

aur Touchstone Energy" Cooperative

# OAHE ELECTRIC

DECEMBER 2024 VOL. 25 NO. 8



Bobcat

# Hurricane Aid

**Linemen Help Restore Power After Hurricane Helene** Pages 8-9

**First Responders** Pages 12-13

## My Electric Co-op Sent Me Money! Capital Credit Retirement Approved

Only your local cooperatives make every consumer an owner of the business. Unlike other electric utilities, your co-op exists to make sure you needs are always met, not to make a profit. As a member-owner, you share in the profits in the form of capital credit refunds.

The cooperative works hard every day to keep your rates as low as possible. But it's sure nice to know that when there are profits, they go back to you!

After reviewing the financial condition of your cooperative for the year, your board of directors approved a capital credit retirement of approximately \$500,000.

As a nonprofit electric cooperative, Oahe Electric allocates our annual operating margins, or profits, to members receiving service during the year. These margins (revenue in excess of expenses) are allocated using a proportional ratio (using the dollar amount of electric service that each member purchases in a year compared to the total electric service purchased by all members) and are called capital credits. They are used by Oahe Electric for operating funds and paid back to our members as the financial condition of the cooperative permits and as bylaw provisions are met.

In keeping with our attempt to run your business in the most efficient manner we can for the entire membership, your capital credits were credited directly to your bill again this year. This transaction was on the bill you received in November 2024. The amount credited was listed in the Detail of Charges on your bill. Of course, we will still have to write some checks. Checks will be written for those members who no longer have an active electric account with us or current members whose capital credit retirement dollar amounts are large enough that it would create an ongoing credit balance on their bill.

If you cease to purchase energy from Oahe Electric Cooperative, please keep us informed of your address in future years. This will enable us to forward payment when the capital credits are refunded for the year or years of your membership.

Your co-op is always there with you, reinvesting in your community. In an electric co-op, the people have the power!

### Oahe Electric Now Accepting Applications for 2025 Scholarships

Oahe Electric, in conjunction with Basin Electric Power Cooperative, is offering one \$2,000 college scholarship to a lucky student in the Hughes and Sully County area. In addition to this scholarship, Oahe Electric is offering four \$1,000 college scholarships.

The scholarship program recognizes and encourages the academic achievements of students in our region. It also serves as an investment in the economic future of rural areas.

Applicants for the scholarships must be a U.S. citizen and a member or member dependent of Oahe Electric. Applicants also must be students enrolled or planning to enroll in a full-time undergraduate course of study at an accredited two-year or four-year college, university or vocational/technical school.

The scholarship recipients are chosen based on a combination of a written essay, SAT/ACT scores, overall grade-point average, work experience, participation in school and community activities, a personal statement of career goals and a written recommendation by a third party.

Applicants for the 2025-2026 academic year are being accepted until February 14, 2025.

For more information, contact Oahe Electric at 1-800-640-6243 or oahe@oaheelectric.com. Applications can also be downloaded by visiting our website at www.oaheelectric.com.

#### Statement of Non-Discrimination

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident. Person with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the responsible Agency or USDA's TARGET Center at (202)720-2600 (voice and TTV) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800)877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: 1.) mail - U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; 2.) fax: (202) 690-7442; or 3.) email: program.intake@usda.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

### Oahe Electric Now Accepting Lineman's Scholarship Applications

Oahe Electric Cooperative is offering a \$1,000 scholarship for a full-time student registered or planning to register in a power line construction and maintenance program.

The purpose of this scholarship is to emphasize and support the education of future power line workers in South Dakota. Oahe Electric has committed to providing funds for financial assistance to students enrolled in power line maintenance programs with the hopes that graduates of that program will pursue a career with rural electric cooperatives in the area.

Applicants for the scholarship must be a member or a member dependent of Oahe Electric. Applications for the 2025-2026 academic year are being accepted until February 14, 2025.

For more information, contact Oahe Electric at 1-800-640-6243 or oahe@ oaheelectric.com. Applications can also be downloaded by visiting our website at www.oaheelectric.com.

