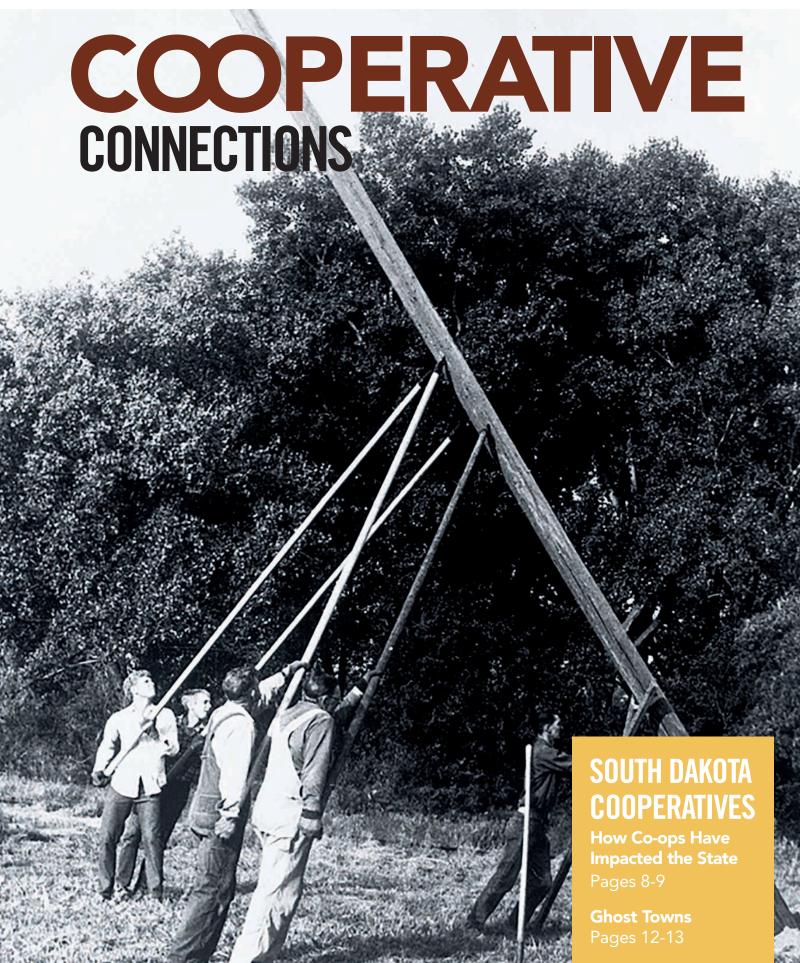
OCTOBER 2024 VOL. 25 NO. 6



Staying Safe in the Digital World



Jeff Barnes IT Specialist jbarnes@bhec.coop

As we observe Cybersecurity Awareness Month this October, it's a great opportunity to remind ourselves of the importance of protecting our digital lives. As the IT Specialist at your electric cooperative, I see the growing cyber threats that target individuals and organizations alike. Here are some key tips and best practices to help you stav secure online:

1. Recognize Phishing Attempts

Phishing remains one of the most common and effective cyberattacks. Phishing emails often mimic legitimate communication from trusted sources, urging you to click on a link or open an attachment. Always be skeptical of unexpected emails, even if they appear to come from someone you know. Look for telltale signs like misspellings, odd email addresses, or a sense of urgency. When in doubt, don't click!

2. Use Strong, Unique Passwords

Weak passwords are an easy entry point for hackers. Use complex passwords that combine upper and lowercase letters, numbers, and symbols. Passphrases make it easier to have long, unique passwords that are easy to type and remember. (Example: Fred3*Brown*Elephants!) Avoid using the same password across multiple sites; if one gets compromised, the password from the compromised site is now known and will be tried on other sites. Consider using a password manager to keep track of your passwords securely. Most password managers will also let you know if the password you are using has been compromised and let you know you should change it.

3. Enable Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) MFA adds an extra layer of security by requiring a second form of verification, such as a code sent to your phone, in addition to your password. Even if a hacker gets your password, they would still need the second form of identification. Enable MFA on all accounts that offer it, especially on email, banking, and social media.

4. Keep Software Up to Date

Software updates often include patches for security vulnerabilities that hackers could exploit. Ensure that your operating system, antivirus software, and applications are

always up to date. Enable automatic updates where possible so you're always protected.

5. Beware of Public Wi-Fi

Public Wi-Fi networks are convenient but often lack strong security measures, making them easy targets for hackers. When connected to public Wi-Fi, avoid accessing sensitive information such as online banking. If you must use a public network, consider using a virtual private network (VPN) to encrypt your internet traffic.

