



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

VOL. 45 – NO. 11

RED LAKE FALLS (RED LAKE COUNTY), MINNESOTA 56750

SEPTEMBER 2010

Twist and save with energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs



(2230005.04 Amanda D. Blazejewski) five most used bulbs in a home with energy-efficient CFLs, families can save \$35 in energy costs during the first year alone.

Today's CFLs produce bright, warm light at less cost to consumers and businesses because they use less electricity and last longer than incandescent bulbs, saving time and money on replacements. With the wide range of CFL shapes, sizes and styles now on the market, consumers can find an energy-efficient bulb for every situation and enjoy reduced energy costs all year long.

For more information about Energy Star qualified CFLs or to find participating retailers, call 888-476-9548.

The Cooperative can be contacted at 800-245-6068, 253-2168 or emailed at redlake@minnkota.com. The Cooperative's Web site is www.redlakeelectric.com.

From now through Nov. 30, 2010, residential electric customers of Red Lake Electric Cooperative are eligible for special pricing that will allow them to purchase Energy Star qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) for as little as \$.99 at participating retailers. (Limit 12 bulbs per customer, while supplies last.)

The compact fluorescent rebate program is held in conjunction with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) national Energy Star "Change a Light" campaign.

Energy Star qualified CFLs use up to 75 percent less electricity than standard incandescent light bulbs, last up to 10 times longer and produce about 75 percent less heat than incandescents, improving safety. By replacing the

Traffic Deaths Drop to Record Lows in U.S., Minnesota

Traffic deaths reached a six-decade low in the United States last year, a nearly 10 percent drop from 2008, according to data released last week by the Department of Transportation. Deaths fell to 33,808 for the year, the lowest number since 1950. The decline, which was evident in all categories of traffic deaths (motorcycle, pedestrian, bicycle, alcohol-related etc.) occurred even though there was a slight increase (0.2 percent) in estimated vehicle miles traveled in 2009. In Minnesota, deaths declined to 421 (455 in 2008) and alcohol-related deaths dropped 18 percent, from 132 in 2008 to 108 in 2009.

Source Minnesota Safety Council

Special pricing for a limited time on ENERGY STAR® qualified light bulbs

Limit 12 bulbs per customer.

From now through Nov. 30, 2010, Red Lake Electric Cooperative members can get special pricing on ENERGY STAR qualified bulbs at participating retailers. For a retailer in your area, call 888-476-9548, or Red Lake Electric at 218-253-2168 or 800-245-6068.

savings with a twist

ENERGY STAR qualified light bulbs:

- Use up to 75 percent less energy
- Last up to 10 times longer
- Save an average of \$30 in energy costs over their lifetime
- Produce 75 percent less heat
- Help the environment by saving energy

Because CFLs use less power to create the same amount of light, use the chart at right to determine the correct wattage for your needs.

Incandescent Bulb	CFL Equivalent	Lifetime Savings
40 watt	9-11 watt	\$15 - \$20
60 watt	13-17 watt	\$25 - \$30
75 watt	18-20 watt	\$30 - \$35
100 watt	23-26 watt	\$40 - \$45
150 watt	32-42 watt	\$60 - \$70

Swanson to serve as Trust Board Director

Van Swanson, Thief River Falls, has been selected to serve as a Red Lake Electric Cooperative Trust Board Director. The Trust Board determines grants for Red Lake Electric's Operation RoundUp® program.

"Operation RoundUp is an excellent program," stated Swanson. "It is a great idea that generates funds to help support many area programs and charities. The community really benefits from the few dollars a participating member contributes each year."

Swanson serves as 4-H Program Director for Pennington and Marshall Counties. He has served in this capacity through the University of Minnesota Extension service for 20 years in Pennington and the last 5 years in Marshall.

"4-H involves working with many families and young people and being committed to working



Van Swanson

many evening hours, but I thoroughly enjoy it," said Swanson. "Helping the young people learn, grow and achieve is so rewarding."

