

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. 43 - NO. 7

RED LAKE FALLS (RED LAKE COUNTY), MINNESOTA 56750

MAY 2008

Bregier promoted to accountant

Shirley Bregier, assistant accountant at Red Lake Electric Cooperative, has been promoted to accountant. Along with her new title, Bregier has begun to take over work responsibilities of Roger Johanneck who began his new job as general manager May 1.

Bregier has been involved in many areas of the Cooperative's billing and accounting functions since she began her employment at the Cooperative in 1972.

"This experience plus her knowledge of the accounting, billing, work order system and other areas of the Cooperative's operations have prepared Shirley for this role at Red Lake Electric," Johanneck said. "I am pleased Shirley has accepted this position at the Cooperative; she has the respect and support of her fellow workers. We are all confident she will do a good job for our customers."

Most recently, Bregier's main responsibility at the Cooperative has been with customer billing. Her contact with customers has been with the bill customers receive each month and with phone call inquiries



Shirley Bregier

(5308003.03 Dennis Wilkens) customers make concerning their monthly bill and electric service they have with the Cooperative.

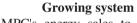
Minnkota announces strategic agreement

Young 2 capacity allocations to increase starting in 2013

Red Lake Electric Cooperative's wholesale power supplier, Minnkota Power Cooperative (MPC) of Grand Forks, N.D., recently announced an agreement with Minnesota Power (MP), an investorowned utility based in Duluth, to secure additional energy from Milton R. Young 2, a 455-megawatt (MW), coal-fired plant near Center, N.D., owned by Square Butte Electric Cooperative.

Currently, the output from Young 2 is purchased under contract by MPC and MP, with each utility receiving about 50 percent. Electricity generated by Young 2 flows over a direct current (DC), 465-mile transmission line from Center to Duluth, where it is converted back to alternating current (AC) for further transmission into the MP and MPC service areas.

Under the terms of Memorandum of Understanding, MPC will begin receiving additional energy from Young 2 beginning in 2013. In subsequent years there will be gradual increases in the MPC capacity and energy allocations until 2026 when MPC will begin to purchase 100 percent of the Young 2 output



MPC's energy sales to the 11 Class A member-owned cooperatives continue to increase each year. The latest power requirements study forecasts an annual growth rate of 2.5 percent systemwide.

"The member-owner distribution cooperatives are experiencing moderate but manageable growth in demand for electricity as the rural economy expands," said David Loer, MPC president and CEO. "High energy-producing baseload generation is necessary to meet that demand reliably and affordably. Along with additions of wind energy and energy efficiency measures, this project will provide (3526004.01 William L. Hess) Minnkota with the power needed to serve long-term, future load requirements."

To bring the energy generated



The Milton R. Young Station is a mine-mouth electric generating plant near Center, N.D. It is the primary source of electrical generation for Minnkota Power Cooperative, Red Lake Electric Cooperative's wholesale power supplier. The Young Station consists of two units: Young 1 is a 250 MW unit and Young 2 is a 455 MW unit.

by Young 2 into the Red River Valley and to allow the existing DC line to deliver additional wind energy, MPC will construct a new 345-kilowatt transmission line from Center to either Fargo or Grand Forks. The line is tentatively scheduled for service in 2013.

The existing DC line and DC/AC conversion facilities will be sold to MP for about \$80 million Jan. 1, 2009. MP plans to add several hundred megawatts of new wind generation near Center and will use the DC line to transmit that energy to Duluth.

"We value our long-term partnership with Minnkota and we expect to continue working together on future strategic issues," said Don Shippar, president and CEO of MP's parent company, ALLETE, Inc. "This agreement enables us to reconfigure our power supply resources to better meet our respective long-term needs. For us, it's a creative way to tap the rich wind resources of North Dakota and bring more renewable energy to our Minnesota customers."

North Dakota Gov. John Hoeven added, "We've worked closely with these two innovative companies to further develop our state's renewable and traditional energy resources. This agreement will provide future power supply for Minnkota and allow Minnesota Power to develop additional wind energy in western North Dakota."

Generation resources

The primary sources of baseload generation for MPC are the Milton R. Young Station near Center and the Coyote Station near Beulah, N.D. Both plants use North Dakota's vast lignite coal reserves and provide about 80 percent of the MPC energy requirements.

In addition to owning two commercial-scale wind turbines in North Dakota, one near Valley City and the other near Petersburg, MPC is also purchasing energy from the newly developed Langdon Wind Center south of Langdon, N.D. Wind energy now supplies about 10 percent of the MPC annual energy

requirements. MPC is working with wind developers to expand its wind portfolio to more than 300 MW during the next two years.

MPC receives 10 percent of its total energy supply from hydropower allocations through the Western Area Power Administration.

A generation and transmission cooperative, MPC supplies wholesale electricity to 11 distribution cooperatives serving a 34,500-square-mile area in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota. Square Butte Electric Cooperative is owned by the same 11 distribution cooperatives that own MPC. Square Butte owns Young 2, which is operated by MPC.

MPC serves as the operating agent for Northern Municipal Power Agency (NMPA), which serves 12 municipal utilities in the same geographic region. Together, the MPC/NMPA joint system serves more than 129,000 customers

LaCrosse hired as accounting assistant

Melanie LaCrosse of Red Lake Falls has been hired as an accounting assistant at Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

In this position, her main task will be to oversee the processing of the customers' monthly electric bills. She will also be involved with accounting duties.

LaCrosse brings a lot of on-thejob experience to the Cooperative and holds a bachelor of commerce/ finance degree.

She and her husband, Mark, have three children: Adam 10, Megan and Ashley 7.

The family is involved at St. Joseph Catholic Church, Red Lake Falls, and with 4-H work. Mark is engaged in grain farming. Melanie is a member of St. Joseph Catholic School Board and the Catholic Daughters. She likes to spend time (2118003.04 Jeffrey Pyle) working in her flower beds, reading and walking with her family. She looks forward to meeting and working with the Cooperative's customers.

