Kandiyohi Power Coop

FEBRUARY 2018 - ISSUE 80 VOLUME 2

WINNING Article by: Scott Froemming, CEO

We all like our home teams to win (which makes watching MN sports extremely



painful at times). On January 31st, Kandiyohi Power Cooperative, your home team, embarked on a thrilling win-win opportunity with the City of Kandiyohi (City), beginning an exciting new chapter in their closeknit relationship. As of that date,



KPC purchased the City's electric distribution system and on February 1st began providing electric service to the residents of the City, as members of KPC.

Let me start out with a little history of long-term relationship between KPC and the City. KPC has partnered with the City for over 20 years, helping to build and maintain their electric system. In addition, for the last 7 years we have performed meter readings for them on a contract basis. However, throughout these years the ultimate responsibility for operating and maintaining the electric system still resided with the City. In fact, the mayor and city council members would have to field calls for power outages, many times on holidays or in the middle of the night. So, it seemed the next logical step in this close partnership was for KPC to assume full responsibility for the City's electric system by owning it.

Here are some of the many wins for the City: KPC handling all calls for power outages, KPC taking all responsibility for repairs and upgrades to the electric system, an increased property tax base, reduced liability for injuries to the public, an ongoing stable revenue stream and KPC handling billing of City residents for electric and water service. There are many wins for City residents as well, including: improved response time to outages, membership in KPC, capital credits earned, access to load management programs, energy efficient appliance rebates, online bill pay, budget billing and access to KPC as their trusted energy advisor.

The big win for KPC is 277 more members and therefore more sales resulting in a larger base to spread our fixed costs. The increased membership and sales will help slow the pace of rate increases for all members. The City also brings with it a low-cost source of power from the Western Area Power Administration (WAPA). In addition, they will be a great area for economic development in our service area with a great location on a major highway, access to high speed internet, natural gas, railroad, etc.

It is with great delight we welcome the residents of the City as the newest members of our cooperative. We consider it our pleasure and duty to serve them, along with the rest of our members, with reliable, sustainable and innovative energy solutions. We look forward with great anticipation, to working and winning together in the future. Kandiyohi Power Cooperative and the City of Kandiyohi, now that's a winning team!

CLOSED - MARCH 8TH

Kandiyohi Power Cooperative will be closed on March 8th for an "All-Employee In-Service Day!" If you need to contact us for any reason, please call 1-800-551-4951 and our call center will assist you

SAVE THE DATE

KPC Annual Meeting Spicer American Legion April 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Doors open at 5:30 Meeting with supper to follow You must RSVP to 800-551-4951 due to limited space.

HAPPY RETIREMENT!

Wishing Kris Grimes a happy retirement is bitter-sweet for those of us who have had the



privilege of working with her over the past years. After being the plant accountant for 40 years, Kris announced her retirement – that's right, 40 years at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative. She has experienced many changes within the cooperative as far as business, technology, supervisors and co-workers. Kris is thankful for the years KPC provided her employment, for all the people she has encountered, and lifelong friendships made.

We will miss her dedication, smile and most of all her sense of humor. She always has a quick comeback and you never walk away without a remark from her that makes your day. For example, I asked her "what has been her favorite thing about working at the co-op all these years" and she replied "4:00". For Kris, retirement will be "take it as it comes". No special plans, just enjoy each day, do some traveling, spend time with family and friends. To Kris, it will always be 5:00 somewhere. Kris' farewell words – not a whole lot other than she will miss everyone, she's thankful that 40 years ago KPC gave her a chance and glad they did, and one last thing - would like to remind Dave Nelson that it's his turn. Thanks for all the memories Kris!!!

DO NOT TAMPER WITH YOUR ELECTRIC METER

Meter tampering can result in electric shock, is illegal and increases electricity rates for other co-op members.



 Never break a meter seal.
Never open a meter base.
Never remove a meter or alter an entrance cable in any manner.

If you know or suspect that someone has tampered with their meter, please contact us immediately.

AMERICA'S ELE

KILOWATT 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. Marvin Newman found his account number in January's Kilowatt. Each account number is worth \$5.00.

Stay Back!

Know the difference between types of lines and wires. If you see a downed electric line, be aware that it could be live and dangerous!



Electric Wire

Electric wires are larger and can be easily identified by the three separate twisted wires, one being uniquely silver or uninsulated.

Cable Wire

Cable lines are round and look similar to the coaxial cable that connects to the TV in your home.

Phone Wire

Telephone wires are typically smaller, flat wires.

DIRECTOR FILINGS NOW OPEN DISTRICTS #1, #2, #3

Would you like to serve as a Director on the Kandiyohi Power Cooperative Board for your District? Please call or stop by and request a Director packet. These packets contain the cooperative's bylaws as well as the qualifications to become a Director. As a Board Director you will serve a 3-year term and must reside within the district you are filing in. Filings are due to the office by 4:00 p.m. on Monday, February 26, 2018. Election results will be announced at KPC's 2018 Annual Meeting, April 17, at the Sp

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BOARD MEMBER DISTRICTS 2018



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Kandiyohi Power Cooperative



The emerging trend of residential battery storage allows consumers to store power generated by solar panels, wind turbines and other types of renewable energy systems.



