

# COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS



## **Mitchell Tech Expansion**

**Co-ops Support  
New Training Lab**

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**Weather Warnings**

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*Photo submitted by  
Mitchell Technical College*

# OFFICIAL NOTICE

## Bon Homme Yankton Electric Association, Inc. Official Notice of Annual Meeting of Members

Notice is hereby given that the 2025 Bon Homme Yankton Electric Association, Inc. Annual Meeting of Members will be held on Tuesday, the 19th of August, 2025 from 4:00 PM to 6:30 PM at 134 S. Lidice Street in Tabor, SD to conduct official business of the cooperative that includes the secretary business, financial report, and director elections in District 2 and District 7.

Petitioners filing for election are: District 2 - Robert Ruppelt District 7 - None

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Sternhagen, Secretary



# 80th



## You're Invited! Make Plans to Attend 2025 Drive-Thru Annual Meeting

**Who:** Bon Homme Yankton Electric Members

**What:** 2025 Bon Homme Yankton Electric Annual Meeting

**When:** Tuesday, August 19th, **4:00-6:30** PM

**Where:** Lidice Street (main street) Tabor

Each membership that registers will receive an attendance gift, a \$20 meal certificate to their choice of The Keg in Tabor, Joe's Substation in Lesterville, or The Marina Bar & Grill in Yankton.

All registered members will also be entered for a chance to win one of five \$100 bill credits.

Current High School Seniors present will be entered to win a \$300 and \$500 scholarship, "The John & Gunda Koble Scholarship".

**Watch your mail in August for your Annual Meeting postcard!  
Don't forget to bring it to the meeting for fast and easy registration!  
Reminder Voting Delegate for an Organization must be done 24 hours  
before the Annual Meeting.**

**COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS**

**BON HOMME YANKTON ELECTRIC**

(USPS No. 018-973)

**Bon Homme Yankton Electric Association, Inc**  
**PO Box 158**  
**134 S. Lidice St.**  
**Tabor, SD 57063**

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**7:30am - 4:00pm**

**Pay by Phone, call:**  
**1-855-941-3507**

**To report an outage, call:**  
**Local call from Tabor, Tyndall, and Yankton:**  
**605-463-2507**

**NOTICE:** Electric bills must be paid by 10:00am on the 20th of each month to avoid a \$10 late fee.

**Board President:** Dean Sternhagen

**Board of Directors**

- Dave Sykora - Vice President
- Dave Sternhagen - Secretary
- Robert Ruppelt - Treasurer
- Paul Voigt
- Brian Brandt
- Rick Cheloha

**General Manager:** Stephanie Horst

**Operations Manager:** Ken Carda

**Office Manager:** Nicole Einrem

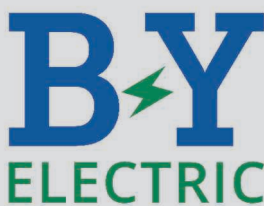
**Members Service Advisor:** Aaron Melichar

**Editor:** Chantelle Jungemann

Bon Homme Yankton Electric Cooperative Connections is the monthly publication for the members of Bon Homme Yankton Electric Association, Inc, PO Box 158, 134 S. Lidice St., Tabor, SD 57063-0158. Families subscribe to Cooperative Connections as part of their electric cooperative membership. The purpose of Bon Homme Yankton Electric Cooperative Connections is to provide reliable, helpful information to electric cooperative members on electric cooperative matters and better rural living. Subscription information: Cooperative members devote 50 cents from their monthly electric payments for a subscription. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$12 annually. Periodicals postage paid at Tabor, SD 57063.

Postmaster: Please send address changes to Bon Homme Yankton Electric Cooperative Connections, PO Box 158, Tabor, SD 57063; telephone (605) 463-2507. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Bon Homme Yankton Electric is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative

# JUNE BOARD MEETING

The June board meeting was held on June 18, 2025 at 8:00 am. Directors present were Dave Sternhagen, Dave Sykora, Dean Sternhagen, Rick Cheloha, Brian Brandt, Robert Ruppelt and Paul Voigt. Others present were the management staff and guest employee.

**THE BOARD APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA:**

- May 2025 Board Meeting Minutes
- Capital Credits to Estates - None
- Review New Members & Cancellations
- Review Closed Work Order Inventory - #919 for \$472,025.24
- Review Special Equipment Purchases - None

**THE BOARD REVIEWED AND ACCEPTED FOLLOWING REPORTS:**

- Member Service Report
- Operations & Safety Report
- Office & Financial Reports
- General Manager Report
- East River Cyber Security/IT Report
- SDREA Board Report

• East River Report  
**OTHER GOVERNANCE**

- Updated Operation Roundup Guidelines
- Approved SDREA Board Meeting Expenses
- Appoint East River Annual Meeting Voting Delegate/Alternate (Brandt/Ruppelt)
- Appoint NRECA Region 6 Meeting Voting Delegate/Alternate (Brandt/Ruppelt)
- Information for Federated Insurance Notice of Nomination and Election
- Next Meeting date set for Wednesday, July 16, 2025, at 8:00 am.