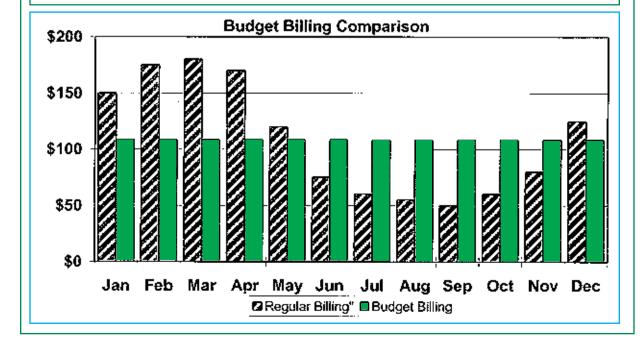


Melanie LaCrosse

QUICK TAKES

A look at some statistics from your Red Lake Electric Cooperative

If you like to plan ahead or avoid billing surprises, we recommend Budget Billing for your monthly Red Lake Electric Cooperative Energy bill. By using a Budget Billing plan, you average out your monthly payments to R.L.E.C. based on your past years billing history. This enables you to manage better, the bigger bills that normally show up during the winter heating season. The time to start budget billing is now. Contact R.L.E.C. today for more information about your Budget Billing Amount. 218-253-2168 or 1-800-245-6068.



Shocking? May is National Electrical Safety Month

Protect your home and family from fires and electrocution

Hazards commonly found in older homes are increasingly causing fires and fatalities in the U.S. However, by taking a few simple steps and by incorporating newer technology you can protect your home from many of these dangers. Each year the Electrical Safety Foundation International (ESFI) sponsors May as National Electrical Safety Month. For this year's campaign, the foundation is helping consumers take an active role in identifying older home hazards and in safeguarding their families from the dangers these hazards pose.

Home electrical problems account for nearly 55,000 home fires every year. These fires cause more than 500 deaths, injure more than 1,400 people and account for \$1.4 billion in property damage. Older homes are at even greater risk from fire. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, half the homes in

the U.S. were built before 1973. These homes and electrical systems were built before many of the appliances and electronics commonly used today were even around.

To put this into perspective, a third of U.S. homes were built before hair dryers or electric can openers were invented; half the homes were built before the advent of the garage door opener or the home computer.

"As each year goes by, Americans are using more energy in their homes," said Brett Brenner, president of ESFI. "Many homes and electrical systems in the U.S. are simply being overburdened, leading to fires, deaths and injuries."

For May 2008, ESFI is providing consumers with a checklist that will allow consumers to identify electrical dangers commonly found in each room of a home. ESFI is also educating owners of older

homes on newer fire prevention technology such as arc fault circuit interrupters. These advanced electronic circuit breakers detect dangerous conditions in a home's wiring and cut off power to the circuit before a fire develops.

Additionally, the foundation is encouraging those living in older homes with children to install tamper-resistant receptacles. These devices look like normal electrical outlets except they have a built-in shutter system that prevents children from inserting foreign objects into the slots. These outlets will prevent most of the 2,400 burns sustained by children each year from outlets.

More information and resources relating to National Electrical Safety Month 2008 can be found at www.electricalsafety.org.



Manager's **Comments**

by Roger Johanneck



First things first.

I have quite a list of tasks accumulating on my to-do list here at work, with a new job and all; that shouldn't surprise me and it hasn't. I learned some time ago that the ride looks different from the driver's seat than it does from the passenger's. That view aptly applies to my new role here at Red Lake Electric Cooperative so despite my long tenure here, there is plenty yet to learn.

I need to take my first go at the Manager's Comments, however, by doing something I was reminded to do early and often by my parents: don't forget to say

I want to say thanks to the RLEC Board of Directors for hiring me and giving me the privilege to work with them, my fellow employees and the opportunity to serve as your Cooperative's general (3801001.03 Garret Reierson) manager. They have placed their trust in me to do a good job and I will do what I can to not let them, you or the rest of the work crew here down. I appreciate the kind words of support and encouragement from you folks, many of whom I had a chance to visit with at this year's district and annual meetings.

Outgoing general manager Ron Kennedy needs to be included in my list of thanks, too. Ron was already here working at the cooperative when I arrived on the scene back in 1980 so not having his face, friendship, help and leadership around the office will be missed and take some getting used to.

Despite his wishes to not have his departure any more than walking out after a final day at work, we were able to work in a goodbye and well-deserved standing "O" from you customers at this year's annual meeting, a send-off meeting and meal with his fellow managers of Minnkota Power Cooperative and a short goodbye gathering the start of his last day here at work with fellow employees.

Our thanks for a job well done and best to you, Ron, as you begin retirement and move on with life after Red Lake Electric Cooperative.

Welcome to new employees

The Cooperative has had some recent retirements and with the next few years we expect to see more changes due to retirements.

It seems, over the years, our workforce has come and gone in waves, not that we want it that way; it's just the way it has happened. Gearing up for employee departures will be on our to-do list as well as filling needs we have now.

Please join me in welcoming Melanie LaCrosse, who began working in the office April 1, and to Brett Knott, who began work as apprentice lineman May 1.

Melanie is busy learning the ropes in our customer billings and is the new voice you will hear if you call the office with a question about your energy bill.

Brett is not totally new to the Cooperative; he worked last summer with the line crew as a temporary

We are pleased to have Melanie and Brett on board now as regular employees at the Cooperative.



Report from the Office by Shirley Bregier

Red Lake Electric has been going through many changes lately: Ron Kennedy's retirement, Roger Johanneck's promotion to general manager and the hiring of two new employees, Melanie

LaCrosse and Brett Knott. Change is good, or at least that is what I have always been told. Change can add a challenge to life that can give us all renewed energy. However, when the change affects your personal budget it is not always a welcomed change.

The drastic climate changes in our region can vary the amounts of our electric bills and keep us guessing as to the amount we need to budget each month to pay those bills. Red Lake Electric has a way to ease these budgeting woes.

Red Lake Electric offers a budget billing program for our residential customers. Budget billing is the payment plan that lets you even out your payments throughout the year, sparing you from unpredictable bills that are caused by seasonal variations. Budget billing does not reduce your energy expense; it simply spreads out your energy expense over a 12-month period.

To qualify for budget billing your account must have 12 months of usage and must be current. Red Lake Electric starts the budget billing program in May each year.

At that time, your usage for the previous 12months will be averaged to get a monthly budget payment. We'll review your budget plan every six months to compare your actual energy use costs with your budget amount. If there's a significant difference, we'll adjust your monthly budget amount up or

down accordingly. Your monthly electric bill will continue to show your actual use as well as your budget amount to allow you to also monitor your electric bill. If at any time you notice a significant difference in the amount you are paying and vour actual balance owing, call the office to have us look at your account information and reevaluate your budget amount. Keep in mind we normally want you to build up a credit over the summer (3905002.01 Daniel L. Olson) months to help pay for the higher electric bills during the winter

To enroll in budget billing email us at redlake@minnkota.com or call the billing office at 218-253-2168 or 800-245-6068. Once we let you know what your budget billing amount is you can decide if this is the program for you. If you are not completely satisfied you can stop budget billing at any time.