Swanson and his wife DeDe live on their small farm south of Thief River Falls where they raise beef cattle and DeDe operates a beauty shop out of their home. Also on their farm sits a high tunnel where vegetables are grown. Swanson's are co-owners /operators of Cabin View Gardens that raises, markets and sells vegetables and canned goods.

Swanson's are members of Zion Lutheran Church. They have two sons and four grandchildren. Kelly and his wife Lisa live in Champaign, Illinois with their three daughters and Ryan lives in Owatonna with his son.

Swanson will serve with other trust board directors Bonnie Cote of Trail, Randy Knutson of Newfolden, Bonnie Christians of Crookston and Roger Johanneck of Red Lake Falls. Since Operation RoundUp began in 1993, \$345,000 has been granted to community organizations and charities.

Pole inspection to begin on Huot substation

Osmose Utility Services will soon begin inspecting poles on the Huot substation within Red Lake Electric Cooperative's service territory.

This inspection will include poles in: Bray, Sanders, Black River, and Polk Center townships in Pennington County; Wylie, Browns Creek, Louisville, Red Lake Falls, and Lake Pleasant townships in Red Lake County; Parnell, Crookston, and Gentilly townships in Polk County.

Osmose employees will have marked vehicles. They will also be making use of all-terrain vehicles. If you have any questions call the Cooperative's headquarters at (218) 253-2168 or 800-245-6068.



Sept. 19-25 is National Farm Safety Week

In a typical year, 551 workers die while doing agricultural work in the United States and about 88,000 suffer lost-time injuries. Most of these incidents are preventable.

National Farm Safety and Health Week (September 19-25) recognizes the hazardous nature of the agriculture industry and promotes awareness of safety solutions. This annual event was initiated by the National Safety Council (NSC) in 1944 and proclaimed as such by each U.S. president since. The theme for 2010 is "ATV's - Work Smart. Ride Safe."

As farmers across Minnesota work through the harvest season, our roads will see increased farm equipment traffic. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (4323004.04 Steven W. and Laurel J. Swanson) is observing National Farm Safety and Health Week and reminds you to help make Minnesota's roadways safer.

According to the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, crashes involving farm vehicles and equipment are rare. But nevertheless, they do happen and they result in serious injury and even death. Of the approximately 150,000 vehicles involved in crashes in Minnesota in 2008, 147 were farm vehicles. Those crashes resulted in 62 injuries and two deaths.

In observance of National Farm Safety and Health Week, here are a few tips for drivers and farm equipment operators to help make Minnesota's roadways safer.

Road Safety

For people living or driving through rural areas: be on the look out for farm equipment; slow down when encountering slow moving vehicles; wait for a safe place to pass; and avoid using a cell phone

while driving.

For farmers: make yourself easy to be seen by using your lights and flashers; remember it's Minnesota law to use slow moving vehicle emblems on equipment traveling less than 30 miles per hour; and consider using a follow vehicle when moving large equipment on roadways, especially at night.

Work Safety

Agriculture is one of Minnesota's most dangerous jobs. Last year 21 of the 65 work-related deaths in the state were in the ag industry, according to data from the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Farming is physically demanding and long hours can take its toll on our bodies. That physical stress contributes to accidents and even death. It's important farmers follow some basic health guidelines when beginning fall field work.

Make sure to get enough sleep and rest to refresh the mind and body. If you are spending long hours in a combine or tractor, be sure to take short breaks often. When the busy season rolls around, we fill our bodies with fast food and other high-fat, low nutrition junk. Worse yet, we sometimes don't eat at all! It's worth the time to wake up a few minutes earlier to eat a quick breakfast and pack a nutritious lunch. Make sure to include a couple servings of fruits and vegetables to munch on during the day. Limit your intake of fatty meats, candy bars, and sugar.

Child Safety

Minnesota's farms are great places to raise children and they can also serve as an outdoor classroom for those kids not familiar with agriculture. But the farm can also be a dangerous place for a child, if proper safety precautions aren't taken. Here are some guide-

lines to protect children on the farm.