FINANCIAL REPORT	MAY		YTD
	2024	2025	2025
<b>TOTAL ELECTRIC REVENUE</b>	<b>\$808,472</b>	<b>\$906,660</b>	<b>\$5,183,818</b>
<b>COST OF POWER</b>	<b>\$444,181</b>	<b>\$519,771</b>	<b>\$3,001,704</b>
<b>TOTAL COST OF SERVICE</b>	<b>\$830,019</b>	<b>\$889,878</b>	<b>\$5,074,639</b>
<b>KWHS PURCHASED</b>	<b>6,146,981</b>	<b>6,725,861</b>	<b>44,000,077</b>
<b>RESIDENTIAL AVERAGE KWH</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>1,037</b>	
<b>RESIDENTIAL AVERAGE BILL</b>	<b>\$145</b>	<b>\$156</b>	

**Welcome New Members**

Utica

*Dawn Norton*

Tabor

*Cole & Savannah Cahoy*

*Scott & Barbra Pechoux*

Volin

*Marjorie Faehnrich*

Springfield

*Thomas & Doreen Boese*

Yankton

*Craig Weborg*

Dollar General #31100

*Executive Patio Furniture LLC*

*Gaylen & Linda Grunke*

*Jeffrey & Shelby Nilsen*

*Jenni & Chris Hauger*

*Josh & Nichole Skovly*

*Kyle Schlautman*

*Mark & Michelle Schmidt*

*Rosemary Regalado*

*Sat Real Estate, LLC*

*Timothy J & Bidget G Postma*

*Travis Janssen & Chas Conrad*

*Vladislav & Svetlana Bykov*

*Yankton Land & Cattle*



Going on now! Single to Joint Membership Conversion at no charge  
 Call 605-463-2507 or email ebiz@byelectric.com for more information.

# Staying Alert With Kids in Hot Cars

Source: National Safety Council

Since 1998, more than 1,010 children have died from vehicular heatstroke, an average of 37 per year. Parents and caregivers can act immediately to end these preventable deaths.

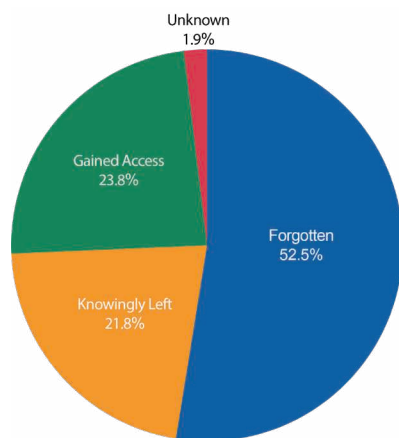
## How Does It Happen?

Even on mild or cloudy days, temperatures inside vehicles can reach life-threatening levels. Leaving windows slightly open doesn't help. Children should never be left unattended or be able to get inside a vehicle. Three primary circumstances resulting in deaths of children in hot cars are:

- A caregiver forgets a child in a vehicle - 53%
- A child gains access to a vehicle - 24%
- Someone knowingly leaves a child in a vehicle - 22%

NSC advises parents and caregivers to stick to a routine and avoid distractions to reduce the risk of forgetting a child. Place a purse, briefcase or even a left shoe in the back seat to force you to take one last look before walking away. Keep car doors locked so children cannot gain access and teach them that cars are not play areas.

There is no safe amount of time to leave a child in a vehicle, even if you are just running a quick errand.



nsc  
National Safety Council

Child Passenger Safety.com  
VEHICULAR HEATSTROKE PREVENTION



“Never fly a kite by a power line!”

## Kasen Tikka, Age 9

Kasen warns readers about the dangers of flying a kite near power lines. Thank you for your picture, Kasen! Kasen's parents are Corey and Marcel Tikka from Lake Norden, S.D.

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.

# Delicious DESSERTS

## STRAWBERRY ANGEL FOOD DESSERT

### Ingredients:

1 angel food cake  
(baked and cut in pieces)  
3.9 oz vanilla pudding  
1 3/4 cups milk  
3 cups sliced strawberries  
1/4 cup sugar  
8 oz. Cool Whip, thawed

### Method

Put the angel food cake in a 9"x13" pan. In a separate bowl, combine vanilla pudding and milk; whisk together until thick; set aside. In another bowl, combine sliced strawberries and sugar; pour over the cake. Spread pudding over strawberries. Top with 8 oz. Cool Whip. Add more strawberries on top. Chill 1 hour before serving.

Gladys Bauer  
Cam Wal Electric

## MONSTER COOKIE BARS

### Ingredients:

1 stick butter  
1 1/2 cups peanut butter  
1 cup sugar  
1 cup brown sugar  
1 tsp. vanilla  
3 eggs  
2 tps. baking soda  
4 1/2 cups oatmeal  
12 oz. chocolate chips  
12 oz. plain M&Ms

### Method

Mix butter, peanut butter, sugar, brown sugar, vanilla and eggs. Add dry ingredients and mix in chocolate chips and M&Ms. Bake at 350°F for 15 minutes (no longer) in a large jelly roll pan. They may not look done but they are. Enjoy!