Never fly kites near power lines

Children should be instructed to always fly kites and model airplanes in wide open areas away from overhead power lines.

Never use anything made of metal in a kite. Never fly a kite on a rainy day because a wet string can become a conductor.

Never try to remove a kite snagged on a power line. Call Red Lake Electric Cooperative to have



Energy tip of the month

Spring is tree planting time and time to plan your tree planting to take advantage of energy savings.

Plant deciduous trees (the ones that lose their leaves in the fall) on the east and west sides of your house. The trees will shade the house from hot, summer sun, helping reduce heating costs.

During the winter the sun is able to penetrate the tree branches, helping warm the house.

Plant conifer trees on the north side of your house to help break the cold, winter, north winds.

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 (99-99-99-99 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

The Gazette

\$5 on your electric bill.

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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.



RONNIE M. KENNEDY General Manager

One of the Minnkota Power Systems



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 driveup 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

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 collec-

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 fol-

- 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

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

charge.

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 \$15 to \$21 month First 500 KWH8.0¢ Kwh Over 500 KWH (April-Dec.) 5.7¢ Kwh Over 500 KWH (Jan.-Mar.) 6.5¢ Kwh Multiphase users add \$16/month cost of service

Standby, \$8/month (meter disconnected but the power line retained; standby is not available on services larger than 15 KVA transformer capacity).

Security light, \$6/month, high pressure sodium, \$7/month, mercury vapor; water heater flat credit, \$5/month (on January-April billing); off-peak equipment charge, \$3.50/month per heat meter; off-peak electric heat rate, 3.5¢/kWh long-term control, 5.0¢/kWh short-term control.

VICE PRESIDENTBonnie Christians SECRETARY-TREASURERHenry Wieland DIRECTORSRobert Olson,

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

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

One of the Minnkota Power Systems

RED LAKE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, Inc.

VOLTS & JOLTS

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OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

56750-0430. E-mail: redlake@minnkota.com

employees, our community and our environment in high regard.

PRESIDENTKelly Lundeen Robert Finstad, Steven Linder, Joyce Johnson, Mark Hanson, Peter Mosbeck Subscription Rate\$2.50 per year

Recipe corner

Oatmeal Banana Cupcakes

- 1/2 c. butter or margarine, softened
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 2 eggs 1 c. mashed ripe bananas
- 3/4 c. honey
- 1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour
- 1 c. quick-cooking oats
- 1 tsp. baking powder
- 1 tsp. baking soda

3/4 tsp. salt

In a mixing bowl, cream butter and sugar. Add eggs, bananas and honey; mix well. Combine dry ingredients; stir into creamed mixture just until moistened. Fill paper-lined muffin cups two-thirds full. Bake at 350° for 18 to 20 minutes or until cupcakes test done. Cool in pan 10 minutes before removing ot a wire rack. Yield: 1 1/2 dozen.

German Hot Noodle Salad

- 2 c. wide egg noodles
- 3 bacon strips
- 1/4 c. chopped onion
- 1 tbl. sugar
- 1 tbl. all-purpose flour 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/8 tsp. ground mustard
- 1/2 c. water
- 1/4 c. cider vinegar
- 1 c. sliced celery
- 2 tbl. chopped fresh parsley

Cook noodles according to package directions. Meanwhile, in a skillet, cook the bacon until crisp. Crumble and set aside. Reserve 1 tablespoon drippings in the skillet; sauté onion until tender. Stir in sugar, flour, salt and mustard; add water and vinegar. Cook and stir until thickened and bubbly, about 2 to 3 minutes. Rinse and drain noodles; add to skillet. Stir in celery and parsley; heat through. Transfer to a serving bowl; sprinkle with bacon. Yield: 4 servings.

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Operating Report

MONTHLY COMPARISON

	MARCH	MARCH
	2007	2008
Total Revenue	771,904	\$ 981,410
Total Margins\$	133,346	\$ 209,097
Cost of Power	434,899	\$ 531,337
KWH's Purchased	2,329,143	14,556,303
Capital Credits Paid to Estates\$	0	\$ 0
Total Margins \$ Cost of Power \$ KWH's Purchased 1	133,346 434,899 2,329,143	\$ 209,09 531,33

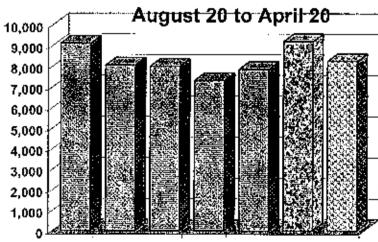
YEAR TO DATE COMPARISON

	MARCH 2007	MARCH 2008
Total Revenue	2,467,782	\$ 2,997,985
Total Margins\$	840,738	\$ 1,028,338
Cost of Power	1,449,946	\$ 1,724,651
KWH's Purchased	43,800,170	49,317,129
New Service Connections	4	0
Customers Served	5,058	5,097
Capital Credits Paid to Estates\$	12,406	\$ 6,246
Miles of Line		
Overhead	2,329	2,323
Underground	230	231

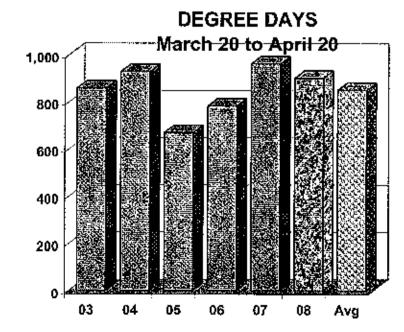
DEGREE DAYS

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



02-03 03-04 04-05 05-06 06-07 07-08



Banana Nut Muffins

- 1 1/2 c. all-purpose flour 1 c. chopped nuts
- 1/2 c. toasted wheat germ
- 1/2 c. brown sugar
- 1 tbl. baking powder
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg
- 2 ripe bananas, mashed
- 3/4 c. milk
- 5 tbl. melted butter
- 1 egg

Cinnamon sugar, optional

Preheat oven to 400°. Fit 12 muffin cups with paper liners. Coat each with cooking spray.

Mix flour, walnuts, wheat germ, brown sugar, baking powder, cinnamon, salt and nutmeg in large bowl. Stir in bananas, milk, butter and egg. Mix just until blended.

