

Member photo contest for 2021 calendars

he contest is designed to spotlight the photography talents of our members, but just as importantly the scenic beauty and unique characteristics of our service territory. Members are encouraged to begin submitting photos with the deadline being August 1, 2020. Please consider submitting photos from all seasons (spring, summer, fall, winter). The photos submitted will be selected by a panel of judges with winners notified by September 1, 2020. Winners will receive a \$20 credit on their electric bill.



Photo Contest Guidelines:

- 1. Only McLeod Co-op Power members may enter the contest (photos must have been taken by the member submitting the photo).
- 2. Members may submit up to 5 photos; however, only one winning entry can be selected per membership.
- 3. Photos must be electronic and high quality in resolution for print quality (at least 2MB in file size).
- 4. The following information must be submitted with the photo to be considered: Name, address, phone, email, and location taken with short photo description.
- 5. Shoot your photos in horizontal/landscape orientation (not vertical).
- 6. Photos must not include a close-up of people.
- 7. Photos (and supporting information) must be emailed to dehrke@mcleodcoop.com by August 1, 2020.
- 8. By submitting photos for this contest photographers automatically give McLeod Co-op Power permission to use winning photos in the calendar in other publications, member presentations or shared electronically on the co-op's website and Facebook page.



Annual Meeting is April 14

Mark your calendars for the Co-op's Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 14 at the Hutchinson Event Center. Door open at 8:30 a.m. Musical entertainment by 2 Sisters, singing duo Ellen Tracy and her sister Julie Vrieze, beginning at 8:50 a.m. Business meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. with lunch to follow.

Remember to bring the tear-off flap from your ballot's return envelope to the meeting, as it will be your registration/prize drawing ticket.

2 Sisters to perform at this year's annual meeting.



McLeod Co-op Power will be mailing ballots out to members on March 23, 2020. Watch your mailbox for an envelope from Survey & Ballot Systems with the McLeod Co-op Power logo on it.

The envelope will include a ballot for you to vote on the proposed Restated McLeod Cooperative Power Association Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws. A copy of the proposed changes will be included.

If you reside in a voting district, you will also receive a director election ballot to vote for the person who represents your area on the Co-op's Board of Directors.

Please open your ballot, VOTE, and mail it back in the return postage-paid envelope or bring it to the Annual Meeting.

CHANGE THIS YEAR: No registration/prize drawing postcards for the April 14th Annual Meeting will be mailed out. You will tear off the perforated Annual Meeting prize ticket from the back flap of your return envelope before mailing it and bring the ticket along to the Annual Meeting for the prize drawing.



Candidates vie for director seats

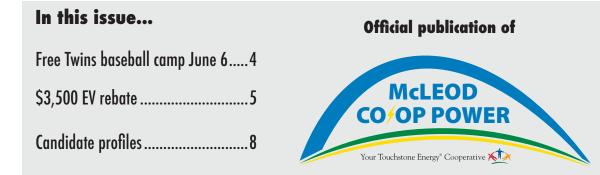
he Nominating Committee met January 29 and February 13 to select the final candidates for director elections in Districts 1, 2, and 3. The Nominating Committee is required to select two candidates to be on the ballot for each district. Additional candidates are only added to the ballot when a member presents a petition to the cooperative that is signed by at least 20 members from their district. (Photo of Nominating Committee on page 3).

The persons selected by the Nominating Committee for this year's election are:

District 1: Kari Berg and Oria Brinkmeier **District 2:** Joe Griebie and Daryl Luthens

District 3: Andrew Heimerl and David Resch

See director profiles on page 8.



Board of directors has started search for new CEO

ith General Manager Carrie Buckley scheduled to retire July 1, the McLeod Co-op Power Board of Directors started the process in February to hire a new Chief Executive Officer before Carrie's departure this summer. The board is utilizing human resource services from Great River Energy to conduct a search and advertise for qualified applicants for the CEO position. Board Chairman Keith Peterson said, "We are hoping to interview candidates this spring and have a successor in place before July 1."

McLeod Cooperative Power office will be closed on Good Friday, April 10.

The Cooperative has a 24 hour payment drop box at the entry to the Glencoe office.

In case of emergency or outage, members may call 1-800-927-5685 anytime 24 hours a day.

Manager's Message by Carrie L. Buckley, General Manager

See you at the Annual Meeting

odern Life is demanding and busy. We find ourselves multitasking and needing to set priorities. With so many pressing obligations, we are inclined to be very protective of "our time."

While we carefully weigh how to spend our time, I hope that you'll see the benefit in attending the McLeod Cooperative Power Association (MCPA) Annual Meeting on Tuesday, April 14th.