Rhonda Tuscherer  
FEM Electric

## BLUEBERRY TORTE

### Ingredients:

1/2 cup butter  
1 cup all-purpose flour  
1 tbsp. sugar  
8 oz. pkg. cream cheese  
1 cup powdered sugar  
8 oz. Cool Whip (reserve part for topping)  
1qt. blueberries (fresh or frozen)  
1 cup water  
1 cup sugar  
3 tbsps. cornstarch

### Method

Cut butter into flour and sugar. Press into a 9"x13" pan and bake at 350°F for 20 minutes. Chill. Beat cream cheese and powdered sugar until light and fluffy. Fold in Cool Whip. Spread over crust. Simmer one cup blueberries and 2/3 cup water for five minutes. Blend sugar and cornstarch; add 1/3 cup water and mix until smooth. Combine with cooked berries and boil until thick and transparent. Cool and add remaining berries. Chill thoroughly and spoon over cream cheese mixture. Chill several hours or overnight. Top with Cool Whip.

Janet Lefers  
Douglas Electric

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 2025. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.



# We are celebrating 80 years of service!

## District 3 Director: David Sykora

I've been on the board for 10 years now and currently serve as vice president of the board. My wife and I farm and raise cattle near Scotland, South Dakota. We've raised five kids — four sons and one daughter.

One of the biggest changes I've seen over the years is the move from overhead to underground lines. It's made the system a lot more reliable and has really improved service for our members.

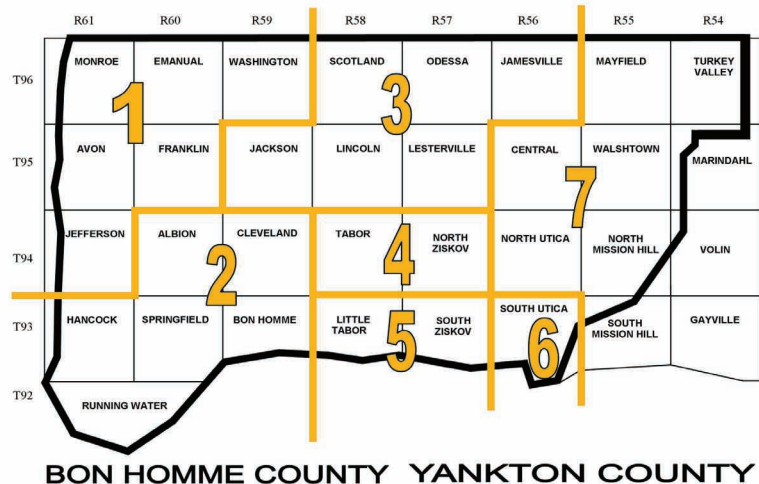
The best part of serving on the board has been working alongside a great group of people past and present directors, our manager, office staff, linemen and crews. It's a team I'm proud to be part of.



All active members in District 3 were put in a drawing in July for a chance to win an \$80 bill credit. We will apply the \$80 credit to the next months bill.

- Schedule for bill credit drawing:
- June - District 1 (John W Sedlacek)
- July - District 2 (William P Minow)
- August - District 3 (John Haase)
- September - District 4
- October - District 5
- November - District 6
- December - District 7

**District 3 \$80 Bill Credit Drawing Winner: John Haase**



# David Sterhagen: 36 years of Longstanding Commitment



**Dave Sterhagen**  
Secretary  
District #7

Over the years, I've seen a lot of changes in our cooperative. I've also seen safety training really improve, and it's something the board takes seriously. We work hard to stay up to date on the latest technology and safety practices to help keep our crews safe on the job.

Another important part of our co-op is the way we support each other, whether it's sending crews to help other co-ops after storms or having them come to help us. That sense of teamwork is what makes the rural electric system feel like a family.

A highlight for me was being elected board president. It was a great experience to chair the meetings, and I'll always remember my first B-Y Annual Meeting as president, it lasted just 45 minutes! When I took on that role, I made a commitment to serve no more than five years so others would have a chance to share the experience.

One memory that's stuck with me was attending the NRECA Annual Meeting in 2006, when Rich Schild's picture came up on the big screen. He was being honored for his military service

after becoming the first rural electric cooperative employee killed in the Iraq War. It was a powerful moment and a reminder of the incredible people connected to this industry.

I've gone from being the youngest director on the board to the oldest, and along the way, I've had the privilege of working with some truly fine people board members, employees and members. It's been an honor to serve the members of Bon Homme Yankton Electric.





A render showing Mitchell Technical College's new Power Line Underground Lab. MTC says students will practice underground utility work in this new facility, away from other courses' labs to reduce crowding. Submitted Photo

# FUNDING FUTURES

## Rural Electric Cooperatives Support New Training Facility

Jacob Boyko

[jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop](mailto:jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop)

Mitchell Technical College is well known among the region's rural electric cooperatives for its industry-leading lineworker training programs.

Now, that program is about to get even better, as MTC begins construction on a new, state-of-the-art underground cable equipment training facility.

The Power Line Underground Lab will allow students to learn how to trench, bore, and connect cables in an environment away from other labs and courses.

Additionally, being indoors and having a dirt floor, instructors have the added benefit of being able to plan courses without worry regarding outside weather and frozen ground during winter.