Inspect your farm on a regular basis for hazards that can injure children wandering on your farm. Correct obvious hazards immediately.

Children who are physically able to be involved in farm work should be assigned age-appropriate tasks and continually trained to perform them. Always turn equipment off, lower hydraulics and remove the key before leaving equipment unattended.

Equipment Safety

Large and powerful equipment can be found all over a farm. This equipment is also a source of many injuries. Pay attention to all safety information. Inspect the equipment and correct any hazards before operating.

Identify hazardous areas on equipment and make sure you stay away from moving parts. Beware of pinch points, shear points, wrap points, pull-in areas, thrown objects, crush points, stored energy hazards and freewheeling parts.

Grain Handling Safety

Automated equipment has made grain handling easy and fast. But, grain storage structures and handling equipment create hazardous work areas.

Lock entrances to grain handling areas. Install ladders inside bins. Do not enter grain bins that are being loaded or unloaded. Flowing grain can trap and suffocate in seconds.

Wear proper dust-filtering respirators when working in and around grain handling areas.

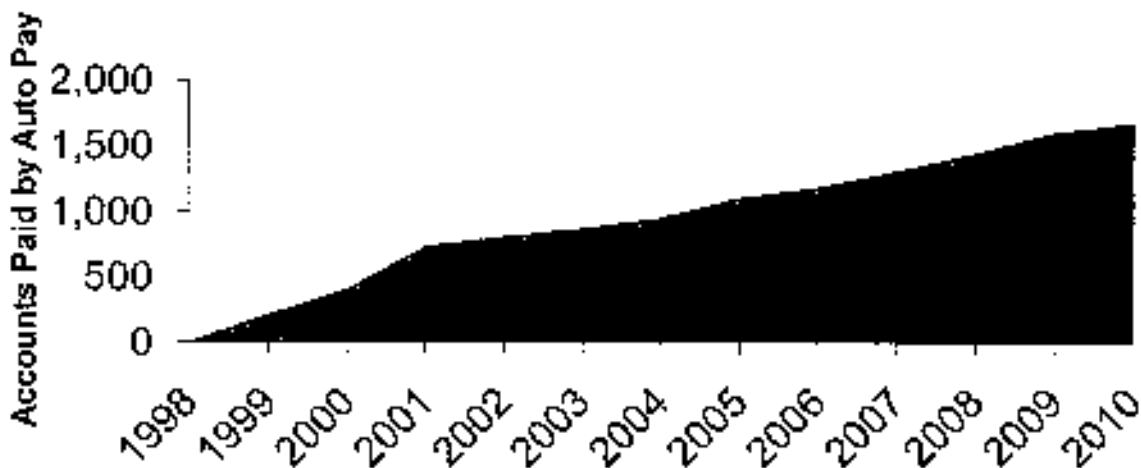
Safety tips provided by the National Safety Council, National Education Center for Agricultural Safety, and the University of Minnesota Extension.

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

As the chart below shows, more and more Red Lake Electric Cooperative customers are enjoying the convenience and secure method of paying their monthly energy bill with Auto-Pay. To show our appreciation, customers who use Auto-pay to pay their monthly bill will automatically be entered into a \$100 drawing on October 8th. For your convenience, an Auto-pay sign up sheet is included with the bill you receive this month. Have a question about Auto-pay? Give us a call at Red Lake Electric Cooperative today. 1-800-245-6068 or 218-253-2168.

