



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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RED LAKE FALLS (RED LAKE COUNTY), MINNESOTA 56750

JUNE 2009

June is Dairy Month

In recognition of Dairy Month, Red Lake Electric Cooperative would like to take a moment to salute local dairy farmers and the entire dairy industry.

Red Lake Electric appreciates the outstanding effort and vital contributions they make to the area.



Did you know?

- Minnesota ranks 4th nationally in cheese production.
- Vanilla is the most popular flavor of ice cream.
- An average cow produces about 350,000 glasses of milk per lifetime.
- Oreos and milk are snacked on together about 2.8 million times a day.

New Conservation Improvement Program incentives available

For the past five years, Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) has had to spend 1.5 percent of gross revenue on conservation programs. The bulk of the money was spent on rebates for Energy Star appliances and equipment.

Starting in 2010, as a directive from the state legislature, RLEC must spend money on conservation programs that yield electric energy savings. Energy conserved must equal 1.5 percent of the Cooperative's total annual kilowatt hour sales.

To meet this directive the Cooperative is launching new Conservation Improvement Program (CIP) incentives. These incentives are more comprehensive than the previous offerings for both residential and business customers.

Residential offerings span from a \$2 rebate on compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) to \$400 per ton on a geothermal, closed loop heat pump.

Business incentives apply for lighting, air conditioning, air source heat pumps, geothermal heat pumps, chillers, motors, variable frequency drives, and Energy Star

food service equipment.

Rebate forms that list the offerings are posted on RLEC website, www.redlakeelectric.com.

The forms are also available from the (4817002.02 Dale A. Anderson) Cooperative or local electrical and heating/cooling contractors.

The accompanying tables list many of the incentives.

Custom applications may also apply to business customers. Most energy conservation measures can be explored to see if the measure qualifies for an incentive.

For additional information, contact RLEC at 253-2168 or 800-245-6068.

Residential and business incentive graphs are located on page 5.

Current Energy Star household appliance rebates will be discontinued

For over five years, Red Lake Electric Cooperative (RLEC) has been offering rebates on various Energy Star household appliances. Due to changes to the Minnesota Conservation Improvement Program, the rebates will end July 31, 2009.

The appliances that rebates will be (4518005.01 David L. Lee) discontinued on include: all air condi-



tioners, dishwashers, refrigerators, freezers and dehumidifiers.

Currently there is a \$100 rebate for an Energy Star clothes washer. This will be reduced to \$50 after July 31.

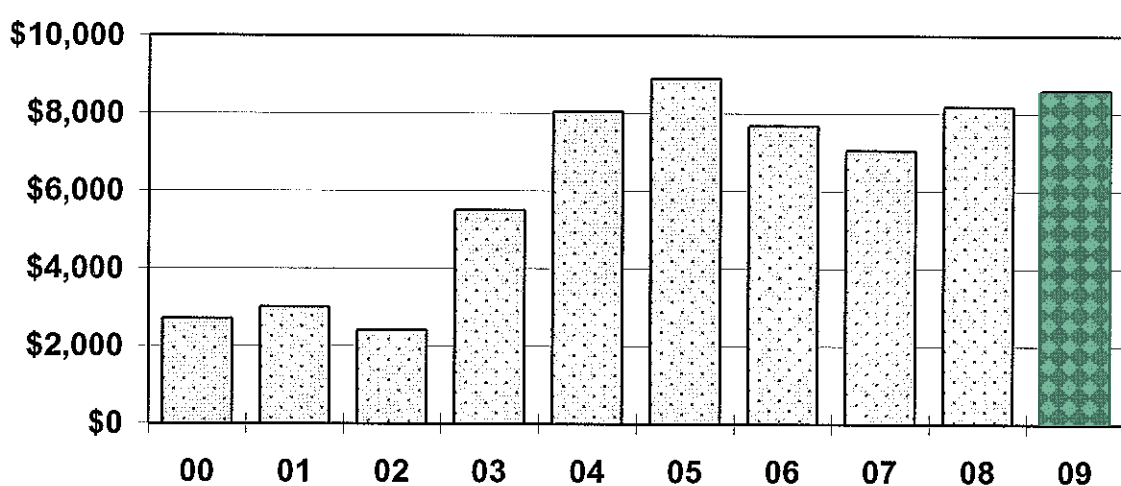
In order to receive a

rebate on an Energy Star appliance purchased before July 31, the application must be submitted to RLEC by August 14, 2009.

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

The graph below shows the amount of money Red Lake Electric Cooperative has given in scholarships to our service area high school graduates for the past ten years. The majority of this scholarship money is funded by unclaimed Capital Credits paid out by Red Lake Electric Cooperative. The ability of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to use these unclaimed Capital Credits this way was a privilege given to all Minnesota Cooperatives in 1987. Prior to that time, these monies were handed over to the state. We think this law change was a good one and are happy Red Lake Electric Cooperative can use this money to provide scholarships for our service area high school graduates.