"The new facility allows us to be able to use our underground curriculum and teach it all throughout the school year, instead of just the beginning and the end when the ground is thawed out," MTC's president, Theresa Kriese said about the space.

"They get more equipment time because we're not trying to



Construction of MTC's Power Line Underground Lab began this spring. MTC expects students beginning in the fall semester of 2026. Submitted Photo

share a lab where we're also planting poles."

Kriese hopes spreading out the curriculum over the semester will allow MTC's instructors to dive deeper into certain course topics with their students, making them overall better candidates for employment when they enter the workforce.

"We're seeing the energy industry making another transformation where underground is really gaining a larger presence than it had in the past", Kriese added, noting the Federal Emergency Management Agency's push to replace downed overhead lines with resilient underground cables after storms.

“We’re finding that if we can have our students trained in both (overhead and underground), it opens some opportunities for them, because they may not be able to climb that pole their entire life,” she continued. “It gives some flexibility to the employer, because I can hire somebody that can climb but they can also do that underground connection. So wherever I need them, I can have them work in my employment area.”

Central Electric Cooperative General Manager Ken Schlimgen agrees, adding that with more and more electric co-ops working to replace their aging overhead infrastructure with underground line, MTC’s new underground focus will help alleviate future workforce challenges.

“When we support Mitchell Tech programs, it’s an investment into our most important asset: our workforce,” Schlimgen said. “Workforce challenges will continue for decades, and having a competent, qualified team of lineworkers to serve our members and keep the lights on is vital to our success.”

Central Electric is just one electric co-op providing financial support for the expansion.

At the time of writing, more than 20 electric co-ops in South Dakota have pledged over \$460,000 to MTC in support of the facility.

“Power line personnel are the backbone of our cooperative family, keeping the lights on for our members and being leaders in our communities,” said Steve Barnett, general manager for the South Dakota Rural Electric Association.

“Mitchell Technical College is a workforce pipeline for this profession and is vital to cooperatives across our region.”

Kriese said staff and student excitement is growing ahead of the facility’s expected 2026 completion and expressed appreciation to electric

co-ops for their support.

“Mitchell Tech is making a statement and a commitment to the energy industry that we are your partner in developing and training employees for you,” Kriese said.

“Without the partnership of the electric cooperatives, we really

wouldn’t be able to make this expansion.”

The project is slated to celebrate its grand opening in the Fall of 2026, when students and Mitchell Tech faculty will begin using the facility to train tomorrow’s electric cooperative workforce.



MTC’s current plan for the Power Line Underground Lab shows a 34,000 square foot facility, made up of a 23,500 square foot underground lab, a 7,755 square foot vehicle and equipment storage area and a 1,000 square foot classroom.

*Submitted Photo*



Theresa Kriese  
President  
MTC



Steve Barnett  
General Manager  
SDREA



Ken Schlimgen  
General Manager  
Central Electric

# Employee Spotlight: Gunnar Dally



**How long have you been at Bon Homme Yankton Electric?**

I have been with B-Y Electric for 9 years

**What does your job entail?** As a linemen I maintain lines, restore power and patrol lines.

**What do you love most about B-Y Electric?** There is always something different to do.

**What is your favorite memory since starting work at B-Y Electric?** The storm job Alex [Caba] and I got to do this year. We went to Georgia and South Carolina. Getting to travel, meet and work along side other linemen. We were from all over the country but were all trained the same and made it seamless to work along side each other to get the job done. Making friends and connections in the south through the job at the co-op, and the true appreciation felt from the local people we were there helping.

**How would you describe B-Y Electric in three words?**

Fun, challenging, and rewarding

**A little about you outside of work.** Outside of work I enjoy hunting and everything it entails. My Griffon, Rags, and I enjoy hunting pheasant, upland, waterfowl and big game. I also enjoy traveling to Minnesota with family, there we wake surf, hang out on the water, enjoy the company and the beverages.

# Czech Days 2025 - The Legend Continues

Bon Homme Yankton Electric was excited for the 2025 Czech Days festivities. This year we wanted to illustrate the importance of electrical safety with several current staff members representing B-Y Electric's commitment to always keep safety a top priority!

The large parade through Tabor was held on June 20th.

Be sure to mark your calendars for another great Czech Days June 19th and 20th, 2026.



Some of the B-Y gals before the Grand Parade!



2025 Czech Days Royalty came by and gave the office a festive look.



Representing Bon Homme Yankton Electric Cooperative: Kara Zomer, Jenn Boska, Chantelle Jungemann, Angie Rempfer and Joe Vavruska.

# HAVE A VOICE IN YOUR COOPERATIVE

As a cooperative, one of Bon Homme Yankton Electric's seven cooperative principles is Democratic Member Control.

