Kandiyohi Power Coop

DECEMBER 2019 - ISSUE 100 VOLUME 10

KPC Offices will be closed for December 24-25th – Christmas January 1st – New Years If an emergency, call 1-800-551-4951

Wishing you all a very Merry and Blessed Christmas!

Blessings to you as we remember the "Reason for the Season". May your hearts be warmed with moments spent with family and friends. May you enjoy the memories of Christmastimes past and celebrate traditions carried out from year to year. May you feel the Magic of the Day and remember that "It's not what's under the Christmas tree that matters, it's who is around it". Merry Christmas.

Happy 2020!!!

Another year brings new adventures, new challenges, and change. May you embrace it all with confidence and excitement. We hope for you a year of no worries, new friendships, success, health and happiness and dreams that come true. Thank you so much for all your support and patronage to your cooperative, Kandiyohi Power this past year. We look forward to serving you in 2020 and making it an awesome New Year!!!

A MESSAGE FROM DALE ANDERSON, BOARD CHAIRMAN

As your board, it is our responsibility to make sure that Kandiyohi Power Cooperative has sound leadership



Since Scott's departure, the Co-op management team has done a great job making sure all the daily business of the Co-op has continued to run smoothly. We appointed an interim CEO, Mark Fagan. Mark is Vice President of Corporate and Member Services at Great River Energy.

We are fortunate that Great River Energy, our power supplier, is willing to share Mark with us until the new CEO is hired. He will serve as our interim CEO a few days a week. Mark will also work with the Board



of Directors to help us find the plan that best meets the long-term needs of Kandiyohi Power Cooperative.

The board is considering different options and wants to do what is best for our organization. We do not want to rush into making a quick decision that might be a short-term solution but not the best long-term plan for your Co-op. The search for a new CEO will begin in January, with the goal of having someone in place by early spring.

I am very thankful for the many dedicated employees we have at KPC. I want to thank the employees for being patient and understanding with the board, and for trusting us to make the right decisions.

We have many loyal employees who put their heart and soul into serving you, our members. Our interim CEO, Mark Fagan, has an in-depth understanding of cooperatives and I believe he will be very helpful in seeing Kandiyohi Power Cooperative through this transition.

MAY YOUR HOLIDAY SEASON BE MERRY AND BRIGHT

The holidays are a time of year that many of us eagerly anticipate. The season is marked by special foods, seasonal decorations and lots of festivities.

We cherish carrying on old family traditions and enjoy creating new ones. We look forward to more time spent with family and friends.

However, given the hustle and bustle of the season, the holidays can also offer an opportunity to slow down and reflect. For all of us at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, we are grateful for you, the members of the co-op.

You see, one of our founding principles as a co-op is "Concern for Community." While our main focus is providing safe, reliable and affordable energy, we want to give back. We want to help our community thrive.

Reflection

In looking back at this past year, we were able to make a positive impact in the community. Through programs such as Operation Round Up, where thanks to your contributions, we collected through October 2019, \$37,400. As a result of your generosity, we were able to help many families and organizations in the community.

We were also grateful for the opportunity to partner with local schools to raise awareness of the importance of electrical safety. In 2020 we look forward to sending a youth from one or our area schools to Washington D.C as part of the NRECA Youth Tour. We also help our local college by donating unclaimed capital credit dollars which are used for scholarships and funding internships.

There are other ways we can help the community, whether we're providing information about Load Management programs, Community Solar, Electric Vehicles, or helping you find ways to save energy at home, we want you to know we're here to help.

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead to 2020, we hope you will share your opinions with us. We recognize that our members have a valuable perspective, and that's why we continually seek your input. Whether through

RATE STUDY COMPLETED Slight Rate Adjustment

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative is a not-for-profit, member-owned cooperative. We perform a rate study every 4-5 years to make certain all rates are correctly aligned across member classes. Throughout the past several months we have worked with Power Systems Engineering, Inc. to complete an updated rate study.

The cost of providing access to the electrical grid and other expenses related to delivering electricity to members is fixed, or does not change, regardless of how many kilowatt hours a member uses. What does your access charge cover? Your access charge covers costs

associated with giving you access to the electric grid, including substations, poles and lines, transformers and meters, 24/7 response, and trained professionals to keep safe, reliable and affordable power flowing to your homes and businesses.

KPC hasn't had a general rate increase in over 3 years, but due to keeping costs down, only a small increase will occur. Residential members will see a \$3 increase in their monthly access charge.