# THE COUNTRY COOKIN' COOKOOK

#### **RECIPES NEEDED**

Help us create another great cookbook by submitting your favorite recipes.



Submit recipes to graphics@eastrater cop or contact your local co-o for more information.

Submit to be entered into a drawing for 1 of 2 \$100 Visa gift cards

#### COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

#### OAHE ELECTRIC

(USPS No. 019-042

#### **Board of Directors:**

James Feller – Assistant Secretary 605.962.6207 Brandon Haag – President 605.215.6758 Ryan Noyes – Treasurer 605.280.3500 Ross Sperry – Secretary 605.280.7770 Kirk Yackley – Vice President 605.28.2412

#### **Employees:**

Tyler Arbach – Journeyman Lineman Austin Bergeson – Journeyman Lineman Mark Bruning – Line Foreman Matt Eldridge – Chief Operations Officer Trudie Feldman – Custodian Brady Gaer – Journeyman Lineman Sidney Geigle – Journeyman Lineman Sam Irvine – Executive Services Specialist Megan Jaeger – Membership Director Les Job – Journeyman Lineman Jordan Lamb – Chief Executive Officer Dan Lettau – Journeyman Lineman Steve Long – Power Supply Specialist Valerie Marso – Chief Financial Officer Tory Smith – Journeyman Lineman

OAHE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS is published monthly by Oahe Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 216, 102 S. Canford, Blunt, SD 57522, for its members. Families subscribe to Oahe Electric Cooperative Connections as part of their electric cooperative membership. Oahe Electric Cooperative Connections' purpose is to provide reliable. helpful information to Oahe Electric Cooperative members on matters pertaining to rural electrification and better rural living. Subscription information: Electric cooperative members devote 50 cents from their monthly electric payments for a subscription. Nonmember subscriptions are available for \$12 annually. Periodicals Postage Paid at Blunt, SD 57522 and at additional mailing offices.

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#### Our Mission

Oahe Electric delivers high quality, low-cost electric service to our local member-owners. As a Touchstone Energy® Cooperative, we are committed to meeting the highest standards of customer satisfaction. We do business with accountability, integrity, innovation and commitment to community. As an electric co-op, we are part of America's most trusted network of high quality energy providers.

# ENJOY A SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

From late November to mid-January, when families gather, parties are scheduled and travel spikes, safety should be top of mind. Following is tried-and-true advice to ensure your family remains safe and injury-free throughout the season.

#### **Traveling for the Holidays? Be Prepared**

If you're traveling this year, be sure your vehicle is in good running condition, get plenty of rest and be prepared for any emergency. Traveling by car during the holidays has the highest fatality rate of any major form of transportation based on fatalities per passenger mile. Hundreds of people die every year in crashes on New Year's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day, according to Injury Facts. Alcohol impairment is involved in about a third of these fatalities.

Stay safe on the roads over the holidays – and every day:

- Prepare your car for winter and keep an emergency kit with you.
- Get a good night's sleep before departing and avoid drowsy driving.
- Leave early, planning ahead for heavy traffic.
- Make sure every person in the vehicle is properly buckled up no matter how long or short the distance traveled.
- Put that cell phone away; many distractions occur while driving, but cell phones are the main culprit.
- Practice defensive driving.
- Designate a sober driver to ensure guests make it home safely after a holiday party; alcohol or over-the-counter, prescription and illegal drugs can cause impairment.

#### **Decorate Safely**

Decorating is one of the best ways to get in a holiday mood, but emergency departments see thousands of injuries involving holiday decorating every season.

When decorating follow these tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission:

- Keep potentially poisonous plants mistletoe, holly berries, Jerusalem cherry and amaryllis – away from children.
- If using an artificial tree, check that it is labeled "fire resistant."
- If using a live tree, cut off about two inches of the trunk to

expose fresh wood for better water absorption, remember to water it, and remove it from your home when it is dry.