Auto-Pay Customers eligible for \$100 drawing





Manager's Comments

by Roger Johanneck



Electricity leaves time for living

"Electricity leaves time for living" was an ad line from a Minnkota Power Systems advertising campaign Red Lake Electric Cooperative used a number of years ago. It was an ad that stuck with me, perhaps in part, because those words were displayed with a picture of two people fishing out of a small boat like our family had when I was growing up. The picture of that boat on the water brought back some fond memories for me. I liked that picture and slogan so much that I kept a large poster of it displayed in my office here at work even years after that ad campaign ended. The poster became so faded I finally gave in to throwing it away. I think about that slogan and pic-

ture occasionally still because it reminded me of something my Dad shared with me shortly before he died, 28 years ago today. He told me to "take time." Even at work, I must confess, it is hard not to think about these anniversaries and some of the memories that go with them. I thought my dad's advice to "take time" had some parallels with our ad slogan of "electricity leaves time for living." How much more difficult would it be to take time to enjoy the things we enjoy doing if it wasn't for the service of electricity? As we head into autumn, my favorite season of the year, I plan to take time to enjoy our great outdoors. I'm looking forward to the changing of the (4326002.06 Larry Mogen) colors of the leaves and

grasses, the scent of the woods and the opportunity to hunt with family and friends. I probably won't spend a lot of time thinking about my fridge, freezer or furnace while my dogs and I are chasing pheasants. I am grateful as I think about it today because I know that having electricity enables me to free up some time to enjoy my favorite activities and my favorite time of year. Even if you don't like to hunt or fish, or if you have some crops in the field yet to harvest, here's hoping you can take some time out of your busy schedule to enjoy the autumn season that is before us; we've got plenty of electricity at Red Lake Electric Cooperative to help where we can.

Pembina Trail RC&D Council Celebrates National RC&D Week-Sept. 19-25

Pembina Trail Resource Conservation & Development (RC&D) Council joins the 375 RC&D Councils across the country in celebrating "RC&D Week". The week of September 19 - 25, 2010 is designed to raise greater public awareness of Resource Conservation & Development councils and their activities in local communities. National RC&D week coincides with the anniversary of the Food and Agriculture Act of 1962 which established the RC&D program that covers 85% of the United States and its territories. James Sipperly, President of the National Association of Resource Conservation and Development Council, expressed appreciation to the thousands of RC&D Council members who celebrate the National Community Service that Resource Conservation & Development councils provide to America. The strength of RC&D is that local people create solutions for local needs. In these times of economic downturn, RC&D councils are invaluable in solving community problems in conservation and com-

munity development. RC&D Councils are far too important to go unnoticed in our communities. The Pembina Trail Resource Conservation & Development council's mission is "to provide leadership and assistance in coordinating the development of our human and natural resources". The council is made up of local leaders who volunteer their time. Pembina Trail RC&D's service area includes the counties of Kittson, Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk and Norman. The RC&D area is locally organized, sponsored and led. Because of this, local people can come together to make choices for their communities - working on projects for land conservation, land management, water management, community development, or something unique to their particular area. The council determines area needs and creates solutions. Some of the projects the Pembina Trail RC&D council has been involved in recently include installing dry hydrants for rural fire protection, securing grant dollars to help combat weed problems, creating the JA

Hughes Outdoor Classroom and sponsoring grazing tours to assist area producers with implementing rotational grazing systems. If you would like to become a volunteer for Pembina Trail RC&D, or have a project requiring technical assistance, please contact the office at 218-253-2646 extension 4 for more information. To learn more about the Pembina Trail RC&D visit our new website at www.pembinatrailred.org and for information on the NRCS RC&D program in Minnesota, please visit www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/rwd/.

GOPHER STATE

ONE CALL

Call before digging!
It's the law!

1-800-252-1166



Member Service Department

by Kevin Reich

Many Federal tax credit energy measures to soon end

For nearly two years federal tax credits have been available when installing qualifying energy efficiency products. For most products the tax credit opportunity will end December 31, 2010. A tax credit of 30% of the cost, up to \$1,500 is available for qualifying windows, exterior doors and storm doors. This also applies to metal and asphalt roofs and insulation. Your building supplier will be able to inform you which products qualify for the tax credits. These products must be installed on an existing home and the home must be your principal residence. The 30% up to \$1,500 credit also applies to qualifying air source heat pumps, central air conditioners, propane and fuel oil furnaces and hydronic boilers. Your heating contractor is able to inform you which products meet the tax credit criteria. Red Lake Electric offers incentives for the installation of energy efficient heat pumps and furnaces/air handlers with ECM blower motors. One product category, eligible for the tax credits, that goes beyond the end of 2010 is geothermal heat pumps. All Energy Star labeled geothermal heat pumps, closed