6. Protect Your Personal Information

Be mindful of the information you share online, particularly on social media. Cybercriminals can use personal details like your birthday, address, or even the names of your pets to guess passwords or answer security questions. Review your privacy settings and limit the amount of personal information you make public.

7. Backup Your Data

Regularly backing up your data ensures that you won't lose important files if you fall victim to a cyberattack, such as ransomware. Store backups in a secure location, such as an external hard drive or a cloud service with strong encryption.

8. If You Fall Victim to a Scam

Please do not be embarrassed or try to keep it a secret. This is the attacker's superpower. The faster you report the incident to your local Attorney General's Office and/or the FBI, the higher the chances of them being able to help you get some or all of your losses back. The reports also help both groups understand the whole picture of the attacker.

South Dakota Consumer Protection:

consumerhelp@state.sd.us 605-773-4400 or 1-800-300-1986 (in-state only) https://consumer.sd.gov/complaintform.aspx

FBI Reporting:

https://www.ic3.gov/

Your electric cooperative is committed to protecting your data and ensuring the security of our systems. However, cybersecurity is not just an IT issue—it's everyone's responsibility. By staying vigilant and following these best practices, you can play a vital role in keeping yourself, your family, and our community safe from cyber

Stay safe and secure, and remember: Think before you click!

COOPERATIVE

CONNECTIONS

BLACK HILLS

(ISSN No. 1531-104X)

Board President: Jim Preston **Board of Directors:**

Dave Lindblom - Vice President Thad Wasson - Secretary Alan Bishop - Asst. Secretary Don Andersen - Treasurer Garv Kluthe Dennis Quivey

CEO & General Manager: Walker Witt wwitt@bhec.coop

Manager of Operations: Bill Brisk billb@bhec.coop

Chief Financial Officer: Sammi Langendorf slang@bhec.coop

System Coordinator: Jesse Sorenson jsorenson@bhec.coop

IT Specialist: Jeff Barnes jbarnes@bhec.coop

Director of Communications & Member Services: Michelle Fischer michellef@bhec.coop

BLACK HILLS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS is the monthly publication for the members of Black Hills Electric Cooperative, 25191 Cooperative Way, P.O. Box 792, Custer, S.D. 57730-0792. Black Hills Electric Cooperative Connections' purpose is to provide reliable, helpful information to electric cooperative members on matters pertaining to their cooperative and living better with electricity. Also available at www.bhec.coop.

This cooperative is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender. To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov. Subscription information: Black Hills Electric 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 Black Hills Electric Cooperative, 25191 Cooperative Way, Custer, S.D. 57730-0792, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Please send address changes to Black Hills

Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 792, Custer, S.D. 57730-0792. Address all other correspondence to: Cooperative Connections, P.O. Box 792, Custer, S.D. 57730-0792

Telephone: (605) 673-4461; Fax: (605) 673-3147;

e-mail: bhec@bhec.coop; website: www.bhec.coop.

Taxes Paid to Local Schools

Black Hills Electric is a rural electric cooperative. South Dakota law requires BHEC and our wholesale power provider, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, to pay a tax on the kilowatt hours that are sold during a year. The kilowatt hours are tracked according to the local school district where they were sold. The funds are distributed to the appropriate counties and then sent to the school districts.

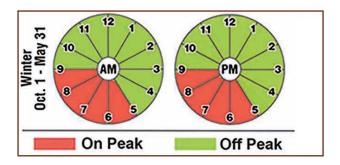
The school districts in our service area received a total of \$262,628.68 in gross kilowatt hour tax as a result of electric sales to members in 2023.

School District	Tax Amounts
Custer	\$74,029.62
Edgemont	\$3,328.46
Elk Mountain	\$4,860.59
Hill City	\$18,783.50
Hot Springs	\$25,968.31
Lead/Deadwood	\$11,449.12
Meade	¢.11
Oelrichs	\$6,800.98
Oglala Lakota	\$1,972.70
Rapid City	\$115,434.85
Wall	¢.44
Total	\$262,628.68

Electric Heat Season & Demand Times

We have two things that we want our members to be aware of beginning October 1st. First, the electric heat season begins and runs through May 1st. Members on the electric heat rate will receive a discount on any electric heat consumed between October 1st and May 1st. Please make sure the breaker that powers your heat meter is turned on. The second item is our winter peak demand times. Our demand hours will be from 5-9 a.m. and 5-9 p.m. M-F. These dates will be in effect until May 31st.

If you have questions about your rate, please contact our office.