There are times when there is no substitute for in-person engagement. Prior to the start of the annual business meeting you'll have the opportunity to visit with staff and ask questions regarding a variety of subjects. We will have employees available to help with your load management, automatic generator, and home security system questions.

During the meeting (which we keep to less than one hour) we will discuss plans, priorities and challenges facing the cooperative, as well as its financial health. I will share photos of the construction progress on the Co-op's new combined warehouse, garage and office facility. When members of our cooperative come together for a common purpose, we can improve the quality of life for all in our corner of the world.



We may be entering a new decade, yet MCPA

remains committed to its core mission of providing safe and reliable electric energy to its member-consumers that's you! Equally important is our mission to enrich our local communities through programs like Operation RoundUp®, conducting safety demonstrations, providing scholarships, and working together with our local community leaders on economic development.

Each member attending the Annual Meeting will receive our 2019 Annual Report and an attendance gift. Member's in attendance for the meeting are also eligible for a few prize drawings, including a \$300 electric bill credit as grand prize.

If you have never attended an annual meeting or if it has been awhile, I invite you to join us on April 14th at the Hutchinson Event Center. There will be pre-meeting entertainment, a lot of good information, prizes, lunch, and a chance to visit with your neighbors and friends. The directors and employees always enjoy getting to visit with our Co-op members.

Proud to keep your lights on, Carrie

McLeod Cooperative Power News

Board of Directors

Directors are members of the cooperative and are elected to act in the best interests of the co-op with the same care that an ordinary prudent person in a like position would exercise under similar circumstances. Directors set policy, approve strategy and are charged with fiduciary responsibility of the cooperative. Directors do not

- District 1 Oria Brinkmeier, 320-485-2554 Hollywood Twp. in Carver Co., Winsted Twp. in McLeod Co., Victor, Woodland, & Franklin Twps. in Wright Co.
- District 2 Joe Griebie, Vice President 320-779-1101 Hassan Valley, Sumter & Rich Valley Twps. in McLeod Co.
- District 3 -David Resch, 952-449-1793 Bergen, Helen, & Glencoe Twps. in McLeod Co.
- District 4 Doug Kirtz, Secretary-Treasurer dkirtz@mcleodcoop.com, 320-583-7673 Boon Lake, Brookfield, Osceola, Kingman, Preston

oversee day-to-day operation of McLeod Co-op Power. Administration of maintenance, electric service, and operations are the responsibility of employees and staff, under the direction of General Manager Carrie Buckley. Members with questions or concerns about service, billing, outages or other service-related matters should call 1-800-494-6272.

- Lake, Hector, Melville, Bird Island, Palmyra, & Norfolk Twps. in Renville Co. & East Lake Lillian Twp. in Kandiyohi Co.
- District 5 Allan Duesterhoeft, 320-587-9134 Lynn & Acoma Twps. in McLeod Co. & Ellsworth Twp. in Meeker Co.
- District 6 Gary Burdorf, 507-964-5815 Penn Twp. in McLeod Co, New Auburn, Green Isle, Dryden & Arlington Twps. in Sibley Co.
- District 7- Randy Hlavka, GRE Representative rhlavka@mcleodcoop.com, 320-583-0037 Hutchinson & Hale Twps. in McLeod Co., Collinwood Twp. in Meeker Co.
- District 8 Keith Peterson, President kpeterson@mcLeodcoop.com 320-583-0997

Collins & Round Grove Twps. in McLeod Co,Martinsburg, Bandon, & Wellington Twps. in Renville Co., Grafton, Moltke, Bismarck, Transit, & Alfsborg Twps. in Sibley Co.

- District 9 Susan Anderson, Asst. Secretary-Treasurer, sanderson@mcleodcoop.com Watertown, Camden, & Young America Twps. in Carver County
- General Manager Carrie Buckley cbuckley@mcleodcoop.com, 800-494-6272

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McLeod Cooperative Power News P O Box 70, Glencoe, MN 55336-0070

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Editor: Sue Pawelk

The McLeod Cooperative Power News is the official member publication of McLeod Coop Power Association and focuses on our members, programs and events. comments are welcome. Send to Sue Pawelk at the address shown.

All member story ideas and

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Phone: 320-864-3148, 1-800-494-6272 24-hour outage: 1-800-927-5685 Fax: 320-864-4850 Web site:

www.mcleodcoop.com

Gopher State One Call 811 or 1-800-252-1166

McLeod Cooperative Power Association is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



2020 Nominating Committee, seated (I to r) is Randy Kirchoff, Verndale Selchow, Lyle Eiden, and Mavis Weber, and standing (I to r) is Gary Krcil, Charles Mathews, William Brickzen, David Aul, and Doug Ernst.