RLEC announces scholarship recipients

Each year, Red Lake Electric Cooperative provides scholarships for graduating seniors at each of the high schools operating throughout the Cooperative's service area.

The recipients are selected by the scholarship selection committee at the high schools. There were 11 recipients this year with each students receiving \$600.

The funds for these scholarships come from unclaimed capital credits.

Congratulations and best wishes to these scholarship recipients.



LOGAN PETERS
Marshall County Central
Scott and Charmaine Peters
Viking



KATELYN PETERSON
Greenbush/Middle River H.S.
Mark and Marlene Peterson
Middle River



RACHAEL KIESOW
Grygla-Gatzke High School
Bruce and Angie Kiesow
Goodridge



DAVID HANSON
Goodridge High School
Michael and Linda Hanson
Goodridge



FAITH KRUCHOWSKI
Red Lake County Central
Pat Kruchowski, Brooks
Gloria Anderson, Trail



KATRINA PETERSON
Lincoln High School
David L. and Betty Peterson
Thief River Falls



KEATON JOPPRU
Lincoln High School
Rocky and Ann Joppru
Thief River Falls



CYDNEE PETERSON
Lincoln High School
Neil and Nicole Peterson
St. Hilaire



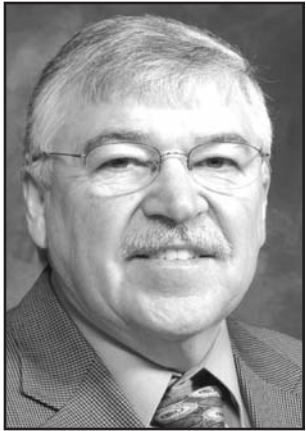
SARA DODA
Crookston High School
Mitchell and Deanna Doda
Crookston



SHELBY WEISS
Lafayette High School
Ron and Sharon Weiss
Red Lake Falls



KAYLA BENSON
Win-E-Mac High School
Eugene and Cindy Benson
Mentor



Manager's Comments

by Roger Johanneck



Tree planting

I read somewhere that planting a tree is one of the most unselfish things a person can do; that we don't really plant the tree for ourselves, but for others who will be around to see the tree grow to it's full maturity. As I was mowing my lawn recently, I was thinking of all the trees in my yard that had been planted by our home's previous owners. I am grateful for their work, planning and yes, the good deed they did for those of us that followed them and are around to see (2804001.07 Walter Leach, Jr.) the trees mature. I am not only grateful to them for what they have done to make my yard look beautiful, but to my neighbors and our communities that keep their yards, parks and roadways looking beautiful for all to enjoy.

If you are planning to plant trees in your yard, I encourage you to keep Red Lake Electric Cooperative in mind when you consider where you are going to plant your trees.

One of my jobs early on in my working career was working for a landscape contractor. A lesson learned from that work experience was to imagine what the tree will look like when it grows to it's full

potential and landscape the yard accordingly. Too often it seems, yards are landscaped with trees planted in locations for the size they are today instead of what they will grow to when they are mature.

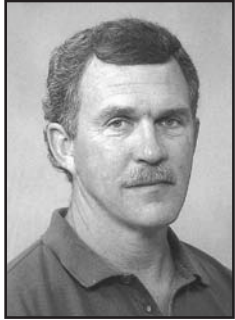
Our fondness for trees and lack of planning sometimes has us planting them where they shouldn't be planted. Placing trees under or too close to power lines creates both a safety and reliability problem when the trees mature. Trees, when fully grown should be clear of power lines by a minimum of 20 to 25 feet. If you want to plant trees near a power line, they should have a maximum height of 15 feet.

Trees growing in or near a power line can cause electric service interruptions or momentary blinks when branches make contact with the line. Going without power or momentary blinks are not the worst of having trees in the line however. Wood conducts electricity and when trees are touching the power lines, it creates a hazard for people and pets. It's important for parents to educate their children about the risks involved with climbing and playing in trees, especially those near overhead power lines.

If you have trees growing in or near our power lines, please contact Red Lake Electric Cooperative. We have the personnel, equipment and training to trim back trees; do not attempt to take care of the trimming yourself.

Overhead lines are not the only consideration (3803013.02 Dan and Mary Thorstad) when planting your trees. Planting trees and shrubs too close to an underground utility service can create problems when roots grow inside pad-mount or ground level cabinets. To avoid the hazard of digging into an underground utility, I remind you also to call Gopher State One Call before digging at 1-800-252-1166.

I encourage you to give your landscape project some planning before you begin planting. With the wide varieties of trees and shrubs available, there is a good chance you will find something to satisfy the color, size, and shade you want to make a part of your landscape. A little planning will also increase the likelihood that your mature trees will provide a safe environment and enhance the quality of life for you, your family and for those that someday will follow you.



Member Service Department

by Kevin Reich

Conservation programs changing

The last two issues of the "Volts & Jolts" have had information relating to the changes associated with the Conservation Improvement Program (CIP). I will also review some of the changes in this column.