FIRE SAFETY

Cooking and heating are the leading causes of home fires and fire injuries, and winter months are the peak time for fire-related deaths. **Fire Prevention Week (Oct. 6-12, 2024)** is the perfect time to review and practice fire safety.

Minimize Your Risks

The good news: Deaths from home fires in the U.S. have trended downward since the 1970s, according to Injury Facts, but even one death from a preventable fire is too many. While fire doesn't discriminate by age, it is the third leading cause of death for children 1 to 14.

When cooking, make fire safety a priority by keeping these tips in mind:

- Be alert; if you are sleepy or have consumed alcohol, don't use the oven or stovetop.
- Stay in the kitchen while you are frying, grilling, boiling or broiling food.
- Keep anything that can catch fire away from your stovetop.

Heating is the second leading cause of home fires. Follow these tips:

- Keep all flammables, like paper, clothing, bedding, drapes or rugs, at least three feet from a space heater, stove or fireplace.
- Never leave portable heaters and fireplaces unattended; turn off heaters and make sure fireplace embers are extinguished before leaving the room.
- If you must use a space heater, place it on a level, nonflammable surface, like ceramic tile, not on a rug or carpet.
- Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- When buying a space heater, look for models that shut off automatically if the heater falls over.

Working Smoke Alarms Are a Must

About three out of five fire deaths happen in homes without working smoke alarms. Smoke alarms are a key part of a home fire escape plan providing early warning to reduce your risk of dying in a fire. The National Fire Protection Association recommends you:

- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas on the ceiling or high on the wall.
- Keep smoke alarms away from the kitchen, at least 10 feet from the stove, to reduce false alarms.
- Use special alarms with strobe lights and bed shakers for

- people who are hard of hearing or deaf.
- Test smoke alarms monthly.
- Replace batteries in your smoke alarm and carbon monoxide detector annually.
- Replace smoke alarms that are 10 or more years old.

When and How to Use a Fire Extinguisher

Always put your safety first; if you are not confident in your ability to use a fire extinguisher, get out and call 9-1-1. The American Red Cross cautions you to evaluate the situation and ensure:

- Everyone has left or is leaving the home
- The fire department has been called
- The fire is small, not spreading, and there is not much smoke
- Your back is to an exit you can use quickly

Remember the acronym PASS:

Pull the pin.

Aim low at the base of the fire.

Squeeze the handle slowly.

Sweep the nozzle side to side.

Source: National Safety Council



Power Line Safety "Watch Out for Power Lines!"

Archer Rindels, Age 7

Archer Rindels warns readers to be careful around power lines. Thank you for your picture, Archer! Archer's parents are Kyle and Rochelle Rindels, members of Sioux Valley Energy.

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.

1ClOU! CROCKPOT CHICKEN

CHEESY CHICKEN **BUNDLES**

Ingredients:

1 (11 oz.) can condensed cream of chicken soup

1/2 cup milk

3/4 cup Velveeta, shredded or cubed

1 (10 oz.) can chunk chicken, drained and flaked

1 (8 oz.) can crescent rolls

Method

Combine soup, milk and cheese. Heat until melted and smooth. Pour into a 7x11 inch pan that has been sprayed with vegetable oil.

Separate crescents into 8 triangles. Place 2 tbsps. of chicken on wide end of crescent roll. Pinch to seal. Place on top of sauce.

Bake uncovered at 375 degrees for 25 minutes and until golden brown. Serve with sauce on top.

Yields eight chicken bundles or four servings.

Janet Ochsner Box Elder, S.D.

PARMESAN SOUP

Ingredients:

3 boneless chicken breasts

1 tbsp. minced garlic

1 can crushed tomatoes (28 oz.

1 can tomato sauce (15 oz. can)

1 tsp. salt

1 tsp. ground black pepper

2 tsp. Italian seasoning

4 cups chicken broth

1 cup parmesan cheese (freshly shaved)

1 cup heavy whipping cream 8 oz. rotini pasta (uncooked)

1 1/2 cup shredded Mozzarella

Method

Add the chicken breast, minced garlic, crushed tomatoes, tomato sauce, salt, pepper, Italian seasoning and chicken broth to the Crock-Pot.

Cover Crock-Pot with lid and cook on low for 6-8 hours.

Shred the chicken. Stir in the shredded parmesan cheese, heavy whipping cream and rotini pasta. Cover and cook on low for 30 minutes.

Top the individual soup servings with mozzarella cheese.

Kayla Beaner Centerville, S.D.