loop and open loop, qualify for a tax credit. Thirty percent of the cost can be claimed as a credit with no limit. These units must be placed in service by December 31, 2016 and can be installed in existing homes or new construction. Installation incentives are also available from Red Lake Electric for geothermal heat pumps. Qualifying units are \$400 per ton on closed loop systems and \$200 per

ton on open loop systems. The maximum incentive on a closed loop system is \$5,000 with an open loop being \$2,500. For more information on the federal tax credits visit www.energystar.gov or www.energysavers.gov. For more information on the incentives offered by Red Lake Electric visit www.redlakeelectric.com or call 253-2168 or 800-245-6068.

From the Mail Bag

Dear RLEC:
Thank you Red Lake Electric Cooperative for sponsoring my Champion Ewe Trophy at the Pennington County Fair.

Samantha Larson
Euclid

Dear RLEC:
Thank you so much for providing the trophy I won at the Marshall County Fair in the 4H Showmanship. I really appreciate it.

Thanks!
Morgan Klopp
Argyle

Dear RLEC:
Thank you for your article about Saron Lutheran Church's 125th Anniversary celebration. You did a great job and we all appreciated it.

Thank you again,
Lowell Hamrum - President
Saron Free Lutheran Church
Erskine

U.S. Fish & Wildlife requests samples from Hunter-Harvested Sandhill Cranes in MN

Staff from Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) and the Minnesota DNR are hoping to collect tissue samples from cranes killed by hunters during this fall's sandhill crane season. Wildlife personnel are seeking crane specimens from which they can obtain a single wing feather and toenail. Recent developments in stable-isotope methods make it possible to delineate latitude of origin of feathers and other keratinous tissues (i.e., toenails) in birds. This technique now offers a new approach to delineating population structure of hunter-killed samples by establishing approximate origins of birds

taken. Data collected from this research effort will aid in determining what portion of the Minnesota Sandhill Crane harvest has a natal origin (hatch-year cranes) or a molt / breeding area (after hatch-year cranes) within Minnesota, versus more northern locations throughout Canada. Individuals from the Midcontinent Population of sandhill cranes that breed in and migrate through northwestern Minnesota have a potential breeding distribution that spans a wide latitudinal range (including portions of Minnesota, Manitoba, and Ontario). Personnel hope to collect sam-

ples from throughout the 37-day sandhill crane season, in order to account for changes in geographical origin that will likely occur as the crane migration progresses throughout September and into early October. Several Minnesota DNR staff within the boundaries of the sandhill crane hunting zone are equipped to collect samples. Successful crane hunters can also contact Gregg Knutsen (Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge) at 218-449-4115 (x204) or 218-686-4329 to provide samples, or for more information.

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

WE PROUDLY PRESENT TO YOU

The Red Lake Electric Cooperative

Customer Service Guarantee

It's short and simple! Red Lake Electric Cooperative employees will meet or exceed your expectations of friendly, courteous service and will meet any commitments they make to you. If your expectations of the service provided by our employees is not met, please contact me at the Red Lake Electric Cooperative office, 253-2168. You will receive \$5.00 for your inconvenience and our promise to serve you better in the future. Our employees' commitment to quality customer service makes this guarantee possible.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

ROGER JOHANNECK
General Manager

RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.

VOLTS & JOLTS

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NOTICE

Hidden within the text of the articles on pages 1, 2, 3 and the back page of this issue of the Volts & Jolts are the names and account numbers of five RLEC members. They will appear within the articles in parenthesis as such (99-99-99-999-99 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.