Nominating Committee selected slate of candidates for 2020

Members of the Nominating Committee from Districts 1, 2, and 3 met on January 29 and February 13 to select candidates to run for director elections in their respective districts. Serving on this year's nominating committee are: District 1 Mavis Weber of Winsted, Lyle Eiden of Lester Prairie and Verndale Selchow of Lester Prairie. District 2 are Randy E. Kirchoff of Glencoe, David Aul of Glencoe, and Gary Krcil of Glencoe. District 3 are William Brickzen of Glencoe, Charels Mathews of Glencoe, and Doug Ernst of Young America. The committee will be counting ballots for the Restated Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws this year in addition to election ballots.

LINEWORKERS KNOW HOW TO GET THE JOB DONE. Let's thank them for powering our lives.



McLeod Cooperative Power Association ANNUAL MEETING SCHEDULE Hutchinson Event Center, April 14, 2020

Registration Begins at Hutchinson Event Center	8·30 A M
Music by 2 Sisters.	
Meeting Called to Order	
Invocation	
National Anthem All R	
Welcome Ca	rrie L. Buckley, General Manager
Establish a Quorum	Doug Kirtz, Sec./Treas.
Reading of Notice of Meeting	Doug Kirtz, Sec./Treas.
Approval of Minutes of 2019 Annual Meeting	Doug Kirtz, Sec./Treas.
Introduction of Director Candidates Dist 1, 2 & 3.	Keith Peterson, President
Introduction of Directors in Districts 4-9	Keith Peterson, President
Financial ReportS	
Closing of Ballots	
Manager's ReportCa	rrie L. Buckley, General Manager
Historical Perspective	ue Pawelk, long-time employee
Washington D.C. Youth Tour Report	Evan Lee, student
Announcement of Operation Round Up Recipients	Operation Round Up Trust Board
Introduction of Nominating Committee	
Election ReportN	
Unfinished Business	
New Business	
Adjournment	,
Table Prayer	Allen Duesterhoeft Director
Drawing for Attendance Prizes and Grand Prize (\$300 electric bill credit) Sue Pawelk Lunch to follow meetingCatered by Chef Craig Catering	
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McLeod Cooperative Power Association

1231 Ford Avenue, P.O. Box 70, Glencoe, MN 55336-0070

SUMMARY OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MCPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS — February 20, 2020

Operations Manager reviewed the outage report for the month of January. He also answered questions on tree trimming and its success in reducing outages. He gave the operations report, noting that die testing was performed on all grounds and cover-up material.

The new facility is progressing nicely. It is anticipated that construction will be completed by mid-June with a tentative move-in date of August 20-21. A Certificate of Occupancy is required before the move can begin.

The Member Service Manager discussed the preparation of a marketing and engagement calendar, new engagement opportunities, economic development activities, and efforts to sell the existing cooperative headquarters building.

The action of the 2020 Nominating Committee for Districts 1, 2, and 3 to select a slate of candidates was approved.

The Annual Cogeneration Report was reviewed and approved. The Board, as local governance authority over Distributed Energy Resources (DER,) is required to review and accept the annual Cogeneration Report, filing Schedules 1-4, and tariff sheet.

Assistant Member Service Manager announced that the Play Ball Minnesota Twins Youth Clinic is scheduled for Saturday, June 6. The cooperative will also be sponsoring a trip to a Twins game on June 17 against the Milwaukee Brewers. IT Manager reviewed proposed technology changes to the Co-op's load management receivers and equipment. By partnering with other cooperatives, we will see significant savings over purchasing the software as an individual co-op.

Manager of Finance answered insurance questions. She also presented the Operating Statement and Balance Sheet for the month of January for review.

The Audit Committee reported on their review of the January expenditures.

- All items on the Consent agenda were approved including:
- Approve Annual Meeting Notice
- Place January Financial Report on File for Audit
- Accept January General Fund Checks
- Approve Transfer of Patronage Capital & Refund of
 Patronage Capital to Estates
- Accept January New & Rescinded Memberships
- Accept Special Equipment Summary

The General Manager reviewed the Great River Energy (GRE) January financial results and updated the board on other industry items including:

• At the GRE Regional Meeting CEO David Saggau delivered an update, most of which related to economic concerns with Coal Creek Station. The value of coal into the Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) market, one of the world's largest energy markets, is just not paying for the costs at Coal Creek Station. This is caused by the low cost of natural gas and the low variable cost of wind; coal just cannot compete. They are looking at possible solutions.