BUTTER CHICKEN

Ingredients:

4 tsps. Garam Masala blend

1/2 tsp. garlic powder

1/2 tsp. ground ginger

1/2 tsp. ground turmeric

1/8 tsp. crushed red pepper 4 tbsps. butter, divided

1 can (14.5 oz.) petite diced tomatoes

1 med. red onion, chopped 1 1/4 lbs. boneless skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes

1/4 cup heavy cream 1/2 tsp. sea salt

Method

Mix Garam Masala, garlic, ginger, turmeric and crushed red pepper in small bowl. Heat large non-stick skillet on medium heat. Toast seasoning mixture 1 min. or just until fragrant, stirring constantly. Add 2 tbsps. of the butter to skillet, swirling to melt. Add onion; cook and stir 2 to 3 mins. until softened. Stir in tomatoes; cook 5 mins. Carefully transfer mixture to blender container; cover. Blend until smooth, scraping sides as needed. Return pureed sauce to skillet. Bring to simmer on med.-low heat. Add chicken; cook 8 to 10 minutes or until chicken is cooked though, stirring occasionally. Stir in remaining butter, cream and salt until well blended. Simmer on med.-low heat 2 to 3 minutes until sauce is slightly thickened. Stir in additional crushed red pepper to taste and serve with hot cooked basmati rice or warm naan bread, if desired. Garnish with fresh cilantro leaves, if desired.

McCormick.com

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 2024. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

Find Hidden Energy Savings and Extra **Storage in Your Attic**



Miranda Boutelle **Efficiency Services** Group

Q: Do you have any tips on finding hidden energy savings in my home?

A: I've been in a lot of homes. One common hiding spot for energy savings is the attic. It is also a common location for storing holiday decorations and infrequently used sentimental items.

Yet, using your attic for storage can be problematic when trying to maximize your home's energy efficiency. Let's explore how you can improve insulation levels and properly store items in your

Attic insulation is one of the best low-cost ways to make your home efficient. People often associate insulation with keeping your home warmer in the winter, but it also provides benefits in the summer. Insulation reduces heat transfer from the attic to the house, which lowers energy bills for air conditioning and makes your home more comfortable.

Attic insulation is measured in R-value, which is a measurement of how well a material resists the flow of heat. For attic insulation, thicker is better. The recommended R-value is typically between R-38 and R-60, depending on your climate. Hawaii and the southernmost tips of Florida and Texas recommend R-30. Measured in inches, that ranges from around 10 to 20 inches, depending on the type of insulation you have. In most homes, the ceiling joists are buried in insulation to achieve the recommended R-value.

The problem with attic storage is it typically doesn't offer enough space for the recommended R-value. Often, plywood or boards are placed directly on top of the ceiling joists, which isn't enough space for the insulation. Insulation can get compacted by people moving items in or out, reducing the effective R-value.

Ideally, the attic would not be used for storage so it can be properly insulated, but that's not feasible for everyone. Here are some strategies for maintaining attic storage and recommended insulation levels.

The best location for attic storage is over an

unconditioned area of your home, such as the garage. You don't need insulation in attic spaces over a garage or unconditioned area because you are not heating or cooling the space below. This makes it the perfect spot to tuck away items for storage.

If that isn't an option, consider minimizing the number of stored items or the storage area's footprint. A great way to do this is by building an attic storage platform. A raised platform allows the space underneath it to be fully insulated. These platforms are available in ready-to-install kits, or you can buy materials and build them yourself.

Allow enough space underneath the platform to achieve the proper R-value. Use lumber to build a frame perpendicular to the existing joists and cover it with plywood or oriented strand board. Once your storage area is set up, add insulation inside the platform to bring the R-value up to the proper level.

Your attic might also have trusses that allow you to build shelves and maximize space by storing items vertically.

Always wear a dust mask or respirator when working in the attic. Don't forget to weatherstrip the attic hatch to ensure a tight seal. Take a look around your attic to see if you can find any hidden opportunities for energy savings.





Herman and Nina Rosenau Photo credit: Shannon Marvel

WWII Veteran Remembers How Electricity Modernized Life on the Farm

JJ Martin and Shannon Marvel

For the last 66 years, Herman Rosenau has been thankful he hasn't had to pump water for the cows by hand at his farm and ranch near Glad Valley.

In 1957, Rosenau became one of the first members of Moreau-Grand Electric Cooperative in Timber Lake, S.D.