Using an ice cream scoop, fill muffin cups evenly with batter. Sprinkle with cinnamon sugar, if desired. Bake muffins until a skewer inserted into centers comes out clean, 20 to 22 minutes. Cool one minute, then remove from the muffin pan and cool on a wire rack. Yield: 1 dozen muffins.

Never-Fail Egg Noodles

- 1 egg plus 3 egg yolks
- 3 tbl. cold water
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 c. all-purpose flour
- Chopped fresh parsley, optional

In a mixing bowl, beat egg and yolks until light and fluffy. Add water and salt; mix well. Stir in flour. Turn onto a floured surface; knead until smooth. Divide into thirds. Roll out each portion to 1/8-in. thickness. Cut noodles to desired width. Cook immediately in boiling salted water or chicken broth for 7 to 9 minutes or until tender. Drain; sprinkle with parsley if desired. Yield: about 5 1/2 cups.

Editor's note: uncooked noodles may be stored in the refrigerator for 2 to 3 days or frozen for up to a month.

Young workers at risk behind the wheel

Minnesota is frequently a leader in national surveys of quality of life and best places to live and work. But recently, we've achieved a highly negative distinction: posting the highest percentage of teens behind the wheel in fatal crashes in the nation for the years 2004 through 2006. During those years, teen drivers were involved in 18.4 percent of deadly crashes in Minnesota, compared with the national average of 14.3 percent.

Overall crash involvement is inordinately high among young drivers right up through the mid-20s. In 2006, 15- through 24-yearolds made up 16 percent of licensed drivers but accounted for 28 percent of crash-involved drivers. Traffic crashes are the leading cause of death among Minnesota's teens and young adults.

Many consider Minnesota's relative weak graduated driver licensing law to be a factor. As this article went to print, a bill to strengthen the law – tightening nighttime driving and number of passengers allowed, among other restrictions - was under consideration in the Legisla-

The top six driving risk factors for teens are:

• Failure to wear a seatbelt.

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- Inattentiveness.
- Excessive speed. Teens partic-

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ularly have difficulty adjusting speed to driving conditions.

- Fatigue. A person who has been awake for 24 hours experiences impairment nearly equal to a blood alcohol concentration of .10 percent. Teens often don't get enough sleep.
- Driving at night. Mile for mile, 16- and 17-year-olds are about three times more likely to be involved in a fatal car crash at night than during the day.
- Driving with other teens. The presence of teen passengers strongly increases the risk of crashing. For teen drivers, the more passengers the greater the risk.

Parents should be firm about choosing vehicles for safety not image. They can require seatbelt use at all times, prohibit driving when excessively tired and as drivers themselves, set a good example. Parents can set a limit on the number of passengers in the car, especially multiple teens. They should expose teens to different driving conditions and different types of roadways, practicing with them throughout their first year of licensed driving. They should also discuss the dangers and legal consequences of driving impaired.

- Reprinted from "Minnesota

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Garden Spaghetti Salad

- 8 oz. spaghetti, broken into 2-in. pieces
- 1 tbl. olive or vegetable oil
- 2 c. cooked fresh or frozen corn
- 2 c. cooked fresh or frozen lima beans 2 medium tomatoes, peeled, seeded and chopped
- 3/4 c. thinly sliced green onions
- 1/3 c. minced fresh parsley
- 6 bacon strips, cooked and crumbled, divided
- Dressing:
- 1/3 c. olive or vegetable oil 3 tbl. cider or red wine vinegar
- 2 tbl. lemon juice 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. paprika Dash pepper

Cook spaghetti according to package directions; rinse in cold water and drain. Place in a large bowl; toss with oil. Add the next five ingredients; stir in three-fourths of the bacon. In a small bowl, whisk all dressing ingredients. Pour over spaghetti mixture; toss gently. Garnish with remaining

bacon. Serve immediately or chill. Yield: 10 to 12 servings.

Spaghetti Fruit Salad

- 1 c. confectioners' sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 c. lemon juice 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/2 lb. spaghetti, broken into 2-in. pieces.
- 1 20-oz. can pineapple tidbits
- 3 medium tart apples, diced
- 1 8-oz. carton frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1/4 c. chopped walnuts

Maraschino cherries, halved

In a saucepan, combine sugar, eggs, lemon juice and salt; cook and stir over medium heat until temperature reaches 160° and mixture is thickened, about 4 minutes. Cool completely. Cook spaghetti according to package directions; drain and rinse in cold water. Place in a large bowl. Drain pineapple, reserving juice. Pour juice over the spaghetti; stir in apples. Toss gently; drain. Stir in the egg mixture and pineapple. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Fold in whipped topping just before serving. Garnish with walnuts and cherries. Yield: 12 to 14 servings.

Top dairy herds for March DHIA

Randy and Margaret Rasmussen,

DHIA, put the following herds at top 10 in

supervisors of the Hed Lake-Pennin	igton	the association for March.			rcn.	
Name Cows	% in milk	lbs. milk	test	lbs. fat	protein	lbs. protein
NW Research & Outreach						•
Center	86	72	3.9	2.8	3.1	2.2
Robert and Terri Dahlen 53	89	68	3.7	2.5	3.0	2.0
Walter Bros. Farm298	88	67	3.5	2.4	3.1	2.1
Todd, Kathy Johnston61	87	67	4.0	2.7	3.1	2.1
Northstar Dairy LLC, 3X884	92	66	3.5	2.3	3.2	2.1
Spring Prairie Colony	89	65	3.8	2.5	3.0	2.0
Wilson Dairy Inc	85	63	3.6	2.3	3.1	1.9
E. Duane and Faith Knott87	84	62	3.4	2.1	3.0	1.8
Wayra Dairy224	91	61	3.7	2.3	3.1	1.9
Beyer Bros. Farm 69	84	61	3.4	2.1	3.2	2.0
Amundson Dairy65	89	61	3.6	2.2	3.1	1.9
The bond overese one offerted b			dw	: +	hard Th	

The herd averages are affected by the number of dry cows in the herd. The amount of milk or butterfat is averaged out over all the cows. This gives the farmer a record of the earning power of the herd for the month. If too many cows are included in the herd, then the average for the month may be low, even though the cow that is milking produces a lot of milk.



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VOLTS AND JOLTS FEATURE OF THE MONTH

The Miller family's love for animals is undeniable

By Destiny Harmoning

David and Peggy Miller and their two children, Mikayla, 14, and Joshua, 12, share a family passion -

The Millers have a beef cattle farm just outside of Red Lake Falls. That is where they raise a herd of about 300 black Angus and herefordcross cattle. The Millers are finishing 80 head, have about 100 cow/calf pairs and another 20 replacement heifers. There are four herd bulls.