- Place your tree at least three feet away from fireplaces, radiators and other heat sources, making certain not to block doorways.
- Avoid placing breakable ornaments or ones with small, detachable parts on lower tree branches where small children can reach them.
- Only use indoor lights indoors and outdoor lights outdoors, and choose the right ladder for the task when hanging lights.
- Replace light sets that have broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires or loose connections.
- Follow the package directions on the number of light sets that can be plugged into one socket.
- Never nail, tack or stress wiring when hanging lights, and keep plugs off the ground away from puddles and snow.
- Turn off all lights and decorations when you go to bed or leave the house.

#### Source: National Safety Council



#### "Don't Spill Water on Electronics... It Could Start a FIRE!"

#### **Bethany Langworthy, Age 9**

Bethany Langworthy warns readers to be careful with water around electronics. Thank you for your picture, Bethany! Bethany's parents are Kristina and Edward Langworthy, members of West River Electric.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

# Family FAVORIES

#### CREAM CHEESE AND CUCUMBER SPREAD DIP

#### **Ingredients:**

1 large cucumber, grated 1 tsp. onion, grated 8 oz. pkg. cream cheese 3/4-1 cup mayonnaise Salt and pepper to taste

#### Method

Grate cucumber and onion on several thicknesses of paper towels, squeeze out all the water. Place in a bowl. Blend other ingredients, adding enough mayonnaise to make it a spreading consistency. Serve with crackers or chips.

Mary Ann Klarenbeek Harrisburg, S.D.

#### GRANDMA GRACE'S FROZEN FRUIT SALAD

#### **Ingredients:**

8 oz. Cool Whip
1 tbsp. lemon juice
1 cup sour cream
3/4 cup sugar
Dash of salt

Mix all thoroughly until sugar is dissolved.

9 oz. can pineapple, crushed and drained
Small jar maraschino cherries (halve or chopped if desired)
2 sliced bananas (halve or quarter slices if desired)
1/4 cup chopped walnuts

#### Method

Mix thoroughly. Pour into 8x8 or 9x9 container. Cover and freeze. Thaw 10-15 minutes to allow cutting into serving portions.

My mother, Grace Alley, first made this salad for holiday meals. It has become a family favorite, and we always have it for one of our holidays.

Mary Harris Glad Valley, S.D.

#### LEMON ROSEMARY GLAZED HAM

#### **Ingredients:**

- 1 bone-in spiral-cut ham, about 10 lbs.
- 1 1/4 cups honey, divided
- 2 tsps. lemon extract
- 1 1/4 tsps. whole rosemary leaves, crushed, divided

#### Method

Preheat oven to 325°F. Place the ham on its side in roasting pan. Mix 1 cup of the honey, 1 1/2 tsps. of the extract and 1 tsp. of the rosemary in small bowl until well blended. Brush 1/2 of the honey mixture over ham, gently separating the slices so mixture can reach middle of ham. Cover loosely with foil.

Bake 1 hour, basting occasionally with pan drippings. Remove foil. Brush with remaining honey mixture. Bake 45 minutes longer.

Meanwhile, mix remaining 1/4 cup honey, 1/2 tsp. extract and 1/4 tsp. rosemary in small bowl. Serve with ham along with the pan drippings.

#### McCormick.com

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2024. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

### **Lineman's Lens**

Oahe Electric Cooperative Journeyman Linemen Austin Bergeson and Brady Gaer left with one of Oahe Electric's bucket trucks the morning of Oct. 2, 2024.

They were headed for Pickens, South Carolina, to assist with power restoration efforts in the area following the devastation of Hurricane Helene.