• The Rate Design Committee provided a recommendation to deal with zonal peak transmission billing issues.

• The legislative session kicked off on February 11. The Minnesota Rural Electric Association (MREA) legislative priorities were reviewed with the Board in preparation of upcoming legislative visits at the State Capitol.

Minor changes to policy on Weapon-Free Work Place were approved to be in compliance with state rules.

Five directors were approved to attend the GRE Annual Meeting in Maple Grove, in addition to Director Hlavka attending as MCPA's GRE Board Representative. A voting delegate and alternate were selected.

One director was approved to attend the NRECA Director Conference in Kansas City in April.

A GRE Report was given by our representative to the GRE Board.



Free Twins baseball clinic is June 6



All boys and girls are invited to the Arlington Baseball Park for a free Minnesota Twins baseball clinic on Saturday, June 6. So mark your calendars if your kids like playing ball.

Participants should bring a glove and an adult to sign their participation waiver. Local hosts are McLeod Co-op Power, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, and the Arlington Baseball Association. Visit the Co-op's Facebook page or watch this newsletter in the coming month for more details.

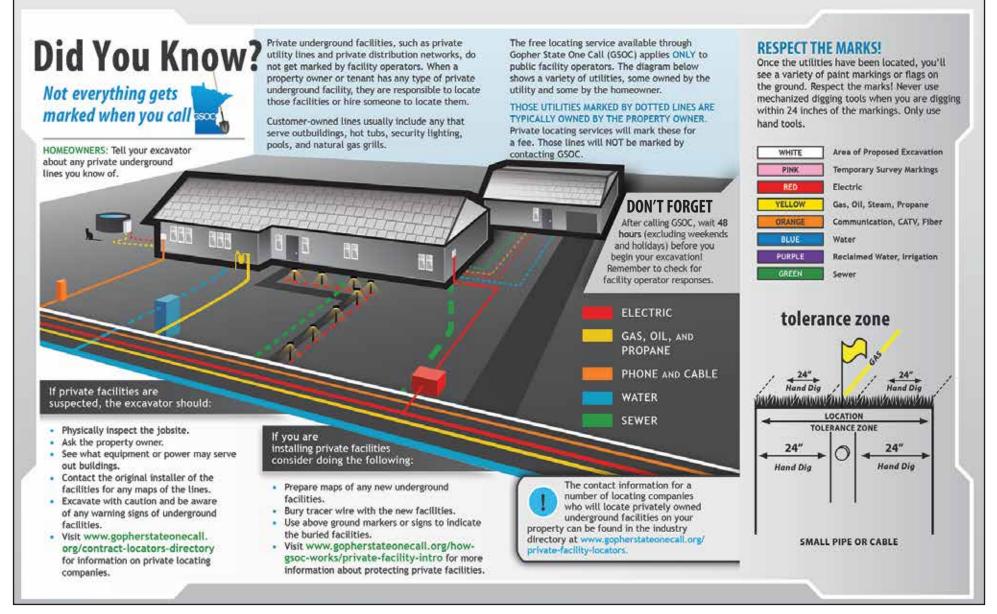
Meet the people behind your power

Powering your everyday life with safe, reliable electricity.

It is easy for me to treat Co-op members like I would like to be treated, because I am a MCPA member just like you. I care about rates because I pay an electric bill to MCPA just like you.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 利

Gregg Nistler Assistant Engineering Manager McLeod Co-op Power member



MCPA Members eligible for Nissan Leaf rebate

s a member of McLeod Co-op Power, a Touchstone Energy Cooperative, you are eligible for a rebate of up to \$3,500 on the purchase of a new Nissan LEAF® before March 31, 2020. See details on this page.

Plus, you can get a Federal EV Tax Credit of up to \$7,500. This is a possible savings of up to \$11,000 for Co-op members who are ready to purchase a 100% electric vehicle. But hurry, you must act this month! The Co-op also offers a rebate on chargers.

To obtain the rebate you must present a copy of your electric bill, proof of MN residency, and the two-page rebate flyer to the Nissan dealership. A printable copy of the flyer is available for you on McLeod Co-op Power's website at this link: https://www.mcleodcoop.com/electric-vehicle-rebate-available-until-3-31/



"WORLD'S BEST SELLING" ZERO EMISSIONS CAR, SINCE 2010⁴

JOIN US IN MAKING A DIFFERENCE.

In an effort to accelerate, zero emissions, electric vehicle adoption across the United States, Touchstone Energy and Nissan North America, Inc. are offering eligible employees and rate payers of Touchstone member organizations a special incentive to purchase a 100% electric, Nissan LEAF®. Take advantage of this special rebate offer² plus up to \$7,500 in Federal EV Tax Credits. In addition, State or local Utility benefits² may be available. be available for your area.