Cattle are not the only animals that inhabit the family farm. Two dogs, a rabbit, two ducks and several cats also make their home there. Also the family has three horses, Thunder, Star and Lucy.

In fact, the family's love for animals is so great, not only do Mikayla and Joshua participate in 4-H events with them, but Peggy actually went to college for zoology and did a stint at the Minnesota Zoo in Minneapolis. "My dream was to work at a zoo," she stated. However, Peggy didn't like living in the Cities. "That life is not for everyone," she said.

In addition to a bachelor of science degree in zoology, Peggy also

obtained a BS degree in bacteriology at North Dakota State University (NDSU). This was after she graduated high school from Park Rapids, which is where she grew up and her parents still farm.

David grew up on the farm he now owns. His parents moved from Grafton, N.D., and purchased the farm in 1952. David graduated from Lafayette High School in Red Lake Falls and attended numerous colleges and got a master's degree at the University of Minnesota, St

Paul, in agronomy and plant genetics. One of the colleges David attended was NDSU, which is where the couple met. They were married in October 1988.

The Millers have been beef farming since 1989 when they took over the farm from David's parents, Robert and Lorraine Miller, who were retiring.

The Millers decided to beef farm because they wanted the challenge and the opportunity was there.

David said there is no such thing as a typical day on the farm. They always start the day by feeding. The feedlot cattle get fed silage, corn and hay. The stock cows are fed silage and hay most of the year until the grass grows. Peggy does all the feedlot feeding, which is fairly automated, when David is in the field. The Millers grow corn, soybeans, wheat, alfalfa and corn



The Miller family from left, David, Joshua, Peggy and Mikayla.

The most difficult part of beef farming, according to David, is things that can't be controlled such as the weather and markets. He said that is actually one of the reasons they enjoy farming, because of the challenge of

Another difficult part of raising cattle is just being able to get away and being tied to the farm.

There are a lot of rewards to cattle farming for the Millers. They enjoy the wildlife, being outdoors, having room for animals and spending time as a family and working together.

In the future of the Miller farm, they plan to expand the cattle herd and modernize things more but no major changes will occur.

Concerns over bovine tuberculosis (TB) have been an expanding issue for cattle farmers. "It doesn't affect us a lot because we finish our own cattle," David stated. He explained they can still sell slaughter cattle without being affected.

He did say TB is probably affecting the prices to some degree. "It's definitely something to be concerned about," he said.

David thinks that the U.S. Department of Agriculture should allow the split-state status to occur, only if they concentrate their resources to wipe out the disease. If they use it as an excuse and wash their hands of it,

then it won't be a good thing. "It needs to be

dealt with," David said. When asked if they had any advice for other beef farmers, the Millers said everybody does things so differently that it's hard to give advice.

There are a few unique things Millers do on their farm some others don't. They feed their own cattle and usually finish them. This is something David chose to do because his father did but says also that economically it

The Millers also use total mixed rations

(TMR) when feeding their cattle and have done so since

"Don't be afraid of feeding out your own cattle; it can definitely done," David said. He explained it's not for everybody but if a person has the feed and the facilities to do it, David recommends giving it a

Another recommendation David gives is using rotational grazing, as the Millers do on their farm. He explains it's more management intensive worth it.

The Millers are also one of the few farmers around who do no-till

farming. They have done this on their farm since 1995. It saves a lot of fuel, time, labor and horse power, according to David. The Millers also strip-till for corn,



Star is the newest addition to the Millers' horse family, joining Thunder and Lucy.

which is similar to no-till, just a little different. David said his yields are comparable to other farmers' who till.

David and Peggy want their children to continue farming, only if they really want to. They said it is hard to envision at this point because they are still young and farming is changing so much its hard to say what it will be like then. David did say, "It's a great lifestyle."

The Millers do more than just farm, in fact they are quite involved in the community and at Bethany Lutheran Church.

David is a Boy Scout leader, vice chairperson of the Bethany Lutheran Church Council, chairman of the Soil and Water Conservation District, a guitar player for Heart of Worship, director of the Northwest Stockmen's Association and a member of the Northern Navigators Radio Club and the River Bottom Flyers. In his free time, David enjoys flying radio-control airplanes.

Peggy gives piano lessons at Red Lake County Central in Plummer and some at her house. She has about 25 to 30 students and has been giving lessons since

1990. Peggy is very involved at the church where she is the youth group leader, director of the Sunday school Christmas program and organist. She also writes the newletters for Sunday school and is involved in some 4-

In her spare time, Peggy likes to surf the Internet,



About 100 cow/calf pairs are being raised on the

play piano and do crafts.

Mikayla and Joshua help out on the farm when they can. Both are very involved in extracurricular activities,

At Lafayette High School, Mikayla participates in golf, basketball, student council, band and choir. She also takes voice lessons and piano lessons. Mikayla plays bass guitar for Heart of Worship. She enjoys horseback riding.

Josh is in Boy Scouts, basketball, band, choir and gets voice and piano lessons. He enjoys electronics, reading, riding four-wheeler and spending time in his

In 4-H, Mikayla and Joshua have both received several ribbons at the Red Lake County Fair and Mikayla has attended the state fair twice.

Last year at the Red Lake County Fair, Joshua won grand champion in beef showmanship, reserve champi-

on in calf prospect and a ribbon in electronics. Mikayla won grand cham-

pion ribbons in beef with Sunshine, grand champion in horse related, reserve champion in horse show with Thunder, reserve champion in vetirinary science and grand champion in fine arts.

Mikayla plans a beef entry at the Lake Red County Fair this year



This is one of four bulls that resides on the Millers farm.

with Sunshine and her calf. She also will bring Thunder and her newest horse, Star. Josh will bring the other horse, Lucy, his rabbit and possibly their dog, Bandit.

The Millers' passion for animals, family, church and community is unmistakable and will continue to grow as the years carry on.

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VOLTS & JOLTS May 2008

Underground construction: a sign of spring

It is the second half of May but spring-type weather has not been very prevalent to make it seem like spring. A sign of spring at Red Lake Electric is when the line crew begins underground construction, which began the week of May 12.