For over five years, rebates have been offered on qualifying Energy Star household appliances and cooling equipment. There will be two changes with these rebate offerings. The first change is all of the rebates for Energy Star appliances will no longer be offered after July 31 with the exception of clothes washers. There will continue to be a \$50 rebate for Energy Star clothes washers. The second change applies to Energy Star air conditioning units. There will be no rebates for residential air conditioners after July 31. Rebate forms for qualifying appliance and air conditioner purchases made on/or before July 31 must be submitted by Aug. 14, 2009.

Rebates have also been offered on air source and ground source heat (5217002.02 Arlene Peterson) pumps. These will continue and in greater amounts especially for qualifying ground source units. The rebate on energy efficient air source heat pumps is now \$250. The heat pumps must have a Seasonal Energy Efficiency Rating (SEER) of 14.0 or greater and a Heating Seasonal Performance Factor (HSPF) of 8.2 or greater. If the heat pump is added to a high efficient furnace with an Electronically Commutated Motor (ECM) this increases the rebate amount by \$150 to a total of \$400.

Rebates on ground source heat pumps are determined by the ton. A closed loop system is \$400/ton with an open loop system being \$200/ton. A closed loop system must have an Energy Efficiency Ratio (EER) of 14.1 or greater. An open loop system must have an EER rating of 16.2 or greater. The maximum rebate on a closed loop ground source heat pump is \$2,000 with the maximum on an open loop unit being \$1,000.

Additional rebates are being

offered for residential high efficiency electric water heaters and Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL). The rebate amount on an 80-gallon or larger water heater is \$150. The heater must have an Energy Factor (EF) of .91 or greater and be on load control. The rebate on CFL lamps is up to \$2 per lamp for a total of 12 lamps.

A chart outlining the residential energy efficiency incentives is located elsewhere in this publication.

There is also a chart outlining the business energy efficiency incentives. I will review the business CIP program in my next column.

Have a great summer!

Happy Fourth of July

In observance of Independence Day, Red Lake Electric Cooperative's headquarters will be closed Friday, July 3.

In case of an electrical emergency or outage, call the after-hour phone number 218-352-2200.

As you celebrate Independence Day, remember to play and celebrate safely and responsibly.

Minnesota dairy farming: A vital contributor to the state's success

Minnesota's dairy farmers provide more than milk. They bring jobs and economic activity to communities across the state. Minnesota dairies contribute to the local economy by supporting local businesses and the community tax base.

Dairy farming is an important contributor to the state's overall economy. Each dollar a dairy producer receives in milk sales generates more money for the local economy.

- Approximately 4,770 dairy farms produce milk that provides milk, cheese, yogurt and other dairy products to residents of Minnesota, the U.S., and dairy consumers around the world.
- Approximately 98 percent of all Minnesota dairy farms are family-owned.
- In Minnesota, the average dairy cow will produce about 6 gallons of milk per day over the course of a typical year. That's more than 2,000 gallons a year.
- Minnesota dairy farms produce 8.7 billion pounds of milk



- Dairy farmers purchase machinery, trucks, fuel and more from local companies, generating jobs and income.
 - Dairies create jobs for people who grow and ship feed for cows, as well as for veterinarians, insurance agents, accountants, bankers and others.
 - After milk leaves the farm, it travels by truck to a dairy plant, where people process cheese, fluid milk, ice cream, butter, yogurt and other dairy products.
 - Truckers, packaging manufacturers and food marketers complete the cycle by transporting and marketing the dairy products everyone loves. This means jobs in the transportation, distribution and retail industries.
- Source: National Agricultural Statistics Services, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Milk Producers Federation, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 2008 Minnesota Farm Business Management Program Database, Dairy Sort.*

annually, equal to 171 million gallons.

- Minnesota cows produced more than 5 percent of the nation's milk supply in 2008. Milk production ranks 6th nationally; the state ranks 5th nationally in cheese production.
- A strong dairy industry benefits the agricultural economy and the economic well being of rural Minnesota. In 2008, Minnesota dairies enrolled in the Farm Business Management program database spent more than \$800,000 on farm and living expenses.

Milk doesn't stay on the farm, where milk goes, more jobs are created.

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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

(USPS 663-400)

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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	\$17 to \$23 month
First 500 KWH9.0¢ Kwh
Over 500 KWH (April-Dec.)6.6¢ Kwh
Over 500 KWH (Jan.-Mar.)7.5¢ Kwh

Multiphase users add \$17/month cost of service charge.

Standby, \$9/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/month per heat meter; off-peak electric heat rate, 4.0¢/kWh long-term control, 5.8¢/kWh short-term control.

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VOLTS AND JOLTS FEATURE OF THE MONTH

The Hansons raise unique Ayrshire dairy cattle

By Destiny Harmoning

Good-Vue Ayr Farms in Goodridge is run by Michael and Linda Hanson who raise a unique breed of dairy cattle, the Ayrshire.

Michael grew up mainly in the Goodridge area, graduating from Goodridge High School. Linda grew up on a dairy farm in Eldridge, Iowa, where she graduated from North Scott High School.