HOW TO GET THIS EXCLUSIVE OFFER:

Simply bring to your participating Nissan dealership (i) a copy of this flyer, (ii) proof of eligible residency, and (iii) your current Touchstone Energy member organization monthly electric bill or proof of employment. 2 Flyer must be presented at time of purchase. Offer cannot be combined with any other Nissan or NMAC incentive. Offer expires March 31st, 2020

See your local participating Nissan Dealer for complete details: NissanUSA.com/nissandealers



Like us on Facebook

McLeod Co-op Power is available to those of you who use Facebook for your communication gathering and sharing. Like us on Facebook and use our page as one more source of information

on what is happening at your electric cooperative and in your community. Followers can stay abreast on energy saving tips, industry news, and other important happenings.

Additionally, the Co-op posts on Facebook to update members during long or large outages. We encourage members to go to the Co-op's website at www.mcleodcoop.com to view the outage map or get detailed information during big power outages. However, for regular Facebook users this is an additional quick source of information.

You can link to the McLeod Co-op Power Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/ McLeodCoop/ or search for @mcleodcoop on Facebook



Do your part to keep lineworkers safe

t is nearing 5 p.m. on a workday. Your boss wanted that last-minute report and your kids need to be picked up from an after-school activity. You jump in your car and on your way you approach a work zone. You don't have time, so you rush through it and ignore the orange work zone signs.

You are having a garage sale and you think posting a sign on a utility pole won't hurt. Everyone does it, right?

Either of these scenarios could kill or injure one of our line workers.

The job of an electric lineworker is not easy. A lineworker's job involved working on power poles, around live power, out in the elements and around traffic. We ask that you do your part to help keep them safe:

• Slow down and move over in work zones. Cars or trucks that go too fast can endanger workers on the ground. Driving too fast or not moving over can also put

a lineworker who is working up high in a bucket in danger by causing it to move or sway.

- Do not post anything on a utility pole, especially with staples, nails or tacks. These can puncture insulated gloves or other protective clothing and expose workers to high voltages.
- Never plug a generator into an indoor or outdoor wall outlet. The power that feeds back into the electric line could electrocute a utility worker. Generators should only be used when the proper disconnect has been installed to isolate the circuits being powered or when you plug a 120v appliance cord directly into the generator to operate that one appliance that is not interconnected to the electric service.
- Please be patient when the power goes out. Workers need to safely restore power.

We appreciate your help in keeping our employees safe.

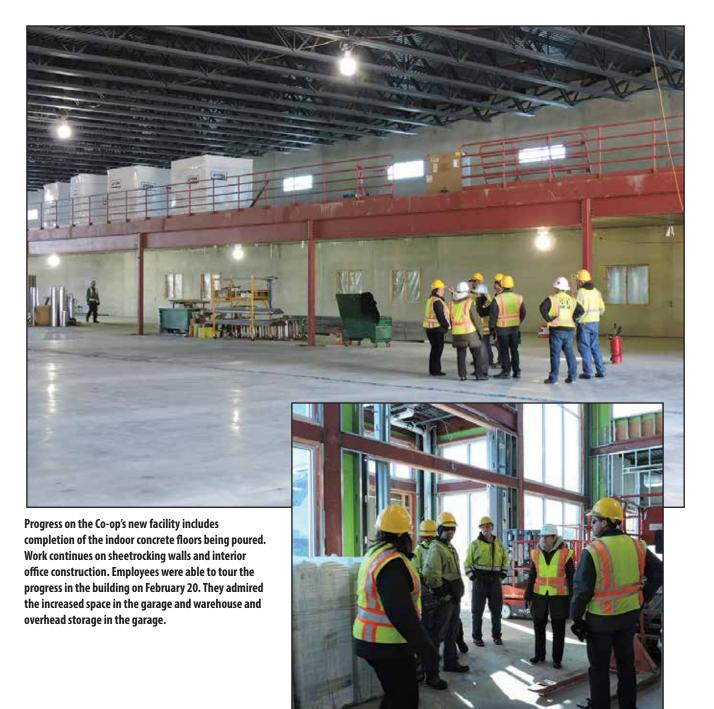
January 2020 Outage Summary

anuary had 46 outages, affecting 282 consumers. More than half of the outages for the month were planned or due to transformer changeouts. The largest outage of the month affected 150 members. The cause was unknown. It occurred on January 15, just after 8 AM and affected members north of Hutchinson.