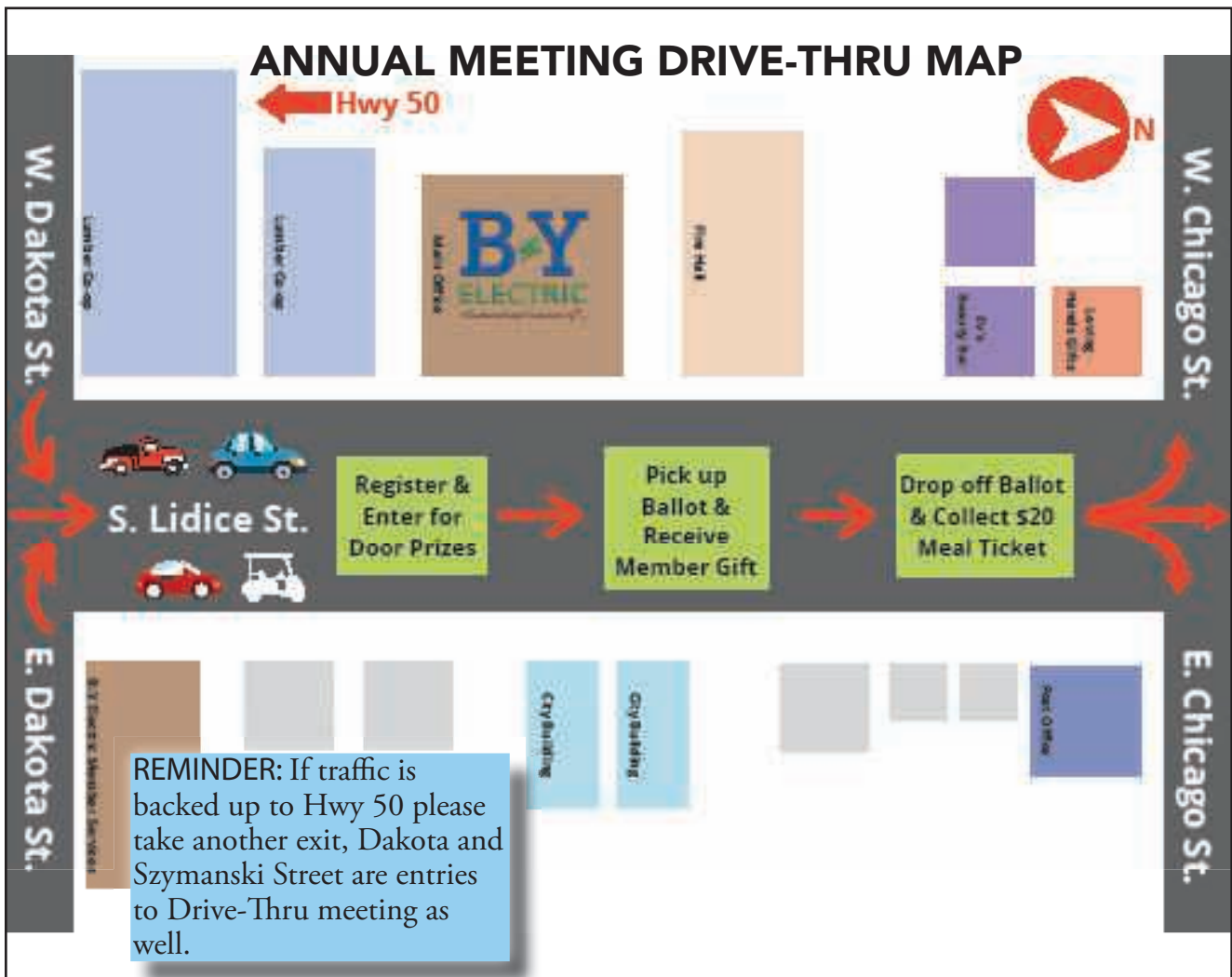
This principle states, "Cooperatives are democratic organizations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions."

Be an active participant in your cooperative by attending Bon Homme Yankton Electric's annual members meeting on August 19th from 4:00 to 6:30 PM in Tabor.

For attending, each membership will receive an attendance gift and a \$20 meal certificate to your choice of The Keg in Tabor, Joe's Substation in Lesterville or The Marina Grill in Yankton. High School Seniors present at our annual meeting qualify for The John & Gunda Koble Scholarship. All registered members will also be entered for a chance to win one of five \$100 bill credits. Follow our Facebook page @ facebook.com/BonHommeYanktonElectric before the Annual Meeting and watch the Call to Order, Adjournment of Meeting and the Bill Credit Drawing LIVE.

Find more information on the annual meeting including the agenda and more in our Annual Report that is included as an insert in this publication.

## Meal Certificate Choices:





Storm clouds gather near Nunda, S.D.  
Photo by Jacob Boyko

# WEATHER WARNINGS

## Getting Ready for Severe Summer Storms

**Jacob Boyko**  
jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop

Midwest summers have a certain notoriety for their extreme summer weather events.

South Dakota is no exception. Between May 2015 and June 2025, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) reported more than 200 tornadic events in South Dakota.

### The Recipe for Severe Weather

According to Peter Rogers, warning coordination meteorologist for the National Weather Service (NWS) Office in Sioux Falls, there are four foundational components for the specific type of thunderstorms that produce tornadoes called supercells.

The first component is moisture – it's needed to form clouds. The second component, lift, refers to an upward motion of the air. In places without mountains like eastern South Dakota and western Minnesota, that occurs when a cold or warm front moves into the area and the laws of physics force warm air upward.