Following graduation, Michael attended college at the University of Minnesota, Crookston where he obtained a degree in Dairy Production. Linda followed a similar path, obtaining her degree in Dairy Science from Iowa State.

The couple met at the U.S. Ayrshire Breeders' Association annual convention which was held in Rochester, Minnesota that year. They were married in 1989.

They have three boys, David, 17, who just graduated from Goodridge High School, Matthew, 15, and Steven, 12, and a daughter, Sarah, who is married to Brad Lunke, has four boys of her own and farms north of Thief River Falls.

In their free time, the family enjoys snowmobiling and are very active in the Goodridge Trail Blazers Snowmobile Club. They also enjoy motorcycle cruises.

Michael is on the Leadership Council for Land O' Lakes where he represents dairy farmers in the area, is the financial secretary on the church council for Faith Lutheran Church, is the secretary for the Farmer's Union Board in Grygla and is on the Goodridge Area Development board. In the past, Michael has served as a township officer and has been a member of the Jaycees and the Lions Club.

Linda is on the board of directors for the U.S. Ayrshire Breeders' Association, is the supervisor for the Pennington County Soil and Water District, is treasurer of the Faith Lutheran Church ladies' group and is the secretary/treasurer of the Goodridge Trail Blazers.

The Hansons have been dairy farming together for 20 years. They both grew up on dairy farms and have been dairy farming their whole lives.

For Michael, raising the special Ayrshire breed ran in the family. His grandfather had raised the breed as well as his parents.

Matthew, Michael, Steven, David and Linda Hanson

The Ayrshire are native of Scotland and were brought over to America in the mid-1800s. The Ayrshire is a red and white cow and is smaller than the red and white Holstein breed. The Ayrshire has a lot less numbers than the more common Holstein, placing the Ayrshire in a unique niche market.

"It's a breed of dairy cattle that typically are known for being extremely hardy and easy to raise," Linda explained. In fact, many dairy producers are looking to Ayrshires for cross-breeding purposes in order to obtain their good health traits including ruggedness, good reproductive traits, easy calving and longevity.

Ayshire calfs on the Hanson's farm.

"The Ayrshire is one of the grandest cows out there," Michael said, according to W.D. Hoard's Dairyman magazine. "We've found them to be a very profitable cow," he added. He explained that the Ayrshire does not produce as much volume of milk but the breed makes up for quantity with good milk components such as fat, protein, vitamins and minerals.

Right now, the Hansons have a heard of 62 purebred Ayrshire cows, 55 of which they are milking. They also have about 60 young Ayrshires on the farm as well. In addition to their cattle, they also farm 1,300 acres where they grow wheat, soybeans, barley and alfalfa.

Having a special breed like the Ayrshire has opened up many opportuni-

David Hanson clips a cow to prepare it for showing.

ties for the Hansons including being able to show them at local, state and national events as well as being able to sell them in the niche market. They have sold cattle all across the U.S. The opportunity to sell breeding stock makes a good addition to cash flow and income for the Hansons.

"We take the dairy thing a little bit further than just milking them every day," stated Linda. Michael added, "That's kind of what's kept our interest, just milking cows is one thing but being able to participate in activities enhances that interest and keeps you going in the tough times."

The Hansons take pride in their cattle. In fact, each one of the animals are given a name rather than just a number.

On a typical day, the Hansons are awake at 4:30 a.m. to begin their chores. They do this seven days a week. Much of the day is spent doing chores and milking cows. What is done with the rest of their time depends on what season it is. In the winter, they may go for a snowmobile ride in between chores, whereas in the summertime, it's out to the field to work with the crops. Then the Hansons end the day the same way it started, with chores and milking cows.

The Hansons do not use Total Mixed Rations (TMR) as is common in most dairy productions. "We have a very simple feeding program of dry hay and grain," Michael explained.

The Hansons said the biggest challenges of being dairy farmers is facing tough economic times and the commitment needed to run a successful farm. Linda explained that the current problem is prices are low and inputs are high, which is affecting all dairy farmers.

Another challenge that the Hansons face, as well as other dairy farmers in the area, is the steadily declining number of dairy producers which could lead to the closing of milk plants which would be detrimental to the producers.

There are however many rewards that balance out the challenges. For the Hansons, they enjoy breeding quality cattle and the satisfaction of doing a good job with their herd. They also enjoy being able to spend time together as a family and work together.

In the future of the Hanson's farm they hope that their sons will want to take over the operation. Their oldest son David is planning to attend the University of Minnesota to obtain a degree in Dairy Science.

As far as Linda and Michael, they plan to continue what they are doing. "We're committed to farming and we don't have any intention of quitting anytime soon," said Linda.

They said that the milk prices aren't enough to turn them away from their labor of love. "We've lived through low prices before and we feel that they will get better again," Michael stated. "We're in it for the long haul."

The Hansons raise Ayrshire cattle, a unique dairy breed.