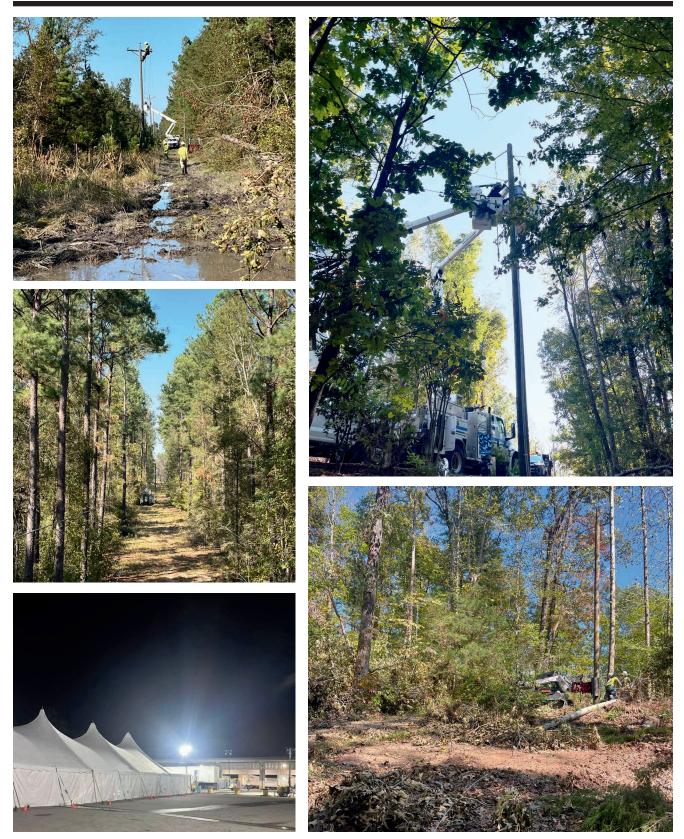
Oahe Electric's linemen were joined by 16 more linemen from four other South Dakota rural electric cooperatives to travel more than 24 hours to Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative.

After the power had been restored to the majority of Blue Ridge Electric members, the South Dakota linemen then left for Jefferson Energy Cooperative in Wrens, Georgia. The linemen were gone for a little over two weeks, returning home on October 17.

South Dakota linemen put in 16-hour days in some of the most rugged terrain in South Carolina, and sweltering weather in Georgia. The incredible effort in getting power restored exemplifies two key Cooperative Principles: Cooperation among Cooperatives and Concern for Community.

Read their story – pages 8 & 9.

#### LINEMAN'S LENS



In South Carolina and Gerogia, linemen worked long days cutting through dense brush and fallen trees to repair thousands of damaged utility poles. After work, linemen returned to crowded basecamps to eat and get a short night's sleep.

# HURRICANE AID

#### Linemen Help Restore Power After Hurrican Helene

#### Jacob Boyko

jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop

Linemen from five of South Dakota's rural electric cooperatives traveled to the Southeastern U.S. in October to help restore power along Hurricane Helene's path of destruction.

The 18 linemen left Oct. 2 for Pickens, South Carolina, where Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative faced over 64,000 meter outages and more than 800 broken poles in Helene's aftermath.

Zach Hansen, a lineman from West River Electric Association, didn't think twice before he volunteered to go along.

"It's just the co-op way," he said. "There are people in need down there who lost their houses – lost their lives – and this is something we know we can do to help. It's kind of a once-ina-lifetime opportunity."

The linemen stayed at a crowded base camp with dozens of other utility workers from all across the country. They slept on cots in a large, open army-sized tent, but with their busy schedules, they didn't spend much time there anyway. Most days, the linemen woke at 5:30 a.m. for breakfast and worked in the field until supper at 8 p.m.

The work also presented unfamiliar challenges for the linemen; each time the crew needed to repair damaged infrastructure, they'd first have to start the labor-intensive process of clearing through debris and trees toppled by Helene's heavy wind gusts. "When we have blizzards and ice storms in South Dakota, it's hard work – and you're trying to stay warm," Hansen explained. "But out here, there's a lot more chainsaw work and fixing wire breaks. It's not just straight miles of line lying down like we're used to at home."

By Oct. 9, fewer than 1,000 meters in Blue Ridge Electric territory remained offline, and the South





Dakota crews were dismissed to begin the 1,200-plus mile journey home.

But as the South Dakota convoy – which included bucket trucks, skid steers and ATVs – moved north, another call came in.

Jefferson Energy Cooperative in Wrens, Georgia, also faced catastrophic damage to their distribution lines, with 100% of their service territory without power after the storm. On Oct. 9, as South Dakota's linemen were driving home from South Carolina to reunite with their families, still over 10,000 homes and businesses remained without power.