RESIDENTIAL BATTERY STORAGE IS THE ENERGY TREND TO WATCH By Anne Prince

In this case, "battery storage" does not refer to the drawer where you put the extra AA batteries for your flashlight! Instead, it refers to an emerging energy trend. Batteries and battery storage are evolving much like the way LED bulbs and lumens have transformed how we light our homes.

What's driving battery storage?

Rooftop solar costs are dropping, and community solar options are increasing in popularity. In 2017, wind and solar electricity generation set a record by exceeding 10 percent of U.S. energy generation, according to the Energy Information Agency (EIA). News in the automotive world was dominated by announcements of major automakers stepping up production of electric vehicles (EVs), or in some cases, phasing out gas-powered engines altogether. As EVs gain popularity, charging stations are popping up in places of business and in other public spaces.

So, what does this all mean? Consumers are clearly looking for more renewable energy options. But intermittent power from wind and solar sources creates a need for energy storage. This is where batteries come into play. An increase in research and development in this energy sector is being driven by EVs and renewable energy trends. While the current focus is primarily on commercial applications, the impact on residential use will eventually follow. We can see improvements in the energy efficiency of lithium-ion batteries. For example, phone, computer and other types of batteries/charging stations are holding their charge longer and powering more energy-intense devices. There are hundreds of lithium-ion batteries, all of which have different capabilities and voltages.

Does better battery storage mean you can go "off the grid" now?

While consumers using rooftop solar or other renewable energy sources have the most to gain, it's not as easy as you would think to go off the grid completely. Powering the average consumer's home, including HVAC systems, lights, appliances and the big screen TV, requires a tremendous amount of energy. Significant weather variation is another complicating factor. Going off the grid would require a solar array coupled with battery storage that is properly sized based on your energy consumption. Because battery storage technology is evolving and battery banks are not widely available, it is still not yet cost-effective for the average consumer to purchase.

However, the energy advisors at Kandiyohi Power Cooperative are knowledgeable when it comes to energy efficiency and energy choices. Talk to us about your options, like Community Solar and other programs that can help you save energy and money. If you decide to purchase an EV, let us know; your current electric service was designed and sized to meet consumers' demands when the power lines were originally established and connected. We can also tell you about ideal charging times, like during off-peak hours, which helps conserve energy.

As our energy needs evolve, look to Kandiyohi Power Cooperative for the information about energy trends and how to save energy.



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

Scott Froemming, CEO Anthony Stern, CFO Diane Maurice, Marketing/Customer Service Dave Nelson, Engineering Scott Luberts, Line Superintendent

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:	District
Dale Anderson, Chair- 320-254-3530	1
Rollo Campe- <i>320-894-1601</i>	1
Larry Powers- 320-212-7960	1
Ted Olsen- 320-220-3084	2
Todd Post- 320-212-1119	2
Stan Wubben, Secretary- 320-905-8325	2
Darrell Fostervold, VC- 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.

1-800-551-4951

Chocolate Butterscotch Caramel Bars

1½ C. all-purpose flour 1½ C. regular or quick oats

- 1 C. packed brown sugar
- 1 tsp baking powder
- ¼ tsp kosher salt
- 1¾ sticks cold salted butter, cut into pieces
- 2-13.5oz cans Nestle La Lechera sweetened condensed milk
- 1 C. Spanish peanuts
- ngredients 1 C. butterscotch chips
- 1 C. mini chocolate chips



Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Line a 9-inch square baking pan with aluminum foil and spray with nonstick spray.

Mix together the flour, oats, brown sugar, baking powder and salt in a bowl. Cut in the butter with a pastry cutter until the mixture resembles coarse

crumbs. Sprinkle the mixture into the prepared pan and pat lightly to pack it slightly. Bake until light golden brown on top and done in the middle, watching to make sure it doesn't burn, 30-35 minutes. Allow to cool for 15 minutes.

Spoon the La Lechera into a microwave-safe bowl and microwave to just slightly soften it, about 45 seconds. Scoop it on top of the oatmeal base and use an offset spatula to spread it out to the edges and into an even layer. Sprinkle on a layer of peanuts so they completely cover the caramel and use your hands to gently press them into the caramel. Sprinkle on the butterscotch chips and mini chocolate chips in generous layers.

Note: The warmth of the cookie base and caramel should slightly soften the butterscotch and chocolate chips. When that happens, use your hands to very gently press the chips just enough to anchor them together (but not enough to misshape them). If the pan isn't warm enough, pop it into the oven for 30 seconds or so and gently press the chips to anchor them together. Chill bars for 2-3 hours to make them easy to slice. Remove them from the pan, place on a cutting board and use a long, serrated knife to cut into small squares (they're rich!) Serve cold or at room temperature



Valentine's Day is February 14! Can you find the associated words in the puzzle below? Use the word bank to check your work.

CANDY **FLOWERS** HUGS VALENTINE'S DAY CARD

FRIEND LOVE **CHOCOLATE** HEART



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κ	Μ	Α	1	Ζ	W	Υ	Q	Е	Е	0	R	L	U	F	
Q	Ζ	E	E	U	V	R	S	S	L	Μ	Μ	D	0	L	
Ρ	Ν	н	Α	н	R	С	Μ	0	1	С	Х	J	Α	0	
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