KILOWAT'T CREDIT SCORECARD Win a credit on your next bill.

Account numbers used are 9 digits, as appearing on your monthly bill. If you find your account number in this KILOWATT, please notify us by the 4th to claim your credit.

We will credit your bill. Do not deduct the amount from your bill; pay as usual. Congratulations to James Fromm for finding his account number. Each account number is worth \$5.00.

Saltine Toffee Cookies

- 4 ounces saltine crackers
- 1 cup butter
- 1 cup dark brown sugar
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- 3/4 cup chopped pecans

Directions _

ngredients

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees F (205 degrees C).
- 2. Line cookie sheet with saltine crackers in single layer.
- **3.** In a saucepan combine the sugar and the butter. Bring to a boil and boil for 3 minutes. Immediately pour over saltines and spread to cover crackers completely.
- 4. Bake at 400 degrees F (205 degrees C) for 5 to 6 minutes. Remove from oven and sprinkle chocolate chips over the top. Let sit for 5 minutes. Spread melted chocolate and top with chopped nuts. Cool completely and break into pieces.





community events, our social media channels or the annual meeting, we want to hear from you. We are led by you – the members of the co-op – and we depend on your feedback.

As we prepare for next year, we look forward to the opportunity to serve you and the greater community. On behalf of the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative family, we hope your holidays are indeed merry and bright!

SNOWMOBILE SAFELY!!!

Be aware of power lines & transformers.

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative reminds snowmobile enthusiasts of all ages to be cautious while snowmobiling.

Please remember to:

- Watch out for power poles, guy wires and electrical equipment that can be hidden in the snow. Heavy snowfalls can often bury transformer boxes and cabinets.
- Slow down, know the area where you are snowmobiling and stay on the trails.
- If you see a downed power line, STAY AWAY from it and call 911 to report it. There is no way to tell if a power line is energized just by looking at it. Always assume it is live and can carry currents strong enough to kill.
- Always wait for help to arrive before you approach an accident scene where a power line may be involved.
- Share this important information with family, friends and anyone you know who rides a snowmobile.







8605 47th Street NE, Spicer, MN 56288 www.kpcoop.com

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am – 4pm Phone: 1-800-551-4951 Fax: 320-796-0620

Tom McCormick Electric Inspector: 320-221-2809

> Drop boxes available for your convenience at Cash Wise and headquarters building near flag pole.

MANAGEMENT STAFF Diane Maurice, Marketing/Customer Service Ryan Nelson, Engineering Scott Luberts, Line Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	District
Dale Anderson, Chair- 320-894-1687	1
Rollo Campe- <i>320-894-1601</i>	1
Larry Powers- 320-212-7960	1
Dan Pomranke, VC- 320-894-7113	2
Todd Post- 320-212-1119	2
Stan Wubben, Secretary- 320-905-8325	2
Darrell Fostervold - 320-212-4824	3
Diane Helgeson- 320-220-3745	3
Robbert Stone- 320-894-8867	3

KILOWATT STAFF: Robin Ryks, Editor







24-HOUR OUTAGE NUMBER

When your lights go out, so do we.

Call us if your power goes out even if you think your neighbors already did. Leave one light on so you know when power has been restored and make sure you have an emergency kit ready.

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1-800-551-4951
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The Value of Electricity

1 box of candy canes = 450 hours of lighting 10 strings of 100 LED holiday lights

1 holiday sweater = 215 days of watching an Energy Star LED TV



1 large peppermint mocha latte = 540 days of charging your iPhone

*calculations based on \$3 box of candy canes, \$45 sweater and \$5 latte

Holiday Tree Safety Tips

Ensure a merry and bright holiday season by safely maintaining your tree with the following tips.

Keep away from heat: Make sure your tree is at least three feet away from any heat source, like an airduct, fireplace

Examine cords: Examine extension cords and lights for signs of damage. Frayed electric cords should be discarded.

Inspect lights:

Carefully inspect all electrical decorations before you use them. Cracked or damaged sockets and/or loose or exposed wires can cause serious shock or start a fire.

Trim the stump: Trim the tree's

stump by at least two inches on freshly cut trees. Allow it to absorb water for 24 hours before bringing it inside.

Source: National Fire Protection Association

Keep it watered:

or space heater.

Fill the water reservoir daily and check the condition of the trunk bark and branches for moisture. Shedding or dry needles could mean the tree is drying out, increasing overall fire risks.