Just like before, South Dakota's rural electric cooperatives answered the call.

"When our line superintendent called me that morning and asked me how we felt about going to Georgia, I said, 'well, we're right here, so we might as well go in and help," Bon Homme Yankton lineman Gunnar Dally said. "If they need help, we're more than willing to come."

The stop in Wrens delayed the linemen's return home by about a week, but the appreciation from the communities helped keep spirits high.

"When we were on breaks, there were people stopping to thank us for helping," Dally said. "A lot of them were very surprised when we said we were from South Dakota."

Hansen recognized another subset

of heroes: the families.

"The unsung heroes of storm jobs are the people we leave behind," he said. "My wife is at home with six kids taking care of the ranch while I'm gone. If we didn't have those people, we couldn't go out and do the things we needed to do. They are the real heroes."

SDREA General Manager Steve Barnett thanked the linemen for volunteering to help with the storm restoration efforts and for embodying the values of South Dakota's rural electric cooperatives.

"These 18 linemen gave up time at home with their families to help people in need they've never met in a place they've never been," Barnett said. "Their selfless actions reflect what we stand for as a family of cooperatives, as South Dakotans, and as fellow Americans. We thank them for their work, their spirit and their dedication to keeping the lights on – at home, and in South Carolina and Georgia."



# The Talented Office Team at Your Service – Part 3



Valerie Marso Chief Financial Officer

We have a small but mighty front office of three that takes care of 2,159 members, 3,351 meters and a consistently growing membership! I am extremely proud of our dedication, problem solving abilities and compassion for our members.

If you haven't had the pleasure of meeting us in person yet, or even if you have, let's get to know a little bit more about us and our functions at your cooperative!

#### Valerie Marso, Chief Financial Officer – 25 years

Sometimes I feel like Chandler from Friends – does anyone know what I do? Well, I am not a transpondster ;) but I manage all office activities relating to memberships, billing and collections, accounting activities, tax reports, financial statements and budgets. Basically anything to do with money or that funnels into providing accurate reports and statements (which are subject to audits) regarding the financial condition of the cooperative.

A couple of specific areas of my job that I thoroughly enjoy are the budget and capital credits. I am sure that sounds beyond boring to a lot of people but that doesn't make me boring; it's what makes me a good fit for my job. That's what I tell myself anyway. I thrive on seeing how close the budget comes to the actual numbers. Loads such as grain bin drying, irrigation and heating directly relate to the weather, so it makes it challenging to predict – just ask a meteorologist! And capital credits are such a unique and interesting animal. They fascinate me. Whoever came up with that model and the work order model are geniuses.

Over the years, there are three stand-out projects I handled that led to increased efficiencies.

#### 1. Computer Network/Internet –

When I came to Oahe Electric, information sharing relied on floppy disks. Misplacing one or if it got corrupted meant losing all the information that was on it. Plus we had to take turns on the dial-up internet. Neither situation was very user friendly or efficient. East River Electric assisted Oahe and got us set up on a network – the first cooperative they ever did this for – and they continue to assist us today.

2. Meter Reading Software Upgrade – For 18 years, we relied on our old meter reading software, which was practically a dinosaur in terms of technology. The leap from waiting for three days for a meter reading to getting readings within minutes was a huge step forward in addition to several other new capabilities.

3. Utility Software – I had barely been here six months when our utility software computer came crashing down. We couldn't post payments, look at member accounts, see meter or transformer numbers – literally anything. After two days on the phone and a three-hour road trip, we were back up and running in a completely different fashion. Instead of getting software updates in the mail and having a computer onsite that hosted everything, we now connect to the software remotely, updates are done automatically and everything is doubly backed up. We still use this method of connection and software today.

Fast forward to today, never in my wildest dreams would I have ever thought I would be having conversations about electric vehicles and data server parks. I'll leave you with a couple of thoughts to ponder.



Oahe Electric CFO Valerie Marso with daughter, son-in-law and husband at daughter's wedding.