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Can you help us locate any of the following

The following people have capital credit refunds due them. Checks mailed to their last-known address have been returned by the Postal Service. If you can provide a current address for someone who is listed or the name and address of an heir if they are deceased, call or write Red Lake Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750; 218-253-2168 or 800-245-6068.

Aaland, David
Aberle, Karljeff
Alberts, Wayne
Amundson, Michelle
Anderson, Jason
Anderson, Joel A.
Anderson, Spencer
Arhart, Anthony D.
Armstrong Estate, Frank
Atkinson, James H.
Aune, Olaf
Bakke, Ruth
Bath, Bonnie
Becker, Arthur K.
Bellanger, Mike
Berger, Gregory
Berhow, Carol
Bethell, Ted J.
Blom, Gayle
Boerboom, Dale
Boese, Lloyd
Borchard, Kevin
Brusett, Phyliss
Buck, Rodger R.
Burch, Troy
Butcher, Richard
Camllng, Jeff

Carlson, Dennis O.
Carpenter, Curtis
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Chaput, Kenneth
Christenson, Ole
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Durant, Charles
Engen, Eldor
Erickson, Joseph L.
Erickson, Robert L.
Erickson, W.H.
Estabrook, Rodger
Falls Concrete & Supply
Felchle, Steve
Flannery, Mary
Ford, Gary
Forsberg, Mark
French, David
Fuhr, David
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Halstad, Bruce
Halvorson, Wm.
Hanson, Aaron
Hanson, David A.
Hanson, Debra J.
Harry, Tom
Hart, Kevin
Heath, Wilford
Hendrum, Judy
Higgins, Robert
Hill, Gaylen B.
Hill, Matthew
Hills, Donald G.
Hofer, Fred
Holmquist, David
Horachek, Vince
Hutchinson, Stacy J.
Jensen, Staci R. Burkel
Jesperson, Hazel
Johaneson, Harry
Johnson, Carl
Johnson, Charles A.
Johnson, Helge H.
Johnson, James R.
Johnson, Michael J.
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Jorde, Marzella H.

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Kesterke, Kenneth D.
Ketierer, Judy
Klotier, Craig
Kofstad, Rick
Kornelson, Roseann
Kostrzewski, Alex
Koukari, Raymond M. Jr.
Krall, Jeff
Krueger, John G.
Krueger, Kurt F.
Kruetzberg, Dan
Kuhlman, Al
Kuhnley, Richard
Kukowski, Joyce
Kulvik, Jeff
Lahti, Danetie L.
Larson, Robert
Lease, Larry L.
Leeper, Jack (Ed)
Llan, Ralph
Liebl, Jerome O.
Lien, Glennie
Lindemoen, Pam
Linder, Margaret
Lund, Timothy A.
Lytle, Jeffrey D.
Maras, Dan
Martini, Bill & Judith E.
Mason, Bob
Matson, Anthony
Mentor Ranch Inc.
Merco Sales Co.
Mickelson, Arnold
Miller, Duane L.
Mintz, Alvin
Montgomery, Al
Morris, Gary
Nava, Ellizabeth

Nelson, Clifford E.
Nelson, Darrel W.
Nelson, David
Nelson, Douglas & Janine
Nelson, Kenneth D.
Nelson, Leland L.
Nelson, Peter W.
Nelson, Rodney M.
Nelson, Ronald C.
Nestebey, Larry
Neumann, Curt
Nicholson, Aaron
Northern Peat Moss Co.
O'Brien, Mike V.
Oen, Ray G.
Ogle, Franklin A.
Olson, Floyd
Olson, Francis L.
Olson, Greg P.
Olson, Jerry G.
Olson, Robert Allen
Olson, Steve A.
Omdahl, Philip L.
Paulson, Richard
Payton, Gregory D.
Pierce, Richard
Plastech Research, Inc.
Powers, Rodger
Rader, Bob
Ramsay, W.J.
Rasmus, Robert
Roberts, Beckylynn
Rudolph, Ricky J.
Rupprecht, Melodee J.
Rux, Gail
Schmidt, James L.
Schuemann, Wilfred
Schultz, Donald F.
Second Hand Store

Shanahan, Nancy (Stoffel)
Shoup, Leland D.
Simmons, Lloyd H. Estate
Slenen, Gayle
Solberg, Scott
Sollund, Arlyn
Srnsky, Gary R.
Srnsky, Gregory J.
Stanislawski, Stan
Stearns, Brian & Michelle
Stigen, Rita J.
Stusynski, Leonard
Sullivan, Don D.
Sunram, Lester
Sunrise Builders Inc
Tom, Greg
Tomschin, Roger
Toren, Helen
Toupin, Greg
Van Ackeren, Cindie
Van Horn, Carl Roger
Van Lith, Carter
Van Wygarden, Ray H.
Vedbraaten, Ruby
Vondal, Ronald F.
Wahl, Shane D.
Walker, Joan
Walsh, James J.
Wandrie, Roger
Wehage Whittmyer, Vicki
Wernke, David R.
Wightman, Loree
Willhite, Clay
Williams, Jack G. Jr.
Wilson, Rodney
Wold, Vernon
Worm, Joe G.