Localized outages are frequently caused by small animals, trees in the line, equipment failure, or motor vehicle/ machinery accidents. Larger outages affecting hundreds of members at a time are usually caused by transmission outages, storms, equipment failure to substation equipment, or accidents. Restoration time on weekend and evening outages, when line crews are called out from home, usually take a little longer to get back on than outages when crews are already out working on the project.

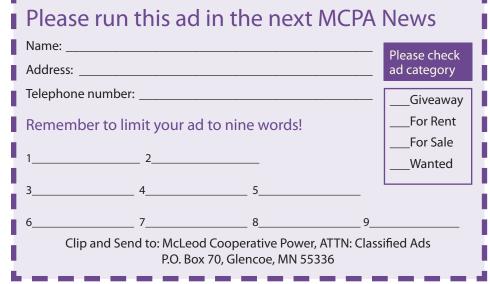
Notice to Cogenerators

In compliance with McLeod Cooperative Power Association's adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, McLeod Cooperative Power Association is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from cogenerators and small power producers, whom satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. McLeod Cooperative Power Association is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements. All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by the McLeod Cooperative Power Association Board. Interested members should contact McLeod Cooperative Power Association, 1231 Ford Ave. N., P.O. Box 70, Glencoe MN 55336 or call 1-800-494-6272.



MCPA News Ads — Free want ad service for members

Please limit your ad to nine words. Use the coupon printed here or available at McLeod Cooperative's front desk to submit your ad. Ads will be printed for one month only. Please submit a new ad if you want it published more than one month. Include your name and address, which will be used for identification purposes only. Ads must be received by March 27 to be included in the April issue. Thank you!



Disclaimer – McLeod Cooperative Power Association (MCPA) assumes no liability for the content of, or reply to, any item posted. The party posting any advertisement assumes complete liability for the content of, and all replies to, any advertisement and for any claims against MCPA as a result thereof, and agrees to indemnify and hold MCPA harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities and damages resulting from, or caused by, any advertisement or reply thereto.

For Sale Miscellaneous

- New Rollex steel siding, 2-1/2 sq. \$400/obo. 320-510-0404
- Arctic Cat Purple powerlube racing formula
- snowmobile oil. 952-467-2103 • Empire LP gas wall mounted heater. Good Condition.
- \$250. 507-351-1855 • 55-gallon steel drums w/removeable lids. \$15/each. 952-353-2351
- OSB panels 32in X 32in X 7/16in. \$1/each. 952-353-2351
- 2005 Cadillac Escalade, new tires, runs good. \$3,000/ bo. 320-420-8914
- Fill your freezer w/pork for summer. Sold by whole/ halves. 320-583-2523
- 2003 GMC Envoy for parts, runs, drives, 4200 motor. 320-522-2167
- 8ft truck bed topper, navy blue, good condition. \$400.
 320-522-0930
- 2003 Ford F350, runs, drivable, rusty in places. \$2,800. 320-522-0930

For Sale Farm

Flare box with hoist. \$375. 320-583-4345
M&W rotary hoe, min-till style, 22ft. Good spoons/ bearings. 320-562-2237

- Four used 12 X 16.5 Caterpillar skid steer tires. \$200.
 320-587-9459
- 16.9 X 38, 13.6 X 38 tractor chains. Excellent condition.
 \$300/each pr. 320-587-9459
- Ace-Roto-Mold 550-gallon poly tank. Always
- shedded. \$200. 320-583-1976 • 5.5hp Intek transfer pump. 320-583-1976
- M Farmall, NH haybine, Century sprayer, bale throw rack. 507-381-3776
- 2015 New Holland disc bine, model H7230, like new.
 507-381-3776
- New Holland tractor T6030. 320-395-2716
- 215 John Deere disk 15ft width. 320-395-2716
- 2 used Good Year tractor tires 18.4-28 6ply.
- 320-864-4496

Wanted

- Waste oil. 320-510-0758
- 300-500 bushel grain truck, steel box, gas. 507-647-2122

Giveaway

Misc Pride of the farm parts. 320-583-2747



Create your own movie theater anywhere you go

f you need to entertain your kids, turning any room into a movie theater could be the way to do it. The CineMood Portable Movie Theater creates up to a 12-foot projection in a dark environment. No connection is needed to a computer or wall outlet.

The CineMood allows you to stream Amazon Prime, NetFlix, YouTube and more. You can download videos directly to enjoy anytime without WiFi. You can also upload and play personal videos and slideshow content with 8GB of storage space. Plus you can use iOS screen mirroring functionality.