The third component, instability, is the

difference between the two air masses. "If you have pockets of air that are hotter than the air around them, they'll continue to rise," Rogers explained. "And the instability is the extent to how far those parcels will rise."

The final component, wind shear, is how the wind speed and direction changes with altitude.

"Here, at the surface, we're normally only concerned about what the wind speed is doing at the surface," Rogers explained.

"But as meteorologists, we want to know what's happening at 5, 10, 15 ... feet and so on. The more changes you have with wind speed and direction ... with height increases your chances of going from just your garden-variety thunderstorm to a severe thunderstorm that's more capable of producing strong winds and tornadoes."

Over the last 10 years, South Dakota has seen tornadoes mostly ranking EF-0, EF-1 and EF-2 on the Enhanced Fujita scale.

The scale, named for its developer, meteorologist Ted Fujita, ranks tornados on a scale from 0 to 5 based on recorded wind speed and the damage observed that can be attributed to the tornado, with an

EF-5 being the most severe. An EF-0 tornado will leave behind damage indicators showing wind speeds between 65 and 85 mph, while an EF-1 tornado will show damage indicating wind speeds between 86 and 110 mph, an EF-2 111-135 mph, an EF-3 136-165 mph, an EF-4 166-200 mph and an EF-5 being anything over 200 mph.

But weak and strong tornadoes alike can be deadly without proper action. Working at the National Weather Service, it's part of Roger's job to get severe weather alerts out to the public.

Weather radios are particularly helpful in severe weather scenarios, he explained, because you can set them to alert you any time the NWS sends out an alert for your area.

"Severe weather is not just an afternoon or evening phenomenon," Rogers said. "We often have some pretty big events in the middle of the night, so you want to have something that's going to wake you up in the middle of the night so you can get to shelter."



As any Midwest resident knows, there's far more summertime severe weather than just tornadoes.

Derechoes, which decimated much of eastern South Dakota and Western Minnesota in 2022, produces a wall of strong, fast gusts of wind that can be just as dangerous as a tornado.

According to the NWS, for a storm to be classified as a derecho, it must extend 250 miles with gusts of at least 58 mph and produce several gusts of at least 75 mph.

In western South Dakota, the Black Hills help create the optimal conditions needed for severe hail.

"What you need is a really strong thunderstorm that has a really strong updraft," explained Kelly Serr, warning coordination meteorologist for the National Weather Service Office in Aberdeen.

"When that updraft is really strong, it reaches the very coldest levels of the atmosphere where tiny droplets of rain start to freeze."

The stronger the draft, the longer the frozen rain drop will remain in the atmosphere. And the longer it's stuck in the updraft, the more water it collects, growing in size until finally the hail stone is too heavy to be suspended by the updraft anymore, and it plummets to the ground.

In western and central South Dakota, that process is exacerbated by the Black Hills, which help force the air up even higher and create fast-developing thunderstorms.

During severe weather events like thunderstorms, tornadoes and hail, the NWS encourages those in the pathway of the storm to seek shelter in a basement or a room without windows away from outside walls, as hail and other debris can shatter windows.

"Something we always tell people is to pay attention to the forecast," Serr said. "Know before you go: 'Are we expecting severe storms?' And then have a safety plan in plan for wherever you are."

## Looking Back at Summer Storms

### Delmont Tornado – May 5, 2015

At about 10:45 a.m. on Mother's Day, an EF-2 tornado struck Delmont. The tornado's path began in Charles Mix County, making its way north into Douglas County where it reached Delmont and damaged numerous homes, including Delmont's famous Onion House, and destroyed the Zion Lutheran Church and fire station. The NWS reported a peak wind speed of 130 mph, with the tornado covering 17.3 miles and reaching a width of 400 yards.

### Derechos – May 12, July 5, 2022

In the afternoon, a wall of straight line wind known as a derecho moved northeastward through eastern S.D. and Western M.N., with wind speeds reaching over 100 mph. The storm brought with it numerous tornadoes, including an EF-2 tornado with wind speeds up to 120 mph in Castlewood. According to the NWS, the derecho was the "most extreme example on record in terms of the measured significant wind gusts." The National Centers for Environmental Information categorized the storm a billion-dollar disaster event. Less than two months after the May event, a derecho moving southeastward produced wind gusts reaching 99 mph in Howard and 96 mph in Huron. In Sioux Falls, the sky turned green – a rare phenomenon caused by refraction, or the bending of light when passing through and being warped by the water and ice contained within the storm system.

### Black Hills Hail – June, 2, 2019

In the morning, a supercell thunderstorm moved through Rapid City, Hermosa and Fairburn, producing golf ball-sized hail that damaged vehicles, homes and crops.

### Tripp Tornado – May 8, 1965

The strongest tornado ever recorded in S.D. was in Tripp County. The storm produced snow over the Black Hills, with Lead reporting 36 inches of snow. The Tornado touched down east of Wewela, with a maximum observed width of 1,760 yards, and moved northwest 30 miles. The tornado was classified an F-5.

**Source: Event Summaries, Weather.gov**

### Pierre Hail – July 18, 2023

An afternoon warm front heading east across central S.D. developed into a supercell. Around 6:20 p.m. in Pierre, there were reports of softball-sized and larger hail, with one setting a Hughes County record at 5 inches in diameter.