Coming of age at the tail end of World War II, Rosenau bore witness to some major world changes. As rural South Dakota started electrifying, Europe and East Asia were in turmoil. Before shipping off for the war, Rosenau's life was all manual labor. After seeing the metamorphosis that the other half of the world went through, Rosenau watched his own world drastically change. Electricity slowly spread out across the Moreau-Grand service area like lightning in slow motion.

With a mischievous smile, Rosenau

sat down at the kitchen table with his morning coffee to discuss how he remembered the lights coming on at his home. After having all morning, he was happy for a break.

"Things changed not all overnight, but pretty steady," Rosenau said. "We got an electric refrigerator, then we got electricity out of a pump jack on the well. Everything kept growing little by

Before electricity, Rosenau recalls watering the cows with a windmill in the water tank.

"And when the wind didn't blow, you pumped the water by hand," Rosenau said.

He remembers when the first electric bills totaled around \$7 per month.

"Well, story of my life was a pitchfork and a team of horses until around 1947," he said with a laugh.

With electricity becoming available

to rural folks in South Dakota, Rosenau recalled being able to purchase a deep freeze. That electric appliance allowed him to store food, particularly beef, for long periods of time and saved him the 70-mile round-trip to Lemmon to the meat locker.

Rosenau is not one to forget how thankful he is for having access to electricity and freedom. The electricity reached his home a few years after he returned home from serving in the Army. The World War II veteran said he went in at the time of the Belgian Bulge.

"I went to the Texas Infantry in the spring when it looked like the war in Europe was getting under control," Rosenau said.

"I was in Manila when they dropped them two little eggs on Japan. And if they hadn't done that, I don't think I'd be here. Because they told us if we have to go ashore in Japan, we will lose a half million to a million boys going ashore. That's the total population of South Dakota."



Linemen placing poles in the early days at Moreau-Grand Electric.



Jacob Boyko

jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop

Picture life in rural South Dakota 100 years ago. Each morning, families woke before dawn to work by the flicker of kerosene lamps, hand-pumped water to fill a gas-powered wringer-washer, and retrieved breakfast ingredients from a dripping ice box. Looming in the backs of producers' minds were fears that the market would trend downward and they may not be able to cover their debts, or even harvest their fields.

Today, South Dakota's rural farmers and ranchers enjoy virtually all of the accommodations of modern living their suburban counterparts enjoy. Past luxuries like running water, full-time electricity, internet and telephone are now standard, and many farmers enjoy stronger economic security compared to the past's tumultuous markets.

That's because for over 100 years, rural South Dakotans have pooled their resources by forming cooperatives that level out some of the disparities between rural and urban life. Thanks to members' ingenuity, rural America is not just a viable, but a thriving place to live and work.

The First Cooperatives

The first cooperatives in South Dakota were agriculture-focused. Far too often, an oversupply of goods led to price crashes, resulting in farmers unable to economically harvest crops or market livestock. This led to tremendous waste and crushed livelihoods.

As producers grew weary of the uncertain market, they organized to collectively market and distribute their products: they coordinated, shared risk and pooled resources.

South Dakota's earliest farm supply and marketing cooperatives started popping up a little after the turn of the 20th century. The South Dakota Secretary of State's office lists Lake Andes Farmers Cooperative, formed in 1909, as the oldest ongoing cooperative in the state.

During this early period, cooperatives operated in a legal gray area. Since producers working collectively in a cooperative setting could be viewed as monopolistic or collusive, they were under careful watch by the Federal Trade Commission as well as their larger competitors.

That changed in 1922 with the passage of the Capper-Volstead Act.

"Capper-Volstead allowed producers to come together and market their products and not be in violation of the Sherman Antitrust Act," explained Brenda Forman, South Dakota Association of Cooperatives executive director. "[Cooperatives] were not considered to be a monopoly as long as they were a cooperative association formed

electric cooperative in South Dakota.

by producers, owned by the members, one member gets one vote in cooperative elections, etc."

The presence of ag cooperatives surged in the 1930s as producers looked for stability during the Great Depression, the South Dakota Farmers Union says. With effectiveness proven, the cooperative strategy has stuck around since.

Today, there are 63 farm supply and marketing cooperatives serving over 130 South Dakota communities, Forman said.

Those same visionaries who established the first ag cooperatives identified another need that was not being met. Using the same cooperative model that changed their lives once already, farmers would bring power to the prairie.

Electricity

Before energy infrastructure was widespread, many small towns in South Dakota relied on local power plants. However, with distribution lines only serving the city, living even a mile or two out of town was the difference between flipping a light switch and carrying a lantern.

Despite requests from farmers to run lines to their homes – some of whom even offered to pay installation costs - most municipalities and investor-owned utilities (IOUs) refused because undertaking the effort didn't lead to any meaningful profit.