A large library (120 hours) of kid-friendly content is included with the projector. Watch the 40 digital books, 25 safety videos and short cartoons featuring characters from *Frozen*, *Toy Story*, *Lion King*, *Beloved Whisker Haven Tales*, *The Lion King Wild*, and the *Science of Imagineering*; many more are already included on your CineMood.

The CineMood has a five-hour rechargeable battery so it can be used on car rides, airplane trips, camping, backyard get togethers, and outdoor summer movie nights. It is controlled via a mobile app. The CineMood is 1080p high-definition supported with an 800x840 output. In addition, it features built in 2.5V speakers, but it can also connect to headphones and speakers. It weighs only half a pound and is three inches square.

The CineMood has a one-year warranty. It is available on Amazon.com for approximately \$350.

Storage heating options abound with Steffes products from your Cooperative



or decades, McLeod Cooperative has made Steffes room units, central storage furnaces, hydronic furnaces, and other products available to Co-op members. The Steffes storage heating products charge overnight to heat up ceramic bricks inside. They are able to heat a room or whole house, depending upon the product, 24 hours a day at low-cost off-peak electric rates. They charge at night when power is cheapest, often utilizing abundant wind power on the grid.

Steffes products are made in North Dakota and have provided our members with decades of quality products. Call an energy management specialist at

Apply for lineworker scholarship by April 16

Scholarships are available for persons enrolling in a power line worker program at a Minnesota vocational college. One \$500 scholarship is available through the Cooperative.

Application forms are available by calling 1.800.494.6272 or visit www.mcleodcoop. com/about/youth-programs/. High school seniors looking for a career choice may want to study the Power Line Worker career brochure. They are available from McLeod Cooperative Power explaining the educational requirements, on-the-job training, daily work duties and salary range.



the Co-op for more information or pricing on central storage furnaces or room units at 1-800-494-6272. The room units are perfect to replace electric baseboards, heat a three-season porch or family room, or serve as backup for Dual Fuel heat. They are available in a variety of sizes.



Don't be left in the cold (or dark), when a storm blows through and causes a power outage.

Plan ahead. Install an automatic generator system. McLeod Co-op Power offers turn-key sales, installation, and maintenance service of Briggs & Stratton automatic standby generator systems.

Call the Co-op for a cost estimate today at 1-800-494-6272.



Profiles of Director Candidates for District 1, 2 & 3

The Nominating Committee is required to select two names in each district to appear on the ballot. Below are the candidates they have selected for Districts 1, 2, & 3.

District 1 includes:

Hollywood Township in Carver County, Winsted Township in McLeod County, and Victor, Woodland, and Franklin Townships in Wright County.



Kari Berg

Kari and her husband Terrance have lived in their Winsted Township home and been MCPA members for 26 years. Kari drives school bus for District 2687 Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted. Terrance is a mechanic at JMS in Winsted.

The Bergs have raised six children:

Jonah, Terry Allen, Shannon, Steven, KaLeigh, and Hallie Jo. They also have eight grandchildren.

When asked why she would like to serve as a Co-op director, Kari answered, "My youngest just graduated from high school and I feel I can now offer the time it takes to get more involved in my community." It was quite providential that just as Kari was contemplating how to get more involved in her community, she received a call from the Nominating Committee from her district asking her to be a director candidate. She shared that she would represent the views of the average Co-op member and rural resident if elected to the board.

Kari graduated from Bemidji High School. She has served on the Minnesota Pinto Board and the McLeod County Sheriff's Mounted Posse. Her hobbies include horses and reading.



Oria Brinkmeier

Oria is the incumbent director in District 1. He grew up on a farm in Winsted Township. Oria graduated from Lester Prairie High School, Concordia College, and the University of Minnesota. After serving in the U.S. Army, Oria taught high school and college. Since retiring from teaching Oria and his wife moved to the family

farm in Winsted Township. His wife passed away in 2003.

Oria prefers to see the Cooperative keep its business local as much as possible. He believes a small electric co-op must be very frugal in spending its resources by using technology such as robots and drones in areas that reduce costs and provide more reliable electric service.

The directors must be knowledgeable about an electric industry that is moving toward becoming carbon free. Oria's contribution to the board is to be thoughtful and use common sense in helping to make decisions.

Election ballots will be mailed March 23 to members in these districts. Members may return their completed ballot by mail in the postage-paid return envelope or bring it to the April 14 Annual Meeting to vote.

District 2 includes:

Hassan Valley, Sumter, and Rich Valley Townships in McLeod County.