From the Mail Bag

Dear RLEC:
I would like to say thank you very much for choosing me for your scholarship. It will be a big help in becoming a nurse. Thank you very much.

**Kayla Benson
Mentor
Win-E-Mac 2009 Graduate**

Dear RLEC:
Thank you for the scholarship you awarded me. It will help my future at Northwest Technical College greatly. Thanks again.

**Katie Peterson
Middle River**

Dear RLEC:
Thank you so much for the \$600 scholarship. I really appreciate it! It will surely help defray the costs of college in the Fall. I plan to attend Jamestown College for Radiology. Thanks so much.

**Sincerely,
Rachael Kiesow
Goodridge**

Dear RLEC:
Thank you for selecting me to receive a \$600 scholarship from your cooperative. I was recognized for receiving this scholarship during graduation ceremonies in Goodridge on May 16. The generous financial support offered by the businesses, organizations and private individuals in the northwest Minnesota area is remarkable and hopefully you can continue to support area youth for a long time to come.

My intentions are to study at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul and after graduation return to the Goodridge area and our family farm continuing to pursue both dairy and grain farming. Your support will certainly help me reach my educational goals. Thank you again.

**Sincerely,
David Hanson
Goodridge**

Dear RLEC:
Recently my guidance counselor, Mr. Ray Lutovsky, called me to his office to inform me of the excellent news that I have received one of your scholarships. I would like to take this time to tell you how much I appreciate this scholarship, and to assure you that the money awarded is going to be put towards my extended education.

Just to introduce myself a bit, my name is Sara Doda, and I currently attend Crookston High School as a senior. My parents' names are Mitchell and Deanne Doda. My entire life I have lived in the rural areas of Crookston and

Red Lake Falls. When I was four years old my family and I moved to my grandparents' farm, at my current address, and at that family farm I learned how to work, and succeed in life. My parents have taught me many values in life, the most important being how to work hard. With the strive to work hard, I have always succeeded in school, maintaining a 4.0 GPA, being on the A honor roll all through high school, participating in many extra-curricular activities, being a member of the National Honor Society and adding four Advanced Placement classes into my schedule, amongst many other activities.

After working many years on our family farm, from driving truck to taking care of over 100 head of cattle, I decided to expand my horizon and get a job in Crookston. I still work on the farm, but I also have spent time in town earning an actual wage. The fall of 2007 an opening at Hugo's Family Pharmacy came about my way, and I soon was working as a Pharmacy Cashier/Helper at Hugo's Family Pharmacy. Then May of 2008 a job opened up at Eagle Drug in Crookston, I debated very hard over taking the job, it was a location as a pharmacy technician, which was a huge step up from where I was. I decided to take the job, and then went through extensive training, and received my license from the Minnesota Board of Pharmacy as a Registered Pharmacy Technician.

As you can probably comprehend I have a huge love for pharmacy. Ever since I stepped foot into the pharmacy at Hugo's I have loved my job. My job isn't just counting pills, I get extensive dealings with insurance, which isn't always fun, and I also get to interact with the patients. I have seen almost all kinds of walks of life, and it has really deepened my vision of this world. Loving my job so much, I have decided to pursue a career in pharmacy. I have been accepted into North Dakota State

University, and will be attending there the fall of 2009, with a major of Pre-Pharmacy. My sophomore year I will apply to Pharmacy School at NDSU, and hopefully be accepted into the four-year pharmacy program. After completing the program and getting my license, I will become a retail pharmacist. And your scholarship that was awarded to me will help me reach my goal, and I want to thank you so much for the gracious award of money, it is greatly appreciated. Thank you much again!!

**Sincerely,
Sara Doda
Crookston**

Dear RLEC:
Thank you for the cap I won at the district meeting, the shelf I won at the annual meeting and also the good lunch. Thanks again.

**Luvern Sorter
Thief River Falls**

Dear RLEC:
The Red Lake County Unit of the American Cancer Society would like to sincerely thank you for your donation to our June 5, 2009 Relay. Once again it was a great success made possible by you and many others like you. Thank you so much.

**Sincerely,
Carolyn Myhre
American Cancer Volunteer
Brooks**

Dear RLE Operation Round Up:
Thank you for being a sponsor of the 2009 Thief River Falls and Pennington County Safety Camp June 3 and 4, 2009.

**Safety Camp Counselors
Thief River Falls**

Dear RLEC:
I would like to thank you for choosing me to be a recipient of the Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. scholarship. It is greatly appreciated. Once again, thank you.

Sincerely,

**Cole Schmitz
NCTC - Thief River Falls**

Dear RLEC:
I would like to thank you on behalf of your scholarship opportunity. The funds that you have provided will greatly help in the long run. My plan is to finish my bachelors degree at the University of North Dakota. I am majoring in Aviation Systems Management, and intend to become a helicopter pilot. With your help, and hard work, I should have no problem getting a job from a local Flight Operation Base and become a crop duster. Your scholarship encourages my inspiration to work hard and accomplish my goals. Thank you again.