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 \$50 collection fee will be charged to your account, even if you pay the collector. To have a disconnected service reconnected, all amounts owing, a \$50 reconnection fee, and a security deposit must be paid. If the service must be reconnected after normal working hours, a \$100 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 \$19 to \$25 month

First 500 KWH9.0¢ Kwh
Over 500 KWH (April-Dec.)7.2¢ Kwh
Over 500 KWH (Jan.-Mar.)8.0¢ Kwh

Multiphase users add \$18/month cost of service charge.

Standby, \$10/month (meter disconnected but the power line retained; standby is not available on services larger than 15 KVA transformer capacity).

Security light, \$7/month, high pressure sodium, \$8/month, mercury vapor; water heater flat credit, \$5/month (on January-April billing); off-peak equipment charge, \$4.50/month per heat meter; off-peak electric heat rate, 4.2¢/kWh long-term control, 6.2¢/kWh short-term control.

Recipe corner

Stuffed Cherry Tomatoes

2 pkgs (one 8 oz, one 3 oz) cream cheese, softened
2 tbs mayonnaise
1 pkg (.4 oz) ranch salad dressing mix
3 dozen cherry tomatoes

Optional: alfalfa sprouts

In a mixing bowl, blend cream cheese, mayonnaise and salad dressing mix until smooth. Slice a thin slice off tops of tomatoes and carefully remove insides; invert on paper towel to drain. Fill with cream cheese mixture. Serve on a bed of alfalfa sprouts if desired. Yield: 12-16 servings.

Corned Beef & Mixed Vegetables

1 corned beef brisket (3 to 4 lbs), trimmed
6 - 8 small red potatoes
3 medium carrots, cut into 2 in. pieces
3 celery ribs, cut into 2 in. pieces
2 tbs chopped celery leaves
2 turnips, peeled and cut into wedges
1 medium head cabbage, cut into 6 to 8 wedges
1/2 lb fresh green beans
3 to 4 ears fresh corn, halved

Place corned beef and enclosed seasoning packet in an 8-qt. Dutch oven. Cover with water and bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 2 hours or until meat is tender. Add potatoes, carrots, celery, celery leaves and turnips; return to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 20 minutes. Add cabbage, beans and corn; return to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer 15-20 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Yield: 6-8 servings.

Chocolate Zucchini Bread

3 eggs
1 cup vegetable oil
2 cups sugars
1 tbs. vanilla extract
2 cups shredded peeled zucchini (about 1 medium)
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 cup baking cocoa
1 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda
1 tsp ground cinnamon
1/4 tsp baking powder

In a mixing bowl, beat eggs, oil, sugar and vanilla. Stir in zucchini. Combine dry ingredients; add to zucchini mixture and mix well. Pour into two greased 8-in. x 4in. x 2-in. loaf pans. Bake at 350 for 1 hour or until bread tests done. Yield: 2 loaves.

Pineapple Beets

2 tbs brown sugar
1 tbs cornstarch
1/4 tsp salt
1 can (8 oz) pineapple tidbits, undrained
1 tbs butter or margarine
1 tbs lemon juice

In a saucepan, combine brown sugar, cornstarch and salt; add pineapple and bring to a boil, stirring constantly until thick, about 2 minutes. Add the beets, butter and lemon juice; cook over medium heat for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Yield: 4 servings.



Paradise Cran-Applesauce

4 cups fresh or frozen cranberries
1/4 cup water
8 cups sliced peeled cooking apples
2 cups sugar

In a covered saucepan, simmer cranberries and water for 20-25 minutes or until tender. Press through a sieve or food mill; return to the saucepan. Add apples; cover and simmer for 35-40 minutes or until apples are tender but retain their shape. Add sugar. Simmer for 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. Yield: 8-10 servings.

