

# Northern Lights



## POWERING



### Your Life With Ability

Our modern lives depend on electricity, yet we rarely ever notice it working in the background as we go about our day. Electricity heats and cools our homes, cooks our food, cleans our clothes, heats our water and keeps our lights on. It powers computers, TVs, smartphones and the other technologies that are changing the way we connect with the world.

It takes ability to power our local communities. And your cooperative works hard to ensure it's there for you by focusing on these five abilities.



#### RELIABILITY

Your cooperative supports an all-of-the-above energy strategy to meet the 24/7 demand for electricity. A diverse mix of coal, wind and hydro power resources work together to keep our member homes, farms, schools and businesses energized.



#### AFFORDABILITY

Your cooperative works hard to maintain competitive electric rates, while still providing the high level of service you've come to expect. While the cost of most goods and services has increased significantly over the years, electricity remains a relative bargain. The average homeowner uses about \$5 of electricity per day. That is less than the cost of a fast-food meal to power your life.



#### SUSTAINABILITY

Your cooperative is committed to keeping our water, air and land in pristine condition for future generations. About 42% of the electric generation capacity your cooperative receives is derived from carbon-free resources. The implementation of carbon capture technologies is currently being evaluated, which would complement major investments that have already been made to reduce power plant emissions.



#### DEPENDABILITY

Cooperative employees work around the clock to respond to external forces that can impact electric grid operations. Protective measures are taken to prevent the impacts of extreme weather events, cybersecurity risks and other threats to power generation and delivery systems.



#### ADAPTABILITY

Demand response programs are a true win-win for you and your cooperative. These programs, which allow for temporary control of off-peak loads, help shield cooperative members from high market prices and increased costs, similar to what was experienced in Texas this past winter. In exchange, cooperative members receive a discounted electric rate.



## From Your Manager

Charles Riesen, Manager

We had our June board meeting recently and heard reports from the area on crop progress. Although the financials are not complete for June, the board did hear the progress through May, and the report was just as dim as the moisture for their crops. However, just like our member-owners, I've been at this electric business for a few years now. Good and bad years happen, and this year has brought hardship for many. Fortunately, our electric cooperative is in good financial shape and good physical shape. We can, to turn a

phrase, "weather a bad year." We also know six months doesn't make the entire year and things can turn for the better.

We got an early start on our construction for the year and were fortunate to get delivery of most of our material needs. Many cooperatives are not similarly situated. The electricians and appliance side of Cavalier REC are not as well-fixed. Delivery of material, appliances and appliance parts has been strained. We are blessed with member-owners and customers that

have been patient and understanding. I am personally blessed with a short dozen of co-workers that continually amaze me with their dedication and work to keep the cooperative spirit alive at Cavalier Rural Electric.

Hopefully the next time we chat, I can report that we have received timely rains in the proper amount, that energy sales are rebounding, backorders of material and appliances are back to pre-pandemic levels and our long "national nightmare" can be behind us. In the meantime, let us all enjoy a safe summer!

### RDFC awards grant to Langdon Legion Baseball

Cavalier Rural Electric Cooperative is a member of the Rural Development Finance Corporation (RDFC). As a result, communities in our service area are eligible to apply for a grant of up to \$2,000 for community-based projects. RDFC is making these funds available so more people become aware of their larger loan program that funds community-based projects and nonprofit entities with low-interest loans.



Darrin Romfo, right, accepts grant funds to help pay for infrastructure upgrades to the Langdon Legion ball field.



Stay safe from lightning –

# When thunder roars, go indoors!

As the sun heats the air, energy is created with air movement, and lightning typically comes from towering storm clouds. Fortunately, accidents involving lightning are very avoidable. Here are some suggestions to stay safe from the dangers of lightning:

- There is no safe place from lightning when you are outside. Be aware of weather forecasts and watch for developing thunderstorms, which occur more often in spring and summer.
- Lightning can strike many miles ahead of a storm front. If you hear thunder, seek shelter immediately, because that indicates lightning is within 10 miles of you. Safe shelters include inside a building or in an enclosed metal-topped vehicle.
- If you are inside a building, the National Weather Service advises you to stay off corded telephones and away from any electrical device that could carry an electrical surge if lightning entered into your home through wiring. Turn off or unplug such appliances, stay away from television sets, and do not depend on surge protectors to absorb a lightning strike. Conductors can also include the plumbing in your house.
- Authorities warn against outdoor activities until 30 minutes after the last clap of thunder.
- If a person is struck by lightning, call 911 and care for the victim immediately. You are not in danger of being shocked by the victim.