Right: A Garden Valley Telephone Company employee makes his way across a gravel drive plowing Red Lake Electric's underground cable up to the power pole. The pole will serve as a "riser" pole for the underground cable because it will be run up the pole and connected to the overhead wire to feed the cell tower service. Casey Thronson guides the cable in the plow chute.





An underground service was installed for a new cell phone tower north of the football field at Oklee. The underground cable was plowed in by Garden Valley Telephone Company. It was a joint plowing since Garden Valley and Red Lake Electric's cables were plowed at the same time. Roger Valley, crew foreman, positions the cable ahead of the crawler while Casey Thronson, apprentice lineman, helps the cable down the plow chute at the back of the crawler.

FPL Energy, Minnkota Power Cooperative and Otter Tail Power dedicate North Dakota wind farm

FPL Energy, LLC, a subsidiary of FPL Group, Otter Tail Power Company and Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc., recently joined about 150 guests near Langdon to dedicate FPL Energy's Langdon Wind Energy Center in Cavalier County, N.D.

North Dakota Governor John Hoeven was among the dignitaries who joined FPL Energy's senior vice president of development Mike O'Sullivan, Otter Tail's president Chuck MacFarlane, Minnkota's president Dave Loer and many local and regional guests to celebrate the commercial operation of the Langdon Wind Energy Center and the organizations that helped bring the facility to North Dakota.

The Langdon Wind Energy Center is capable of generating enough electricity to power nearly 40,000 homes. Initial operation of the 106 wind turbines at the wind farm began in December 2007. Otter Tail Power Company owns 27 of the

Langdon Wind Energy Center's 106 turbines, or 40.5 megawatts. FPL Energy owns the remainder of the turbines and operates the entire wind farm. All the remaining output from the facility is sold to Minnkota and Otter Tail Power Company under long-term contracts. FPL Energy plans to build an additional 40.5 megawatts this fall, bringing the total size of the project to 199.5 megawatts.

FPL Energy is a leading competitive energy supplier using clean fuels such as natural gas, wind, solar, hydroelectric, and nuclear to generate electricity. It is the world's leader in wind energy, with 56 wind facilities in operation in 16 states. It is a subsidiary of FPL Group, one of the nation's largest providers of electricity-related services with annual revenues of more than \$15 billion.





An underground service is constructed north of Red Lake Falls and has to be tied into an existing underground cable. The existing cable has been located, uncovered and cut open. Casey Thronson prepares the cut cable for an underground cable elbow, which will allow the cable to plug into a junction box.



Mike Wavra, lead lineman, makes the splice from the existing underground cable to the new cable in the splice pit. The existing underground line is a three-phase line; the other two cables are also visible in the pit (marked by circle).



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Once the cable splice has been completed, Roger Valley uses a shotgun stick (insulated fiberglass stick) to plug the underground cable elbows into the junction box placed at the splice pit.



The underground work has been completed, the cable for the new service is energized and Roger Valley works to fill the splice pit.

Conservation officers' tales

I'm going for some fresh air, dear

While checking a group of four fishermen on Lake of the Woods, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Conservation Officer (CO) Robert Gorecki (Baudette) noticed a strong odor of marijuana coming from inside the fish house. When questioned about this, two of the men produced marijuana and marijuana pipes.

Another man said he was fishing in a portable fish house nearby with his wife, and asked if he could go back there since he did not possess any marijuana, and was only "visiting." After issuing citations to the group, Gorecki checked the husband and wife's fish. When the discussion returned to the marijuana incident, the wife became quite upset with the husband. Apparently the husband told his wife he was "going for some fresh air."

A fowl story

CO Mike Shelden (Alexandria) interviewed a man who was observed swerving towards the shoulder of the roadway to run over a Canada goose with his pickup. The driver said he swerved to run the goose over because, "It's only a goose." He was charged with killing the goose and also must pay restitution.

Must be a Texas thing

CO Mark Mathy (Cass Lake) followed up on a Turn-In-Poachers call about a person riding in the bed of a pickup truck hunting with an uncased bow. The officer determined the man was hunting rabbits and squirrel from the pickup with his bow. The hunter said he often hunts this way in his home state of Texas and was following in the footsteps of his grandfather who holds the record for the largest armadillo taken in Texas with a

Moral dilemma

An all-terrain vehicle (ATV) operator cited for intentionally riding on a trail in the closed Pillsbury State Forest told CO Jim Tischler (Cuyuna Country State Recreation Area), "You do what you can get away with."

Another DWI

CO Matt Frericks (Virginia) responded to the report of an ATV that was stuck in the ditch along Highway 53. People driving by reported the operator of the ATV appeared to have difficulty standing, was at times falling over and had his pants around his ankles. Frericks arrested the subject for

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This was the person's fourth DWI in 10 years and his driving license had been revoked. He refused to submit to an alcohol test and was transported to jail. Frericks was told the subject was too intoxicated to be jailed so he was taken to a hospital where he is currently being treated for numerous psychiatric conditions.

No valid reason for such a shameless act

CO Mark Fredin (Aurora) received a TIP call that a deer had been shot through an eye at a local golf course. Two suspects were interviewed and admitted to shooting the deer with no valid reason other than it was there and they had

Since when?

CO Mike Martin (St. Cloud) investigated a large plume of smoke rolling skyward in eastern Stearns County. He found several men standing around a large pile of burning debris. The pile contained copper wire (plastic coated), empty five-gallon buckets, green-treated wood, styrofoam and other assorted wood and building products. The owner was unhappy when told to put the fire out and wanted to know since when was he not able burn plastic and green-treated products. A summons was issued for burning prohibited material.

A gambler of several sorts

While CO Gary Sommers (Walker) was on patrol, a vehicle approached him from behind and started to drive on the shoulder, which was clear of snow. The car continued along the shoulder and soon overtook Sommers, accelerating as it went by. He activated his emergency lights but the driver failed to stop. The car finally started to slow, eventually pulling over.

When asked about his driving conduct the driver said, "I thought you were some dummy driving too slow; besides, the road was too bad to drive on and I could drive faster on the shoulder.'

He was also asked why he had failed to stop when he observed emergency lights; he said, "I thought you were a snow plow."

Sommers advised the driver it was illegal to pass on the right. The driver questioned, "I thought if there was an emergency you could pass on the right.'

When the officer inquired as to what the emergency was, he stated, "I'm on my way to the casino."

Out-of-this world warning to trespassers

CO Don Bozovsky (Hibbing) chuckled after reading a huge "no trespassing" sign on an unoccupied lake home, which read: "Warning, trespassers will be atomized and beamed to Pluto."