**1. Electric Vehicles** – when they made the move from horse and buggy to cars, there weren't gas stations on every corner.

2. We are a technology driven society – Your phone backup (contacts, pictures, smart watches and 101 different apps), artificial intelligence and all things related to social media all take up a lot of space and are stored somewhere. The more technology, the more storage required.

Overall my job gives me a great sense of accomplishment. When new ideas come up, my mind

#### **Holiday Closings**

Thanksgiving – Thursday and Friday, November 28-29, 2024 Christmas – Tuesday and Wednesday, December 24-25, 2025 New Years Day – Wednesday, January 1, 2025 is already engaged trying to determine if it is possible and the logistics that go along with it.

My husband and I have been together for over 13 years. Our daughter is recently married and we gained a son-in-love. I love traveling, eating good food, enjoying warm weather (some would call it hot weather) and spending time with friends and family.

We have over a half century of experience between the three of us in the front office and we continue to strive to be more efficient while keeping our members' best interests at heart.

#### **COVE HEAT SALE**

Oahe Electric Cooperative is offering great deals on our remaining Cove Heat inventory!

Call 1.800.640.6243 today to learn more!

#### FIRST RESPONDERS

# STAYING SAFE

First responders put out a fire near Belle Fourche. Photo submitted by Butte Electric Cooperative.

#### Butte Electric Cooperative Connects With First Responders

#### Frank Turner

frank.turner@sdrea.coop

October marks First Responders Month, a time to honor the dedication and courage of those who rush toward danger to keep their communities safe. This fall, electric cooperatives across the country expressed their gratitude to these everyday heroes who are always prepared to protect lives and the essential infrastructure that supports local neighborhoods.

Day or night, regardless of the weather, first responders answer the call, whether it's battling a blaze or responding to a medical emergency. When it comes to keeping the community safe, their collaboration with local electric co-ops is key for both local residents and the first responders themselves. Together, they work to ensure that emergencies are managed quickly, effectively and, most importantly, safely.

In September, Butte Electric further strengthened its ties and

communications with local first responders following an eventful summer by hosting a series of safety demonstrations for emergency crews in Meade and Butte Counties and the U.S. Forest Service.

"Earlier this year we faced several incidents that resulted in exposed power lines near first responders," said Matt Sleep, chief executive officer of Butte Electric. "In one case, we had a situation west of Spearfish where strong winds brought down a billboard, exposing lines that sparked and started a fire."

Both Butte Electric and the local fire department responded to the emergency, de-energizing the lines and containing the small grass fire. In a separate incident, a driver suffered a medical emergency and crashed into an electrical pedestal. Although the driver died in the accident, the actions of first responders and the electric cooperative prevented further injuries. The incident, among others, prompted Butte Electric to take proactive steps in preparation for the next possible emergency. "We wanted to both educate responders and build some rapport, so when they see a power line, they know who to call and that they are comfortable getting in contact with us," said Sleep.

Butte Electric employees organized and led a hands-on safety training using the South Dakota Rural Electric Association's high voltage demonstration trailer, a specialized tool



that highlights the very real dangers of electricity. During the session, linemen demonstrated how electricity can arc, or jump, from one connection to another, always seeking the easiest path to the ground.

The training is one that linemen across the state have facilitated, which includes a memorable demonstration involving a grapefruit to show how contact with electricity impacts organic material. On the outside, the grapefruit appears undamaged after contact with an electrified line but cutting it open reveals it's been cooked from the inside.

The training left an impression with Trevor Papenfuss, an assistant fire management fire officer who has served with the U.S. Forest Service in the Spearfish area for more than 30 years. Papenfuss was just one of roughly 30 U.S. Forest Service members who attended the demonstration.

"We deal with incidents involving electricity at least once a year, if not more," Papenfuss said. "Butte Electric provided us with a lot of valuable information and a powerful demonstration. Seeing a grapefruit burn from the inside out makes a big impact and impression of just how dangerous live electricity can be. Several of our new wildland firefighters attended and they took away information that will stay with them for a long time."