Even many of the state's elected representatives seemed resigned to the idea

SOUTH DAKOTA'S COOPERATIVES

that the future of energy for their farming constituents was tied to on-site generation, like the modest Delco-Light plants that could power a few small appliances and light bulbs. To them, it seemed laughable that there was any feasible way to run lines in a state where the service would average out to a sparse 2.2 customers per mile of line, and for many, that was the end of the conversation.

The narrative changed when President Franklin D. Roosevelt expanded his New Deal programs to modernize rural America, creating the Rural Electrification Administration (REA) to finance ambitious projects.

The profit-minded IOUs were largely uninterested in expanding into sparse territory for measly returns, and little progress was made toward Roosevelt's vision.

In 1936, once it was apparent IOUs wouldn't be making the foray into rural territories as farmers had hoped they would, Roosevelt signed the Rural Electrification Act. Now, cooperatives could organize and receive REA loans while the IOUs idled.

A group of 17 farmers from Clay and Union counties jumped at the opportunity to finally bring their homes into the modern age. Just months after the REA was established, and at a time when just 5% of South Dakota farms had power, the group hatched out a plan to secure an REA loan for their newly-formed Fairview Rural Electric System, today Clay-Union Electric Corporation.

Going door to door and collecting \$5 sign-ons from neighbors ranging from ecstatic to skeptical, the cooperative finally got the REA's green light and received a \$70,000 loan to build 67 miles of line that would serve about 300 members, according to a 1936 Argus Leader report.

The success of South Dakota's first electric cooperative brought hope to still more than 90% of South Dakota farmers without power. It wasn't long before dozens more newly-formed cooperatives were each going door to door collecting sign-on fees to secure their own REA loans.

Serving Everyone

In 1946, roughly 10 years after the state's first electric cooperative debuted, rural farmers and ranchers from the state's remote northwest corner met in Lemmon to form their own cooperative. The board understood securing a loan from REA to serve such a vast and sparse territory would be a big ask, so they opted to charge members a \$10 monthly minimum, which was twice the minimum rate of most South Dakota cooperatives, and equal to about \$170 today.

Even so, would-be members agreed to the terms of the longshot project and paid their \$5 membership fee. Despite federal hesitation about the feasibility of such a project, the REA loan was approved.

Grand Electric Cooperative received more than \$1.8 million over two loans that would build 1,127 miles of line and serve 948 members. The investment amounted to one of the REA's largest and riskiest yet in the state, but proved to be a success.

Cooperative members did the impossible; the wires in northwest South Dakota had finally been energized. Board members then eyed another ambitious goal - bringing telephone to Northwest South Dakota.

West River Cooperative Telephone Company was formed as a separate entity, but in the spirit of cooperation, the telephone and electric cooperative would be jointly operated. The two would, and still to this day, share a building, staff and infrastructure.

"Up here, we cover almost 8,000 square miles and have 4,000 miles of wire, but we only have 1,800 members," explained Eric Kahler, the cooperatives' joint general manager. "When you look at the economics of this type of service territory, if you're in the business to make money, you're not going to be too successful here. The cooperative model is really the only model that could work here."

And the community knows that fact and is grateful for their cooperative, says Patricia Palmer, who has spent much of her last 63 years working in Grand Electric and West River Telephone's member services.

"They're thankful," she said. "Very thankful. We have a terrific telephone work crew and line department. At times, they work tirelessly in horrible weather conditions... You can't believe the thank you notes that we get."

Growing up on a farm near McIntosh, Palmer has a firsthand account of the impact of cooperatives. And she says it's one she will never forget.

The night she watched her family's farmhouse light up for the first time was also the beginning of a new chapter, she recalled. A chapter with an automatic washer, a refrigerator and a toaster.

As times change, cooperatives continue to be at the forefront of bringing service that might otherwise be out of reach.

"When I came to the cooperative, it was just telephone and electricity, and now we have high-speed internet and TV," Palmer said. "Over the years, the cooperative has really grown!"

Other Applications

The cooperative model is also used in many other sectors; there are 34 South Dakota credit unions that offer memberowners better interest rates and reduced fees compared to for-profit banks.

Even some rural water systems, while not wholly cooperatives themselves, borrow some of the cooperative fundamentals to make serving large areas more practical.

"Cooperatives are pretty significant in the impact they've had," Forman said. "And the other cooperatives we have - there are daycare co-ops, food co-ops, education co-ops – there's a number of different structures that the cooperative model has been used for, because of that ownership and one member, one vote."