Beware of counterfeit electrical products

A "fake" purse or watch may make you angry but they don't carry the risk of injury of death. On the other hand, counterfeit electrical products can be dangerous. Counterfeit circuit breakers, power strips, extension cords, batteries and holiday lights can cause fires, explosions, shocks and electrocutions.

In recent years, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) has recalled more than one million counterfeit electrical products, including circuit breakers that did not trip when overloaded, cell phone batteries without a safety device in the circuitry to prevent overcharging and extension cords with mislabeled, undersized wiring that overheated.

Counterfeits can be extremely difficult to spot. They could be a knockoff of a name brand product or bear an unauthorized certification marking. Here are some tips to protect yourself from the dangers of counterfeit electrical products:

· Scrutinize the product, packaging and labeling. Look for certification marks from the manufacturer and an independent testing laboratory, such as Underwriters Laboratories. Trademarked logos that look



different than usual may signal a counterfeit.

• If the price is "too good to be true" it could be because the product is inferior and unsafe.

• Be careful when buying from an unknown source such as a street vendor. Use established stores that purchase goods from legitimate distributors and genuine

manufacturers. • Check the warning label. It should be free of grammatical errors and not conflict with information elsewhere on the

package. Avoid no-name products.

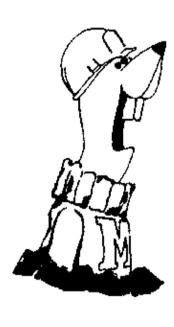
• Look for the name and contact information of the manufacturer. If you find the information missing consider purchasing electrical products elsewhere.

• Sign up for CPSC email alerts www.cpsc.gov to stay informed about product

- Sources: Consumer Product Safety Commission, Electrical Safety Foundation International.

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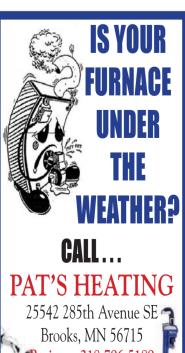
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(218) 681-3960 (MANTO & TRUCK) SALES www.mcmullensales.com 1601 Hwy 59 SE Thief River Falls, MN '06 Pontiac Vibe **'03 Ford Escape XLT** 2006 Chrysler Town & Ctry Touring, V6 Auto, Stow & Go Seats, Leather, Sunroof, DVD Player 2006 Chrysler 300 Touring, 3.5LV6 Auto, leather, heated seats, 60,000 Miles 2002 Dodge Ram 2500 SLT Quad cab, 4x4, Cummins Diesel Auto. 2001 Ford F-350 Lariet, Crew Cab Dually, 4x4, 7.3L Diesel, Auto. 2000 Ford F250 XLT Ext Cab, Short box, 7.3L Diesel, Auto, 4x4 1999 Dodge Ram 2500 Quad Cab 8ft Box, 4x4, 6 cyl Cummins Dsl, 5 spd 2000 Ford F-250 XLT Crew cab, 7.3L Diesel, auto, 8ft box 2003 F350 4x4, Dually V10 auto, Reg. cab, equipped with 12ft, utillity box w/tommygate 2001 Chevy 2500HD LS, Ext. Cab, S.B. Duramax Diesel, Auto 1999 Ford F-250 XLT Crew cab, 7.3L Diesel, 6 speed, 4x4 2004 Chrysler Pacifica AWD, 3.5L V6, Auto, Heated Leather, 6 pass, Sunroof 2000 Chevy Suburban LS, 2500, 4x4, Auto, 6.0L V8, Leather, 80K. 2000 Chevy Suburban LS, 2500, 4x4, Auto, 6.0L V8, Leather, 80K. 2006 Pontiac Vibe, 4cyl. auto 2004 Isuzu, 4-cyl. Diesel w/16' Refrigerated Van Body 2003 Acura CL, 3.2L V6, 2dr, Auto 2001 Ford F-350 XLT Reg cab, 7.3L Diesel auto, 4x4, 8ft. box 2004 Chevy Trailblazer LS 4x4, V6, auto 50k 1999 Chevy Silverado K1500LT, 4x4, 5.3L V8, Auto, Leather, Autostart, 93,000 Miles 1998 Dodge Ram 3500 RC Dually, Cummins 6cyl Dsl, 5 spd trans., Box & Hoist \$11,450 1999 Chevy Silverado 2500 LT, Ext. Cab, 6.0L V8, Auto, Leather. 2003 Ford Escape XLT, V6, Auto, CD, 50K. 1994 Nissan UD 1800, 4 cyl Dsl 5 spd, w/alum rollback and winch 2006 Ford Freestar SE, 3.9L V6, Auto, AC, CD, Rear Air 2000 Toyota Solara SE, 3.0LV6, 5 speed, 60k 2000 Chevy Siverado 2500, LT, 6.0L V8, Auto, 4x4, Leather 2002 Chevy Suburban LS, 5.3L V8, Auto, 4x4, Rear Air/Heat .\$9,980 2002 Chevy K3500, Crew Cab, Dually, 4x4, 6.5L Diesel Auto, 8ft Box 1993 Chevy K3500 Reg Cab, 4x4, 6.5L Diesel Auto, 8' Box, Equipped w/Tommy Gate, only 64,000 Miles 2001 Dodge Durango SLT, 4x4, 4.7L V8, Auto, Leather 2000 Chevy Silverado LS, 1500 Ext Cab 2WD, 5.3L V8 Auto \$7,950 2000 Chevy Silverado LS, 1500 Ext Cab 2WD, 5.3L V8 Auto. 2001 Honda Civic LX, 2dr, AC, CD, Cruise, Power Locks & Windows, Tilt Steering 2000 Chevy K1500 LS, Ext Cab, 4x4, 5.3L V8 Auto, Long Box. 2001 Chrysler Town & Ctry Limited, 3.8L V6, Auto, Leather, Sliding Doors 2001 Olds. Aurora, 4.0L V8, Auto, Sunroof, Leather, Fully Loaded 2002 Ford Taurus SE, 3.0L V6 Auto, 4dr, 76,000 Miles 1998 Chevy Silverado K1500 Reg Cab, 8' box, 4x4, 5.7L V8, Auto 1997 GMC Suburban 4x4, 5.7L V8, Auto, Leather 1992 Chevy K 3500, 57L V8, Auto, Leather 1992 Chevy K-2500, 5.7L V8, Auto, with Utility Box 1996 Cadillac DeVille, V8, Auto, Leather

Surge protection: critical for sensitive electronics

Computers and other electronic equipment found in nearly every home and business today are quite susceptible to sags and surges in voltage and current. They may show up as minor voltage spikes, short power interruptions or current distortions that are difficult to find, even if you know where to look. Dealing with power quality concerns requires an understanding of surge protection equipment and a plan to protect sensitive electronic

Lightning strikes to homes or nearby locations are one primary cause of damage to delicate electronic equipment. Other causes like voltage spikes and multiple grounding paths can also create problems. Even minor surges can create a malfunction that requires the device to reset or possibly even cause permanent damage.