### Dupree Tornado – June 16, 2010

In the afternoon and evening hours, a thunderstorm over Dupree produced damaging winds, torrential rainfall and flooding, and at least 16 tornadoes, with multiple tornadoes being simultaneous. The storm damaged roofs, mobile homes and grain bins. The damage observed indicated an EF-2 tornado.

### Vivian Hail – July 23, 2010

A S.D. and U.S. hailstone record was set in Vivian after an evening thunderstorm formed a supercell moving southeastward. The NWS reported numerous hailstones exceeding 6 inch diameters as well as a record-setting 8 inch diameter, 18.625 circumference and 1 pound, 15 ounce hailstone. NWS estimates the hail stone fell at about 100 mph.

### Sioux Falls Tornado – Sept. 11, 2019

In the late evening hours of Sept. 10 into the early morning hours of Sept. 11, severe thunderstorms moved across southeast S.D. into M.N. and I.A., bringing 80 to 100 mph straight line winds and three brief EF-2 tornadoes in Sioux Falls. The Avera Health Complex, several commercial spaces, and a neighborhood were damaged.

### Jerauld Tornadoes – June 18, 2014

In the evening, a thunderstorm over Jerauld County produced an EF-4 tornado that traveled over 11 miles from Lane to Alpena. The tornado measured 880 yards at its widest. The same storm produced several more tornadoes, including an EF-2 that ravaged Wessington Springs.

### Bowdle Tornado – May 22, 2010

A supercell in north central S.D. produced multiple tornadoes, including an EF-4 and golf ball-sized hail near Bowdle. NWS reported nearly 100 downed utility poles.

# Bon Homme County 4-H Farm Safety Day

At the day camp, B-Y Electric used the hotline trailer to display and teach children how to be safe around electricity and electrical equipment. Specifically focusing on teaching kids how to be safe on the farm when encountering down power lines, underground wires, and emergency procedures should something happen.

We take pride in our commitment to safety. Please contact our office at (605) 463-2507 if you would like to arrange a safety demonstration.



Linemen Gunnar Dally, Electricians Anthony Walloch and Kevin Meyer provide demonstrations with hotline trailer and equipment.

# Operation Round-Up®

Operation Round-Up® gathers voluntary contributions from participating cooperative members by “rounding up” their monthly bills to the next dollar which is distributed to worthy local causes it is “small change that changes lives.”

Every donation is made to applicants right in our own local area. What is most rewarding about the concept of Operation Round-Up® is that it is an extension of the concept of neighbor helping neighbor that built our electric cooperative.

B-Y Electric General Manager, Stephanie Horst presented a check for \$1,000 to the Market at the Meridian, Yankton, SD’s Downtown Farmers Market for small-scale agriculture and specialty handcrafted items.



# 2025 Rural Electric Youth Tour

Thirty-six teens representing 22 South Dakota electric cooperatives traveled to the Washington, D.C., area June 15–21 for the 2025 South Dakota Youth Tour.

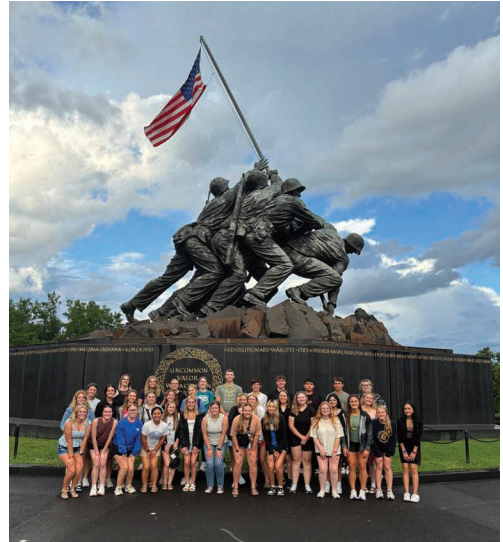
The program traces its roots to a 1957 speech by Lyndon B. Johnson, who urged electric cooperatives to send young people to the nation’s capital so they “can actually see what the flag stands for and represents.” Since South Dakota sent its first group in 1963, more than 1,300 students have represented the Rushmore State on this once-in-a-lifetime trip.

The 2025 group visited many historic and impactful sites in Washington, D.C., including Ford’s Theater—the site of President Abraham Lincoln’s assassination in 1865. Their visit, which took place on Juneteenth, added a layer of reflection on the nation’s path toward emancipation and equality. The group continued to explore themes of patriotism and national history throughout the week, viewing the Star-Spangled Banner at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History, the Declaration of Independence at the National Archives, and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing where a significant amount of the nation’s money is printed.