**Sincerely,
Brian T. Lee
NCTC - Thief River Falls**

Dear RLEC:
I am writing to thank you for your generous \$400 Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. scholarship. I was very happy and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient of your scholarship.

I am currently a full-time student in the Construction Electricity Program at Northland Community and Technical College located here in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Upon completion of this program, I plan to pursue employment in the Thief River Falls area where I will be able to put the skills I am learning now, thanks to your generous donation, to use.

By awarding me the scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. In addition, your generosity, will not only affect me now, but others later, as I hope to be able to help others in the future, as you are helping me now.

**Sincerely,
Jeff Tykward
NCTC - Thief River Falls**

Residential Energy Efficiency Incentives

<i>Energy Efficiency Equipment</i>	<i>Rebate Amount</i>	<i>Rebate Maximum</i>
CFL Lamp (Maximum 12 lamps)	≤ 50% of retail not to exceed \$2	\$24 per customer
Energy Star Clothes Washer	\$50	\$50
High Efficiency Electric Water Heater 80 gallon or larger, EF ≥ 0.91, must be on load control	\$150/unit	\$150/unit
High Efficiency Furnace with ECM blower	\$150/unit	\$150/unit
High Efficiency Air Source Heat Pump 14.0 SEER, 8.2 HSPF	\$250/unit	\$250/unit
Geothermal Heat Pump Open loop, 16.2 EER	\$200/ton	\$1,000
Geothermal Heat Pump Closed loop, 14.1 EER	\$400/ton	\$2,000

Business Energy Efficiency Incentives

<i>Energy Efficiency Equipment</i>	<i>Rebate Amount</i>
T8 Fluorescent Fixtures (Replacing T12 or incandescents)	\$5 to \$16 per fixture
T5 Fluorescent Fixtures (Replacing HID or incandescents)	Starting at \$60 per fixture
CFL Fixture	\$22/fixture
CFL Lamp	\$1.50/fixture
Split System Energy Efficient Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pump	\$30 to \$40/ton
Single Packaged Energy Efficient Air Conditioners and Air Source Heat Pump	\$35 to \$50/ton
Geothermal Heat Pump Open loop, 16.2 EER	\$200/ton
Geothermal Heat Pump Closed loop, 14.1 EER	\$400/ton
Energy Efficient Air Cooled and Water Cooled Chillers	\$30 to \$40/ton
Nema Premium® Three Phase Electric Motors	\$4 to \$15/HP
Energy Star Commercial Solid Door Refidgerator or Freezer	\$60 to \$250
Energy Star Ice Machine	\$200 to \$600
Energy Star Steam Cooler	\$300 to \$600
Energy Star Fryer	\$500

This list is not all inclusive. There are numerous other lighting retrofits. Other measures may also qualify. Any project totalling \$10,000 or more must receive written approval before project installation. Rebate maximum is 75% of project cost up to \$15,000.

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Enhancing road safety in Minnesota

Primary Seat Belt Law Effective June 9, 2009
Minnesota's seat belt law has been in effect since 1986. What's new: Drivers and passengers in all seating positions must be buckled up or in the correct child restraint. Law enforcement can stop motorists directly for seat belt violations. The fine remains the same, \$25, but, with surcharges, can reach more than \$100.

Booster Seat Law Effective July 1, 2009
Under Minnesota's new booster seat law, a child cannot use a seat belt alone until they are age 8 or reach 4 feet, 9 inches tall, whichever comes first. It is recommended to keep a child in a booster based on their height, rather than their age.



Minn. Seat Belt Facts

Seat belts are the simplest and most effective way to prevent death or injury in a crash, especially on Minnesota roads plagued with speeding, distracted and impaired drivers.

In a crash, odds are six-times greater for injury if a motorist is not buckled up. An unbelted motorist can crash into a windshield and slam into and injure other passengers. Often, an unbelted motorist is ejected from the vehicle and killed. Seat belts restrain motorists in the vehicle's designed protective space, giving them room to live in the event of a crash.

- Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for Minnesotans ages 1 to 34.
- Most Minnesotans, 87 percent, buckle up. However, each year in Minnesota, about 200 unbelted motorists are killed and another 400 unbelted motorists suffer life-altering injuries.
- Annually, nearly 80 percent of unbelted traffic deaths occur on Greater Minnesota roads.
- Minnesotans that are least likely to buckle up and more likely

to die in crashes are young drivers, particularly males and residents of Greater Minnesota. Each year, motorists ages 15 to 29 account for 45 percent of all unbelted deaths and 55 percent of all unbelted serious injuries, yet this group represents only 25 percent of all licensed drivers.