The surge protection system outlined in this article could apply to nearly any residential or commercial setting, as well as agricultural buildings.

A properly installed transient surge suppression system includes multiple levels of protection. Beginning at the site of the utility service entrance, protection is provided through each of the building's service panels, subpanels and individual circuits that supply electricity to delicate equipment. Each level of protection is designed to remove a portion of the surge not eliminated by the preceding level.

The last level of protection is

provided at the individual circuit. This is where the lowest level of harmful disturbances will be filtered out. An outlet strip with a quality surge suppressor provides this protection.

In practice, many buildings won't need all the levels of protection. But providing protection only at the circuit level is not sufficient to guard against high-energy transient surges.

Should the building contain critical electronics that are affected by any change in current or voltage levels, the best is to provide protection at all levels.

As a minimum level of protection, experts recommend the following components be included in any surge protection system:

• Lightning arrestor on the main service pole (this is already provid-

ed by RLEC). Adequate grounding for serv-

ice entrance and main service pole. Surge suppressor for the

building electrical service panel. · Secondary arrestor for the individual circuit to which the electronic equipment is attached.

To learn more contact Red Lake Electric Cooperative or your local electrician. Remember, no amount of surge protection will guarantee absolute reliability. But by understanding the causes of power quality problems and the components needed in a well-designed protection system, you will be able to avoid most costly losses in equipment and income.

Surge protection available at Red Lake Electric Cooperative

Meter-base Surge Suppressor unit (owned, installed and maintained by RLEC) \$3.95/month Entrance Panel Surge Suppressor (must be wired into entrance panel by electrician) \$119 3 AC Plugstrip with Coax and Phone Line Protection (this is an individual circuit suppressor) \$49 2 AC Wall Mount Suppressors with Phone Line Protection (this unit mounts on a wall outlet) \$39

Lost Bay Habitat Drive at Agassiz NWR now open

The Lost Bay Habitat (auto) Drive at Agassiz National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) opened May 1 and will remain open until Oct. 31. The drive entrance is at refuge headquarters where the headquarters sign is located along Marshall

County Road 7. The four-mile long drive is 12 miles north of Thief River Falls and 11 miles east of Holt and is open during daylight hours, seven days a week. Interpretive signs along the drive describe the types of habitats and several species of wildlife that depend on those species of plants.

Three hiking trails are on the refuge. Headquarters Hiking Trail is at the headquarters and is onehalf mile long. The Rodahl Hiking Trail, near the southwest corner, is 0.7 mile long, The trail is not yet identified with signs but a parking lot and a permanent outdoor restroom are located at the trailhead. Both the trails have a crushed

granite rock surface and are wheelchair accessible. Both have new wildlife observation/photography blinds open for use.

The Maakstad Hiking Trail is a quarter-mile long, mowed grass, along the drive, which is open for walking.

Habitats are different along all the trails.

Two kiosks with interpretive signs and leaflet dispensers are along Marshall County Road 7, one across form the Parker observation deck and the other near the east

boundary of the refuge. Another kiosk is at the refuge headquarters parking lot.

The 14-foot tall Lansing Parker Pool observation deck is along Marshall County Road 7. Permanent spotting scopes or binoculars are mounted at three decks in the

The Parker Pool bald eagle pair is back in the same nest they built in 2007. The nest will be visible even after tree leafout.

For information on Agassiz NWR call 218-449-4115, extension 203 or 211.



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HUNTER'S OUTLET

206 Knight Ave. North downtown, Thief River Falls 218-681-3030 Hours: M-F 10-7, Sat. 10-6 Open Memorial Day

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 ener-

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 Pav please call RLEC at 800-245-6068 or 218-253-



Better Hay Conditioning

Discbine models 1409, 1411, 1431 and 1441 feature New Holland's proven chevron-design, rubber-roll conditioning system for excellent crop conditioning and fast drydown. On models 1410, 1412, 1432 and 1442, a flail conditioning system delivers even faster drydown, allowing easier baling. Unique tapered flails release crop more earlier than competitive systems, producing a thinner, more uniform mat for better air circulation and more

Produce quality hay with gentle handling and fast drydown

Gentle, but thorough conditioning from models 1409, 1411, 1431 and 1441 starts with New Holland's 102-inch (90-inch on the 1409) chevron-design, inter-meshing rubber rolls. Their unique spiral design grips the crop and keeps it moving without wrapping. The rolls crimp

Stop in and see Cecil or Mark for all your equipment needs.

thorough drying.



and crack stems evenly along the entire length of the plant, so you get fast drydown and yet retain proteinrich leaves. Adjusting roll pressure is easy. No tools are required. Critical roll gap adjustment is made with one adjusting bolt per side, no removing or adding

Turn, pivot and go with any of three tongue designs

Maneuverability is a given with Discbine® mower-conditioners. The narrow width of the models 1409 and 1410 provides outstanding maneuverability in small fields, while the tongue designs of the wider models gives you the maneuverability of self-propelled machines.

The center-pivot tongue design (on models 1431, 1432, 1441 and 1442) swings 38.5 degrees to the right or left to provide outstanding turn-and-go maneuverability. You can cut on either side or directly behind the tractor-even on slopes and angles-and get all the crop.

A center-pivot, swivel-hitch tongue (standard on models 1441 and 1442; optional on models 1431 and 1432) provides the ideal combination of cutting options and exceptional maneuverability. For making over-square corners, tight headland turns, or cutting around field obstacles, this is the tongue design you need. And you can still cut side offset or behind the tractor-whatever field conditions and cutting patterns demand.

A unique bent-tongue design on models 1411 and 1412 features a constant-velocity joint driveline and on-the-go hydraulic swing for incredible maneuverability. In fact, with the bent tongue design you can enjoy swivel hitch-like convenience and performance without the need for a three-point hitch or drawbar extension. You can mow at most any angle and make square and over-square corners without vibration or noise.

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



Phone

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One of the Minnkota Power Systems

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