Glazed Corned Beef Sandwiches

1 corned beef brisket (3 to 4 lbs)
12 peppercorns
4 bay leaves
3 garlic cloves, minced
2 cinnamon sticks (3 inches), broken
1 tbs red pepper flakes
sandwich buns

Glaze:
1/2 cup packed brown sugar
1/2 tsp ground cloves
1/2 tsp ground ginger
1/2 tsp dry mustard
1/4 tsp celery salt
1/4 tsp caraway seed

Place corned beef with seasoning packet in a Dutch oven; cover with water. Add seasonings and bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 4 to 4-1/2 hours or until meat is tender. Drain, discarding juices; blot brisket dry. In a small bowl, combine glaze ingredients. Rub onto top of warm meat. Grill or broil for 510 minutes on each side until glazed. Slice meat and serve warm or chilled on buns. Yield: 12-16 servings.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Operating Report

MONTHLY COMPARISON

	JULY 2009	JULY 2010
Total Revenue	\$ 608,011	\$ 691,418
Total Margins	\$ (88,138)	\$ (57,944)
Cost of Power	\$ 438,306	\$ 526,216
KWH's Purchased	7,038,238	8,027,863
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	\$ 6,801	\$ 5,682

YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON

	JULY 2009	JULY 2010
Total Revenue	\$6,200,289	\$ 6,656,214
Total Margins	\$ 754,641	\$ 515,288
Cost of Power	\$ 3,825,908	\$ 4,462,701
KWH's Purchased	87,341,907	82,450,949
New Service Connections	15	15
Customers Served	5,157	5,198
Capital Credits Paid to Estates	\$ 39,229	\$ 52,103
Miles of Line		
Overhead	2,319	2,325
Underground	235	235

World's most expensive dirt

Dust dollars off your energy bill by regularly changing air filters

by John Bruce

The most expensive dirt in the world may lurk in your home's heating and cooling system.

If neglected, dust collecting in the equipment's air filter could increase your energy bills hundreds of dollars every year and result in costly repair or replacement costs.

Dirty filters cause a system to work harder and break down faster. That's because unfiltered dust and grime work into critical parts, creating friction that causes unnecessary wear and, eventually, failure.

As you move around your home you drive dust into the air from carpets, drapes, and furniture. Pets generate dust particles by shedding, grooming, and tracking in dirt from outside.

Regardless of where it comes from, dust trapped in a heating and cooling system air filter leads to several problems, including:

- Reduced air flow in the home and up to 15 percent higher operating costs.
- Costly duct cleaning or replacement.
- Lowered system efficiency.

Every time a system with a dirty filter kicks on, the day of reckoning-total-replacement draws closer. To avoid this expense, change filters monthly when a system's in regular use.

Discuss cleaning the unit and ductwork with your heating and cooling service professional.

While most types of filters must be replaced, a few filters are reusable. They're available in a variety of types (5205001.04 James F. Smsky) and efficiencies, rated by a Minimum Efficiency Reporting

Value (MERV).

MERV, a method developed by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers, tests filter effectiveness. The higher the MERV number, the higher the filter's effectiveness at keeping dust out of your system.

To learn more about how to save energy around your home, visit www.energysavers.gov.

Sources: High Performance HVAC, US. Department of Energy

John Bruce is a freelance writer based in South Carolina. He writes on energy efficiency for the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, the Arlington, Va.-based service arm of the nation's 900plus consumer-owned, not-for-profit electric cooperatives.

Are you wasting your money on DIRT?

Dirty air filters cause a heating and cooling system to work harder and break down faster. That's because unfiltered dust and grime work into critical parts, creating friction that causes unnecessary wear and, eventually, failure.

How does a dirty air filter cost you?

Reduces air flow in the home, leading to up to 15 percent higher operating costs

Leads to costly duct cleaning or replacement

Lowers system efficiency

To avoid these expenses, change filters monthly when your heating and cooling system's in regular use. Discuss cleaning the unit and ductwork with your heating and cooling service professional.

Learn more ways to save at www.energysavers.gov.

Source: High Performance HVAC. U.S. Department of Energy

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.