- Many unbelted traffic deaths occur at night; more than 60 percent of nighttime crash victims are not buckled up.
- Each year, 80 percent of drinking drivers killed in crashes are not buckled up.
- During 2005 through 2007, the economic impact of unbelted traffic deaths and injuries to Minnesota was \$1.1 billion. This translates to over \$500 per household. Seventy-four percent of all associated costs are paid by citizens not involved in the crashes.
- There are far greater, longer-term medical charges commonly associated with unbelted motorist injuries compared to belted motorists. These include follow-up doctor and specialist care, injury rehabilitation and extended nursing or assisted-living care.
- During 2004 through 2005, unbelted injured motorists had hospital charges 60 percent greater than belted motorists.
- During 2004 through 2005, state-supported Medicaid paid almost \$1.6 million for unbelted motorists' hospital charges. Unbelted motorist injury charges were 78 percent greater for Medicaid than belted motorists. All government payer sources, including Medicaid, were charged \$42 million each year for unbelted motorist injuries.
- An estimated 1,900 people each year could have avoided hospital treatment if a seat belt had been used.

Reprinted from "Safety Net" of the Minnesota Safety Council.



Boosters are seat lifts that help raise a child up so a seat belt fits properly. Children that are shorter than 4 feet, 9 inches aren't ready to use a seat belt alone. Poor belt fit can contribute to death or serious injury. A sign a belt does not fit properly is if it rubs against a child's neck or the child tucks the belt behind their back.

Energy efficient ventilation: circulating fans

Circulating fans include ceiling fans, table fans, floor fans and fans mounted to poles or walls. These devices create a wind chill effect that will make you more comfortable in your home, even if it's cooled by natural ventilation or air conditioning. Ceiling fans are considered the most effective of these fans.

If you use air conditioning, a ceiling fan will allow you to raise the thermostat setting about 4 degrees Fahrenheit with no reduction in comfort. In temperate climates, or during moderately hot weather, ceiling fans may allow you to avoid using your air conditioner altogether. Install a fan in each room that needs to be cooled during hot weather. Ceiling fans are only appropriate



comparable cooling at a lower velocity than a smaller blade. This may be important in areas where loose papers or other objects will be disturbed by a strong breeze. A more expensive fan that operates quietly and smoothly will probably offer more trouble-free service than cheaper units.

Check the noise ratings, and, if possible, listen to the fan in operation before you buy it.

Keep in mind that Energy Star labeled fans move air 20 percent more efficiently, on average, than standard models.

Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

in rooms with ceilings at least eight feet high. Fans should be installed so the blades are no closer than eight inches from the ceiling and 18 inches from the walls. Larger ceiling fans can move more air than smaller fans. A 36- or 44-inch diameter fan will cool rooms up to 225 square feet, while fans that are 52 inches or more should be used in larger rooms. A larger blade will also provide

Use tax credits to fund efficiency upgrades

By Megan McKoy

The idea of living in a more efficient home, and paying lower utility bills, has widespread appeal. But finding ways to fund improvements can be difficult during hard economic times.

Fortunately, the federal government offers two ways to recover some of your expenses when planning upgrades: energy efficiency tax credits and renewable energy tax credits.

Through the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, know as the federal stimulus bill, Uncle Sam offers a personal tax credit of up to \$1,500 for energy efficiency measures made at existing homes in 2009 and 2010. You can recover 30 percent of the cost of adding insulation materials and exterior doors, windows and roofs designed to help reduce your home's heat loss or gain. The credit also covers efficient central air conditioners, air-source heat pumps, hot water boilers and biomass

stoves. With a maximum value of \$1,500 for all improvements made in 2009 and 2010, the credit may be applied toward material costs on all projects. You can also use it on installation costs for heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems and biomass stoves.

If you want to start generating your own power, consider taking a renewable energy tax credit covering 30 percent of the cost of materials and installation for solar panels, solar water heaters and geothermal heat pumps. This credit applies to both existing homes and new construction. Projects must be placed into service between Jan. 1, 2009 and Dec. 31, 2016.

Energy Star, a joint program of the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, provides guidelines on what qualifies for both tax credits at www.energystar.gov, keyword "tax credits."

You can file for energy tax cred-

its using IRS Form 5695. Remember to get a Manufacturer Certification Statement (a signed statement from the manufacturer certifying that the product or component qualifies for the tax credit) for your records. Both of the energy tax credits are non-refundable; they can increase your refund by reducing the taxes you owe, dollar for dollar, and can be carried forward to reduce your taxes in following years. But you don't get a separate check for the credit amount.

Some electric cooperatives and state government offices offer further subsidies or rebates to consumers who want to make their homes more efficient. For a listing of state and local energy efficiency assistance available, visit the Database for State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency, a project funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, at www.dsireusa.org.

Source: Energy Star, Database for State Incentives for Renewables and Efficiency.

For Sale on Bids



2001 Ford E250 Van
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195,000 Miles

Red Lake Electric Cooperative is offering for sale, on bids, the above pictured van. It can be viewed at the Cooperative's headquarters Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sealed bids will be accepted until 10 a.m. July 2, 2009. Only the successful bidder will be notified. The Cooperative reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

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 week-

end 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:
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Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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After-hour outage	218-253-2200
Office hours	Monday-Friday, 8:00-4:30
E-mail:	redlake@minnkota.com
Web site	www.redlakeelectric.com

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