Today, there are 141 cooperatives in the state, providing more than 78,500 jobs, \$2.8 billion in worker salaries and \$3.9 billion in gross domestic product (GDP), according to a South Dakota State University study titled The Economic Impact of Cooperatives in South Dakota.

That means cooperatives contribute almost 13% of South Dakota jobs, more than 11% of salaries, and 6.2% of the state's entire GDP.

"In a cooperative, your board is local," Forman said. "[The co-op board and employees] support and participate in sports functions, 4-H barbeques, you may go to church with them, or they may be at family dinner. Which means when something is a concern or challenge, you have somebody to go to and you have contacts close that know you and understand the system."

DO WE OWE YOU MONEY?

THIS FOLLOWING LIST CONTAINS the names of former Black Hills Electric Cooperative members whose capital credit checks have not been cashed or were returned to us. Please review the list and if you know anyone listed, or his or her heirs, please contact BHEC at 605-673-4461or 800-742-0085. P-Z will be published in the November edition.



ABEAR, DENISE M. ACHTERHOF, KONA ACHTIEN, CHRISTINE ADAMS, MARY A. ADAMS, WILL B. AGUIRRE, ALES AKAM, EVERETT H./ALICE L. AKIN, PHILIP G./LISA ALLEN ESTATE, RODMAN L. ALLEN, DEE A. ALLEN, MICHAEL/MARILYN ALLERDINGS, KENNETH D. ALTHAUS, LEE ALTHER, NICHOLAS J. AMERICATOURS WEST ANDERSON, ALFRED/NATASHA ANDERSON, AUTUMN/CHRIS ANDERSON, DARRELL C. ANDERSON, DAVID ANDERSON, DEBRA J./LARRY ANDERSON, DOUGLAS/LAVONNE ANDERSON, FRED B. ANDERSON, JOEL L. ANDERSON, JOHN J./MARIAN ANDERSON, JON/MELANIE ANDERSON, JUANITA ANDERSON, KIMBERLY D. ANDERSON, KURT C. ANDERSON, MARK/HOLLY ANDERSON, MARY R. ESTATE ANDERSON, MICKEY/KRIS ANDERSON, VONNIE ANFINSON, RONALD L./JUDITH ARENDS, PAUL ARNOLD, JON J. ARP, KAREN L. ARTHUR, CAROL

ARTHUR.TIM

ASBJELD, APRIL

ASHLAND, HAROLD

ATZ, FRANKLIN/ELAINE

AT&T BUILDING OPERATIONS

ATCHER, DONALD W./REGENA L.

AUCHENBAUGH, DALE ESTATE

BABCOCK, GERTRUDE BACH, MFRI F BACKENS, FRIC E ESTATE BAILEY, DAVID L./ROBIN L. BAKER, BERNADETTE/ONEIL P. BAKER, KENNETH/LAURA BAKER, RONALD BALDWIN, CHUCK/STEPHANIE BALLING, RICHARD/MARGARET A. BAMSEY, JERRY/KIM BANGS, PHILIP/LAUREL BARBOUR, JUDITH ESTATE BARNES, LINSEY L./K. C. BARNESS, WINSTON D. ESTATE BARRACLOUGH, DAVID/KIRSTEN BARRETT, ROBERT F./CAROL L BARROW, CLAUDE/PHYLLIS BARROWS, BRADLEY D./NANCY J. BARTE, HAROLD K. ESTATE BARTLETT, DORIS BARTON, PATRICIA A. BARTUNEK, TED L./DEB L. BATES, MORRIS/PATRICIA BAUER, SANDRA L./WILLIAM P. BAY-BORELLI, MICHAEL/DEBRA BAYSINGER, D. B. BEAL, SCOTTT./BRENDA BEAMES, BO BEAN, DIANE M. BEARD, HOMER P. ESTATE BECKER, GANDY/EDWARD A. BELD, JOSEPHINE BELIVEAU, ROBERT E. II BELL, JOANN C. BENDER, DAN M./CAROL A. BENDER, LYNN M. BENNETT, BELVA J. BENSON, SCOTT/LARENE BERKNER, LAVERNE L./JOAN M. BERNARD, LEILANI R. BERNKLAU, TED C./LINDA L. BERNS, DON M./PENELOPE L. BESHARA, TIMOTHY L./ANNA M. BETTS, JOHN M./PAMELA A. BEYER, SUSAN M. BIESTERFELD, CHERYL BINGEN, KENT H. BINTLIFF, ELIZABETH BIRDSALL, JOSEPH/DEBORAH BISHOP, DALE/NANCY BISON BISON PIG & CHICKEN BIVENS, CARL R./SUSAN **BLACK BEAR LOG HOMES** BLACK, CAROL A.