YEAR TO DATE DEGREE DAYS

August 20 to August 20

Year	Degree Days
04-05	10,500
05-06	9,500
06-07	10,000
07-08	10,200
08-09	10,500
09-10	9,500
Avg	10,000

DEGREE DAYS

July 20 to August 20

Year	Degree Days
05	110
06	35
07	65
08	5
09	45
10	15
Avg	40

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VOLTS AND JOLTS FEATURE OF THE MONTH

LeBlanc family operates a Century Farm

The farm of Greg and Marlene LeBlanc located on Highway 2 near Crookston was honored as a Century Farm during the Polk County Fair in Fertile at the beginning of July.

"I didn't think the farm was that old but it was," remarked Greg, whose great-grandfather Dominic began the family farm in 1902.

py at the University of Mary in Bismark, N.D.

Dominic is attending North Dakota State College of Science in Wahpeton, N.D. His intention is to take over the family farm; he will be the fifth generation to operate the farm and bares the same name as the farm's pioneer.

The LeBlanc family farm currently con-

When asked what the plans were for the future of the Leblanc family farm, Greg responded, "If the opportunity presents itself, it would be nice to expand." He also said his son Dominic will someday become the farm's sole operator.

Greg is a member of the research and promotion council for Minnesota Soybean Growers, a position that allows him to gain

Matthew, Greg and Marlene, and Dominic LeBlanc

Greg has been farming since 1975 but he grew up on the family farm and helped out while attending high school.

After high school, Greg attended the University of Minnesota, Crookston where he studied crop production and animal science.

For 20 years, Greg worked for American Crystal Sugar in Crookston from 1980 to 2000.

His hobbies include watching high school sports such as football and basketball and listening to sports on the radio. He also spends some time doing carpentry, which he says "is a nice change of pace from farming."

He and Marlene have been married since 1986 and they have two sons: Matthew, 21, and Dominic, 18.

Matthew is studying occupational thera-

sists of 1,500 acres where soybeans, hard red spring wheat, corn and confectioner's sunflowers are raised. The main acreage this year is in soybeans. There are also some acres in CRP.

A major change from the LeBlanc farm of yore, is the fact livestock is no longer raised. Greg's grandfather used to raise dairy cattle, hogs, chicken and horses. When his father took over farming, he continued to raise hogs. While Greg was in high school, he helped with raising the hogs, but that was the end of the livestock on the LeBlanc farm.

Another big change on the farm is the technology of the equipment. "My dad went from using horses to running auto steer where you don't touch the steering wheel," LeBlanc said of the farm equipment.

insight into the future of the agriculture industry.

"There is a lot of positives ahead for agriculture," Greg stated, noting that renewable resources and the push to be environmentally friendly will prove to be valuable for farmers.

He explained that many new products are being manufactured in the agriculture world to meet these demands, such as biodiesel and ethanol. He said even the plastic used to make tractors and combines contains soybean resin.

Greg recently made a move to be more "green" as well, when he took advantage of rebates offered through Red Lake Electric Cooperative to equip his two-year old shop with energy-efficient lighting and off-peak electric heat.

Greg and Marlene LeBlanc live on Highway 2 near Crookston on their Century Farm.

Wheat from the LeBlanc farm is being put into the grain dryer.

This combine is the newest addition to the LeBlanc farm equipment.

This shop on the LeBlanc century farm was just built in 2008.

Greg LeBlanc recently installed energy efficient lighting in his shop with rebates offered through Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

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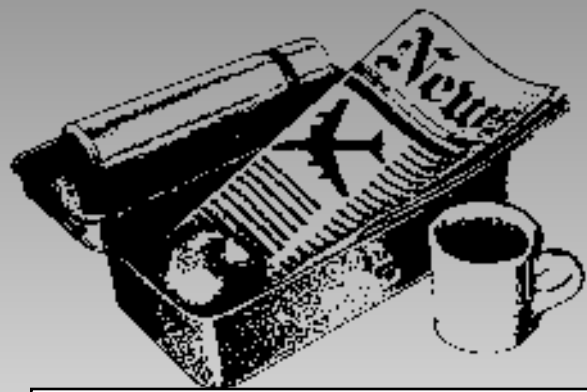
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Miscellany

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