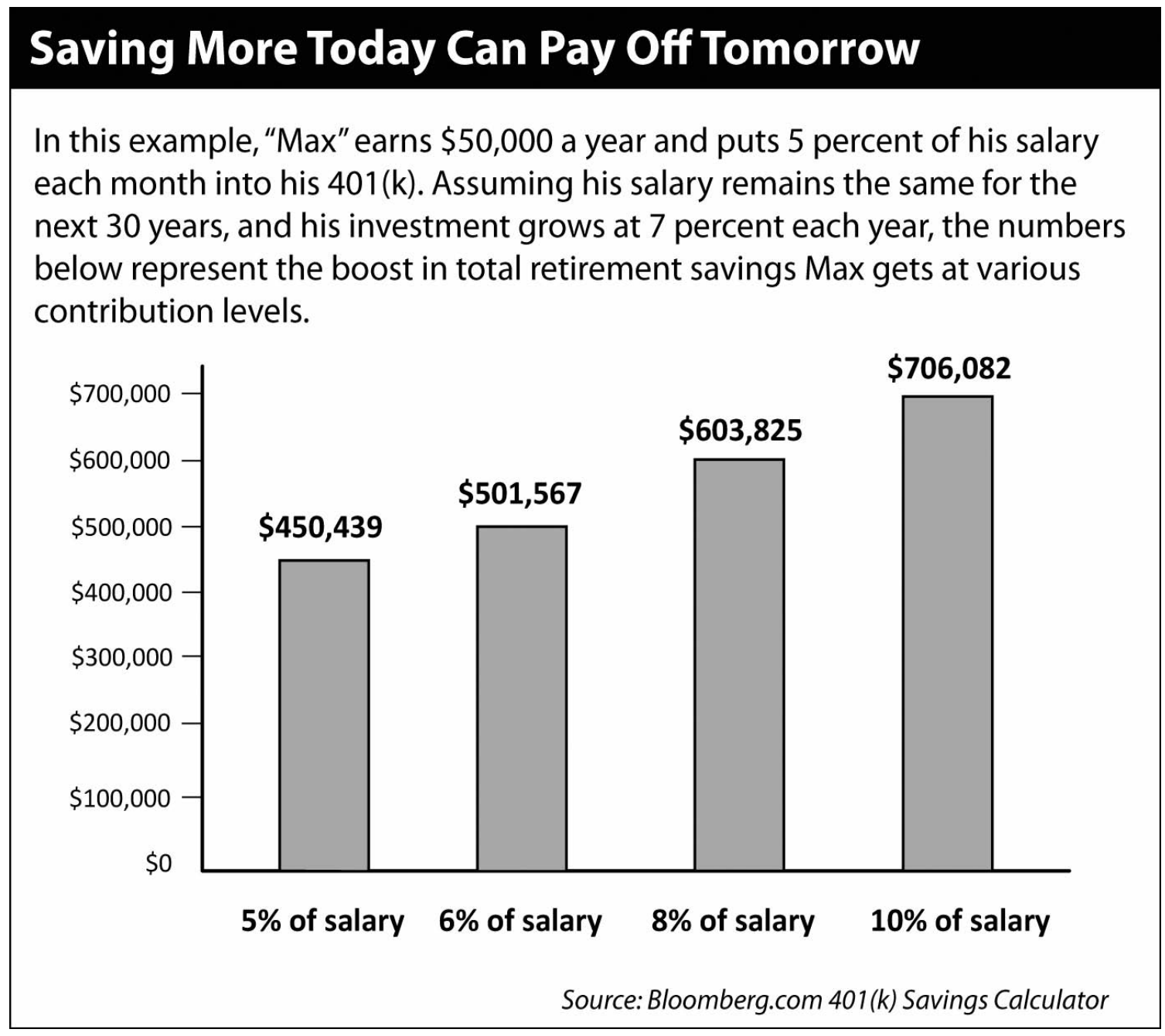
1. Take stock. How much are you putting aside now for your retirement, in an employer savings plan or IRA (individual retirement account)? Explore retirement savings calculators (try Bloomberg.com or Bankrate.com) to help estimate how much you may need to save and how your investments could grow.