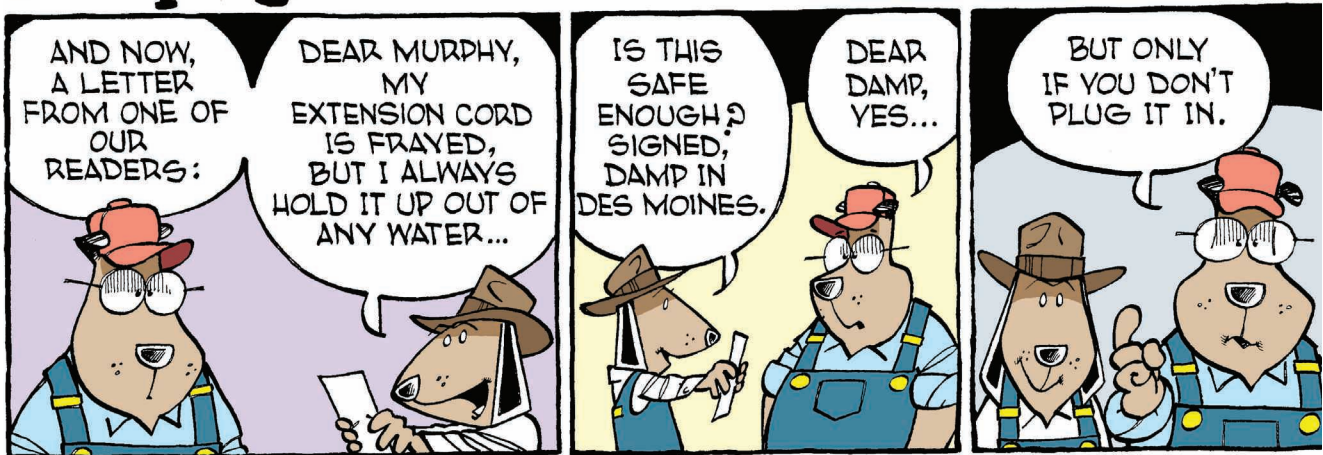
Students also met with South Dakota’s congressional leaders, including U.S. Senators John Thune and Mike Rounds, and had the chance to connect with Youth Tour participants from 44 other states. Together, they toured many of the nation’s most treasured landmarks, including the U.S. Supreme Court, the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian, and more.

At the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, students concluded their trip with NRECA-led events, where they heard an inspiring message about perseverance and leadership from Youth Day keynote speaker Mike Schlappi, a four-time Paralympic medalist in U.S.A. men’s wheelchair basketball.

Seraya Strickland represented Bon Homme Yankton Electric as a 2025 South Dakota Youth Tour Delegate.



## Murphy



## REGISTER TO WIN!

Bring this coupon and mailing label to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives booth at Dakotafest or the South Dakota State Fair to win a prize!

Your Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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.

**UNTIL AUG. 10**  
**Annual Red Cloud Indian Art Show**  
Painting, photography,  
beadwork, quillwork  
Red Cloud Indian School  
100 Mission Dr.  
Pine Ridge, SD 57770  
(605) 867-8257

**JULY 26**  
**South Dakota Chislic Festival**  
10 a.m.-9 p.m.  
Freeman, SD  
[www.sdchislicfestival.com](http://www.sdchislicfestival.com)

**JULY 26**  
**Richmond Lake Association's  
Annual Pontoon Poker Run**  
Aberdeen, SD  
605-225-0609

**JULY 26**  
**Fort Sisseton Lantern Tour**  
11907 434th Ave.  
Lake City, SD  
605-225-0609

**JULY 31**  
**SPURS Grand Classic  
Horse Show**  
9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
SPURS Therapeutic Riding Center  
1006 130th St.  
Aberdeen, SD  
605-226-1099

**AUG. 1-2**  
**Armour Prairie Festival**  
Armour, SD

**AUG. 1-3**  
**Fort Sisseton Escape Room**  
11907 434th Ave.  
Lake City, SD  
605-225-0609

**AUG. 1-10**  
**85th Sturgis Motorcycle Rally**  
Sturgis, SD

**AUG. 7-10**  
**South Dakota Senior Games**  
Huron, SD  
605-295-2039  
[southdakotaseniorgames.org](http://southdakotaseniorgames.org)

**AUG. 9**  
**Day of Honor**  
End of WWII 80th Anniversary  
10 a.m.  
Battleship South Dakota Memorial  
12th Street & Kiwanis Avenue  
Sioux Falls, SD

**AUG. 9**  
**Raise 'Em Rank Bull Riding  
and Breakaway Roping**  
Geddes, SD  
605-680-2763

**AUG. 9**  
**Day Cty Demolition Derby**  
Day Cty Fairgrounds  
6:30 p.m.  
Webster, SD  
605-680-2763

**AUG. 14-17**  
**Watertown Senior Games**  
Watertown, SD  
605-949-0028

**AUG. 16**  
**Black Hills Super 6  
Mountain Bike Race**  
Big Hills Trails  
[bhsuper6.com](http://bhsuper6.com)

**AUG. 16**  
**Extreme Bull Riding Tour**  
7:30 a.m.  
Yankton, SD  
605-760-2153

**AUG. 21-24**  
**Steam Threshing Jamboree**  
Prairie Village  
Madison, SD

**AUG. 23**  
**McCrossan Boys Ranch Xtreme  
Event Challenge Rodeo**  
4 p.m. Gates Open, 6 p.m. Rodeo  
Sioux Falls, SD

**Note: We publish contact information as provided. If no phone number is given, none will be listed. Please call ahead to verify the event is still being held.**