Source: [safeelectricity.com](http://safeelectricity.com)

# Along the Line

Marty Tetrault, Operations Manager



Hello, member-owners! We hope this finds you doing well! Since our last newsletter in early spring, the line crews have been busy working around the system. We started our construction projects the first week of April, which is one of the earliest since I've been with the cooperative. We have completed all the cable installations that were planned for the 2021 season. We are now busy working around vacations to complete the cut-over portions of these projects. The system improvements during the past few years have proven themselves as our outages have decreased from prior years and we hope to maintain that.

We have had some burned poles this year, which incurred longer-than-normal outages due to the conditions to replace them. Most of them were in sloughs, which takes a lot more work and time to repair. So,

I ask that you please take that expense into consideration, because we do bill the landowner or person responsible for lighting the fire.

It appears we will continue to stay busy through the fall with system upgrades in some yards and also reconnecting and installing some new services around the area. I would like to extend a welcome to our new members on the system.

If you are planning a fall project, please contact us as soon as possible as our schedule is filling up and material is hard to get. We may not be thinking much about COVID anymore, but it has definitely affected us in many ways as far as the price and availability of materials. Please call Danny or myself to discuss your project plans.

Until next time,  
Marty

## 5 STEPS FOR SAFE DIGGING

Working on an outdoor project? Careless digging poses a threat to people, pipelines and underground facilities. Always call 8-1-1 first. Here are five easy steps for safe digging.



Source: call811.com

## Congratulations to the 2021 Carl Wild Memorial Scholarship winners!

Graduates will each be awarded a \$500 scholarship.



**Miriam Carignan**  
North Border Walhalla High School  
*Randy & Bonnie Carignan*  
Miriam will attend Mayville State University where she plans to major in business administration.



**Liberty Cleveland**  
Langdon Area High School  
*James & Anna Cleveland*  
Liberty will be attending Valley City State University to study biology.



**Lexis Olson**  
Langdon Area High School  
*Steve & Jamie Olson*  
Lexis will be attending the University of Jamestown where she will be playing volleyball and majoring in education with a minor in coaching.



**Simon Romfo**  
Langdon Area High School  
*Troy & Rachelle Romfo*  
Simon plans to attend the University of North Dakota to pursue a degree in managerial finance and accounting. He will also play football for the Fighting Hawks.

# MINI-SPLITS ARE THE Cherry on Top OF COMFORT



*The pint-sized electric technology that makes any space a treat*

**Here's the scoop:** You've found the perfect lake property or starter home that you've been dreaming of, complete with all of the rustic character and scenic views you could hope for. Just one thing is missing – ductwork to keep your family and friends from melting in the summer and turning into popsicles in the winter.

No ducts? No problem. You just need a mini-split heat pump – and CREC can set you up to save **BIG**.

Mini-split heat pumps are the cost-effective and efficient way to keep your place comfortable without the expense and hassle of adding ductwork.

The technology is small and simple: A compressor unit is installed outside and is connected to an indoor unit by cables and a refrigerant line. The system works like a standard air-source heat pump unit, which uses electricity to move heat out of the home in the summer and into the home in the winter. The year-round versatility of the system makes it a one-and-done heating and cooling project.



Isn't that sweet?

## Here are a few more reasons you should sprinkle a mini-split – or two, or three – into your life:

- They are a perfect solution for a drafty bedroom.
- They use just enough energy to cool your sunroom.
- You could even install one in a shed or garage.
- Mini-splits are discreet and placed high on the wall or ceiling to blend into surroundings.
- Mini-splits are often much quieter than central air or furnaces.
- You can preset the unit to run automatically or adjust the temperature by remote.
- The units run on less power than forced-air systems, and that efficiency saves money.
- The units may qualify for your cooperative's super-low off-peak electricity rate.
- You can score up to \$150 per ton in installation rebates.

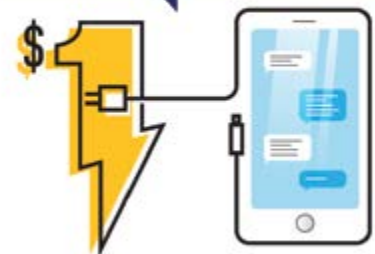
**To learn how to best dish up the savings, call our member services team at 701-256-5511**



## Plan ahead for new services

If you plan on upgrades or new services, especially if large fans for drying are involved, please contact CREC as soon as possible. This is helpful because the delivery time for large transformers can be lengthy and allows line crews time to schedule for any additional projects. As much as practical, the service upgrades will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis. Please call and ask for Marty.

## What can you get for \$1?



### 1,700 hours of smartphone charges

Electricity keeps the world at your fingertips, no matter your budget. Did you know it costs only \$1 to charge a smartphone for about 1,700 hours? That's a low price for endless social media posts, vacation searches and calls to your mom!