2. Set a new goal. If your current savings amount isn't enough, raise it—or make a plan to increase your savings rate in the near future, like when you or your spouse get an annual raise at work. Or invest in yourself and your future by giving your retirement a raise on your birthday. If you have a 401(k) account, be sure you're capturing any matching contributions your employer may be making—it's free money.

3. Keep tabs. Saving for retirement means investing for the long term, so don't create unnecessary stress by tracking your money constantly. Just check in periodically—about once a year—to measure your progress and decide whether you can bump up your savings some more.

Your future self will thank you.

Lisa Hughes-Daniel writes on retirement benefits issues for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900-plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.



Increasing your 401(k) contribution by a little bit now can significantly boost your retirement savings 30 years down the road.
Source: Bloomberg.com 401(k) Savings Calculator

The real story about plug-in space heaters

You have heard radio ads, probably seen newspaper ads, and possibly received promotional materials marketing portable space heaters stating that you can reduce your energy bill up to 50 percent.

Buyer beware.

Their claims, usually found in small print, are based on the assumption that you would operate this portable plug-in space heater in the room you occupy at the time, while turning down the thermostat in the remainder of the living area allowing it to become much cooler.

It's true that any time you turn down your thermostat, you will use less energy to heat your home. However, in many cases, homeowners maintain the original thermostat setting and plug in the portable space heater only to be surprised that they actually used more energy in that particular month to heat

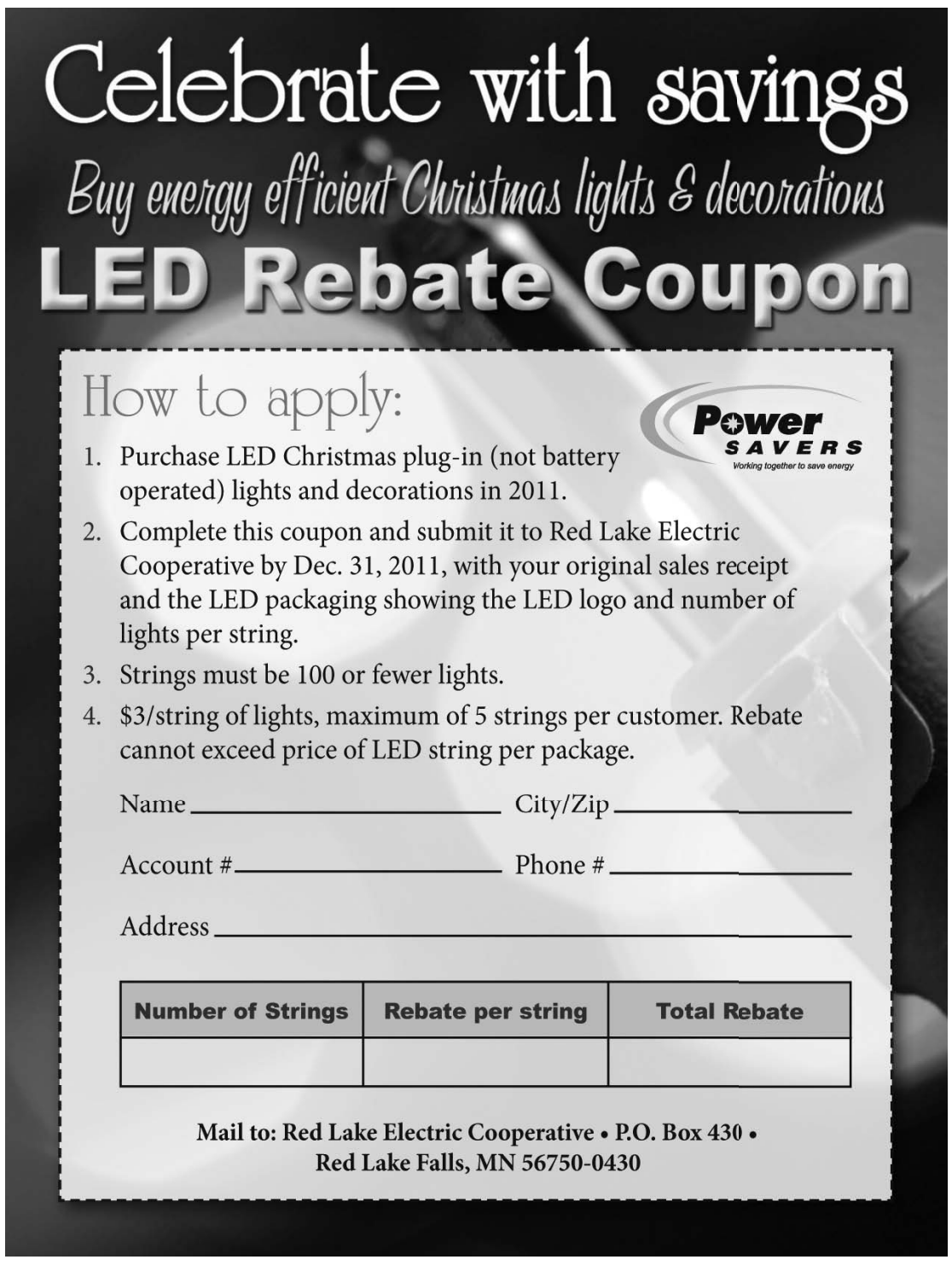
their home.