In a separate training tailored to the Sturgis Fire Department, Volunteer Fire Chief of the Sturgis Fire Department Scott Lensegrav said the training was impactful for his fellow volunteers. In addition to noting the value of the demonstration, Lensegrav highlighted the importance of maintaining a strong line of communication between electric service providers like Butte Electric and the fire department, especially during an emergency.

"In a situation involving power lines or electricity, the first thing we do is communicate with dispatch to try and figure out whose power line is involved in the emergency," said Lensegrav. "The training was just another step in building good communication between our department and utilities. It was also great to have the refresher for our volunteers who have been with us for years and a good learning tool for the new volunteers that are coming into the service."

Looking forward, Sleep plans to continue strengthening the relationship between local first responders and Butte Electric for a safer future in their service area.

"It's all about building relationships and familiarity so that first responders know who to talk to and don't hesitate to call," said Sleep. "We deeply appreciate our first responders and want to help them however we can. These emergency personnel and volunteers are what make our communities great, and we just want to play our part in keeping them and our neighborhoods safe."



#### **CO-OP NEWS**



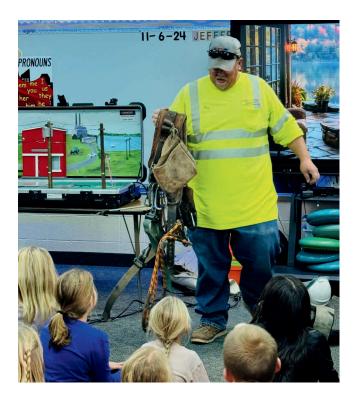




Oahe Electirc Cooperative visited Jefferson Elementary School in Pierre Nov. 6 to teach kids about rural electric cooperatives and give a safety presentation.

#### **CO-OP NEWS**









**NOV. 29 Parade of Lights** Parade of Lights 7 p.m. Chamberlain, SD

NOV. 30 A Hometown Christmas Market 2 p.m.-6 p.m. Main Street Elk Point, SD

NOV. 30 Mid-Winter Fair 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Gregory Memorial Auditorium Gregory, SD 605-830-9778

NOV. 29-DEC. 29 Trees & Trains Exhibit at SD State Railroad Museum Hill City, SD 605-665-3636

#### DEC. 1

A Christmas Carol 2 p.m. Gayville Music Hall Gayville, SD 605-624-2859 **DEC. 5 Christmas on the Prairie** 4 p.m. Main Street Miller, SD

DEC. 5 Holiday Festival of Lights 4 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Yankton, SD 605-665-3636

DEC. 6 Kimball's Hometown Holiday 3:30-7 p.m. Legion Hall Kimball, SD

#### DEC. 6 Hometown Holiday Vendor Fair 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Armory Howard, SD

DEC. 7

Newell Festival of Trees 9 a.m. – Doors Open 11:30 a.m. – Community Lunch 4 p.m. – Auction Newell City Hall Newell, SD

#### DEC. 6-8, 13-15

**A Sherlock Carol** Dec. 6-7, 13-14, 7:30 p.m. Dec. 8, 15, 2:30 p.m. Corson, SD mightycorson.com

#### **DEC. 7**

Santa Day 2 p.m. Stockholm Buggy Museum Stockholm, SD 605-467-3940

DEC. 7 KJAM Parade of Lights 5:30 p.m. Madison, SD 605-256-4514

DEC. 7-31 Garden Glow at McCrory Gardens 5 p.m.-9 p.m. Brookings, SD 605-688-6707

DEC. 8 Aberdeen Community Concert Association Fund Raiser 2024 Medora Magical Christmas Memories Tour 3 p.m. Aberdeen Civic Theater Aberdeen, SD 605-228-0946 aberdeencommunityconcerts.com

DEC. 14 Parade of Lights Wessington, SD 605-359-2049

**DEC. 15 A Poker Alice Christmas** 2 p.m. Gayville Music Hall Gayville, SD

DEC. 31 American Legion Post 15 Save the Last Dance 2024 8 p.m.-12:30 a.m. El Riad Shrine Sioux Falls, SD 605-336-3470

> Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.