Joe Griebie

Joe is the incumbent director for District 2. He has lived in Sumter Township and had been actively involved in farming for 43 years. He raised corn, soybeans and kidney beans until retiring in December of 2016. Joe and his wife, Sheila, have three adult children (Ashley, Allison, and Adam) and seven grandchildren. His son Adam, who has farmed with Joe since 2011, is now managing the farm. His wife,

Sheila, also retired after 26 years at the Brownton Co-op Ag Center.

Joe is a graduate of Hutchinson High School. He earned a B.S. in Math from Augustana College and received his teaching credits from Gustavus Adolphus College. He worked as a substitute teacher for 13 years, in addition to his farming career.

Joe served on the McLeod West School Board for nine years. He is a lifetime member and past president of the Brownton Rod & Gun Club. He served on the Ducks Unlimited Board for 25 years. He is a retired member and past president of the Brownton Lions. Joe is a retired supervisor and chairman of the Sumter Township Board. He was a certified snowmobile safety instructor for 20 years. Joe is also a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Hutchinson.

Joe believes that MCPA remains reliable, safe, affordable and energy efficient. He said," Thanks to all District 2 members for their continued support. Please call me any time (320-779-1101) with any comments or concerns."



Daryl Luthens

Daryl has lived in Hassan Valley Township for more than 50 years, ever since his family moved in there in 1967. The family started farming with seven cows and today they operate Skyview Dairy which has 1,400 head of dairy cows and 2,000 head of young heifers.

Daryl has five grown children: Jackie, Shane, Brandon, Justin, and Garrett, who are

all active in farming. He also has four grandchildren.

Daryl is a graduate of Hutchinson High School. He is a retired Master Sergeant of the Minnesota National Guard, which he served in for 27 years.

Currently, he serves as board president of Vacation Weeks of 2000 Owners. He is a past board member of First District in Litchfield. Daryl served 10 years as a supervisor on the Hassan Valley Township Board. He also served eight years on the school board of Our Savior's Lutheran School in Hutchinson; three of those years were as board president.

Fishing, golfing, road trips, and checking on the crops are Daryl's favorite hobbies.

"I would enjoy participating with fellow directors and together supporting the Co-op leadership to implement goals and policies that would help McLeod Co-op Power succeed in the future," said Daryl. "I am excited to see how the staff can bring us forward. They are doing a good job during our transition period," added Daryl.

District 3 includes:

Bergen, Helen, and Glencoe Townships in McLeod County.

Andrew "Andy" Heimerl



Andy Heimerl grew up in Lester Prairie and graduated from Lester Prairie High School. He studied sales and marketing at Hutchinson Vo-Tech. He has worked most of his career in sales. He is currently employed in commercial sales at Littfin Truss in Winsted.

Andy and his wife Maureen purchased their

home in Bergen Township five years ago. Prior to that they lived in Lester Prairie, where Andy was on the fire department for 21 years and served nine years as mayor and on the city council of Lester Prairie. He has years of experience working with all types of people.

Andy and Maureen have three sons. Jacob is 21, Alex is 18, and Riley is 17. The Heimerl's are involved in following their children's school activities and athletics. They enjoy being active in their church, as well as, hiking, biking, and fishing together.

Andy said he would look forward to getting elected to the co-op board. He said that they rarely have any power outages and have been satisfied with their service, so he has no specific issues to address at this time.

David Resch



David is the incumbent director in District 3. David and his wife, Mary, operate a small sheep flock on a 45-acre farm in Helen Township, near Glencoe. They are both involved in 4-H and FFA as volunteers. Dave continues to judge livestock at county fairs in Minnesota. He has served on the board of McLeod Corn and Soybean Growers.

The Resch's enjoy time with their children and grandchildren, following their activities. Their sons, Nathan and Dan, are both married and their families live in central Minnesota.

David has been involved in agricultural business, education, and banking his entire career. He is currently employed as a Vice-President and Ag Lender for Security Bank & Trust Company serving customers from the Brownton office, managing agricultural loans and business development. Prior to that Dave worked for the University of Minnesota Extension Service for 15 years as a County Educator, County and Regional Director, in the counties surrounding McLeod County. In addition, he has held other positions as a vocational agriculture instructor, Ioan officer, bank manager and a farm equipment salesperson.

David is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, College of Agriculture, with a B.S. in Ag Education and a M.A. in Education. He is also a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, Graduate School of Banking, in Financial Management.

"I believe I can bring a diverse background of financial and work experience to the McLeod Co-op Power Board," said Dave. "During the past three years as your board member I have been involved in policies and procedures to bring MCPA members a reliable source of electricity in an efficient and cost-effective manner," he added.

"I ask for your support to continue to be your director from District 3," Dave said.