The bottom line is that there are no "magic" plug-in space heaters that will reduce your electric use. Based on the above scenario, you simply sacrifice comfort in the rest of the home to reduce your heating costs.

Heat is measured in British Thermal Units (Btu). There are 3,413 Btu in one kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity. Electric heat (6813004.01 Jimmy Hagge) sources are 100 percent efficient, no more, no less. The exception is the heat pump, which can achieve higher efficiencies, however, none of these small plug-in space heaters use heat-pump technology. You can achieve the same efficiency from an electric baseboard heater as you can with a plug-in space heater, and at much lower equipment cost.

Before you purchase an expensive space heater that claims an ability to lower your heating bill, please consider the potential operating costs of these units. You would be money ahead to take the $400 advertised costs of these "magic" space heaters and put that toward weaterization improvements to your home such as sealing air leaks or adding insulation.

If you have any questions about heating your home economically and efficiently, please contact our member services department at 253-2168 or 800-245-6068.



AUTO PAY OFFERED BY RLEC

Red Lake Electric Cooperative is pleased to offer you Auto Pay. Now you can have your monthly energy bill paid automatically from your checking or savings account. You can receive the Auto Pay service by completing the Auto Pay sign-up sheet and returning it to Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

The Auto Pay service is free of charge. Not only is this service free, you will eliminate the expense of writing a check, postage to mail your payment and no more late payment penalties because your bill will be paid on time, every month, for you.

Your payment will be automatically made for you on the 5th of each month. If the 5th falls on a weekend or holiday, the payment will be made on the next business day. You will continue to receive your monthly energy bill as you have in the past, indicating the amount that will be withdrawn from your bank account. The proof of your payment will appear on your bank statement and your next month's energy bill statement.

Continue to pay your monthly bill until you are notified on your bill that the Auto Pay has been set up for you.

If you have any questions about the Auto Pay please call RLEC at 800-245-6068 or 218-253-2168.

AUTO PAY
SIGN-UP SHEET

I authorize Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) and the bank listed below to initiate variable entries to my checking or savings account. This authorization remains in effect until I notify RLEC in writing to cancel it in such time as to allow RLEC to act on it.

RLEC ELECTRIC ACCOUNT #

NAME (PRINT)

ADDRESS

TELEPHONE #

NAME OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTION

CHECKING ACCOUNT #

SAVINGS ACCOUNT #

SIGN HERE TO AUTHORIZE

Please return this authorization form with a blank, voided check to:
Red Lake Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

Phone	218-253-2168
Toll-free	1-800-245-6068
Fax	218-253-2630
After-hour outage	218-253-2200
Office hours	Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30
E-mail:	redlake@minnkota.com
Web site	www.redlakeelectric.com

Call Before You Dig - Gopher State One Call • 1-800-252-1166

P. O. Box 430 •412 International Drive SW Red Lake Falls, MN 56750-0430