BOADWINE, LEANNE M/RODNEY B. BOES LUVERNET / III IANT BOESCH, CHRIS/KATHERINE BOHN, KEVIN W. BOHN, TASHA BOLLINGER, MARK L. BOLTJES, HENRY F. JR. BORUP, SCOTT/CHERYL BOTTO, RICHARD A. BOULDEN, DAVID BOWAR, ROMAN J./JANICE S. BOWEN, CHARLES/LINDA BOWEN, ROBERT W./CONNIE BOYDSTON, CHARLES ESTATE BOYLE, BRUCE G. BRABEC, GUY J./LORI BRADLEY, YVONNE BRADY, NATE L. BRANDT, TANA C. BRANT, DENNIS V./MARGARET BRASSFIELD, DON/DARLENE **BRAUNSTEIN, BETTY** BRAZIER, DONALD K. BREEN, PATRICIA BREKKE, LEROY A./LOIS J. BRENNER, GLENN BREWER, FLIZABETH I. BRICKLEY, SUE BRIGGLE, STEVEN A./SHARON S. BRIGHT, MATTHEW/PAMELA BRINK, KEITH/DORLA BROWN, A.C. BROWN, KELLY G./JUDY BROWN, L. J./ERIN BROWN, TIMOTHY W./JANICE E. BROWNING, JAMES D./CYNTHIA BROWNLOW, PAUL/LAURA BRUCE, JERRY D. BRUCE, JOE/YVONNE BRUDNYAK, LASZLO BRUSH, WILLIAM D. BRUSSE, ALICE ESTATE BRYAN, SHARON L. **BUCHHOLZ, SHIRLEY** BUCK, LEONARD O./CHARLOTTE **BUILDERS DEVELOPMENT LLC** BUNKOWSKE, KATHY BUNNELL, GENE BURDOCK VOL FIRE DEPT BURKE, KEVIN P./TAMARA J. BURNETT, CHAWN BURROWS, MAX L. ESTATE

BUS, LEENDERT

BUSCH, MATTHEW D./TARA J. BUSSIAN, ROBERT/ELIZABETH BUTTERFIELD, DAVID BUTTERFIELD, SUSAN/DAVID CABBAGE, KACEY CAKERICE, MYRA J. CALDWELL, ALLEN H./JOAN B. CAMERON, SCOTT/JAYNA CAMPBELL, GORDON H./LINDA CANFIELD, DAVID R./JACKIE CANNADY, BARB CARR, DEBRA K. CARRICO, THOMAS W./HELEN M. CARRILLO, AUDREY CARROLL, CURTIS CARTER, BRIAN/KIM CASEY, BETTY A. CASTELNOVO, LAURA CELLULAR ONE OF RAPID CITY CEYNOWA, TIMOTHY/CAROL CHAPMAN, CRAIG R. CHAPMAN, JAMIE CHAPPEL, LARRY/ANN CHECKER ELECTRIC INC CHIKOS, JAMES T./TINA J. CHIPMAN, CAROLYN M. CHITTUM, JOHN W./LYNNE CHRISTENSEN, JOHN L./NORMA CHRISTENSEN, MICHAEL CHRISTIANSEN, MARJORIE R. CHRISTIANSON, PATRICIA CHRISTINASON, L. A. CHURCH, EL/JACQUELINE CICHONSKI, STANLEY T./LYNNE CIRCLE G PETROLEUM - LEE V. GREENE CLARK, TIMOTHY/PAMELA CLARK, TOM/CAROL CLARKE-TATRO, LEANN CLAYMORE, ELRA D. CLEMENT, PAUL/VONDA CLER, WILLIAM/LINDA COCHRAN, EARL COLBY, GARY R. COLE, TERRY/SANDRA COLLINS, PATTY A.

COLLINS, SAM G.

COMEAU, RUSSELL E.

COMP GRANT PROGRAM

→ OGLALA SIOUX HOUSING

BLACKWELL, BEVERLY

BLUE, ROBIN

BLICK, EDWARD/CHANTANA

CAPITAL CREDITS

CONDE, THERESA J./ ANDREW M. CONLON, DANIEL CONNELLY, GARY L/KATHY M. CONTEL NETWORKS INC → ANNA BRIDGE COOK, BERLYN J. COOK, MARKW./WENDY R. COOPER, DIANE K. COPELAND, FRED COPPESS, JENNIFER J. CORR, GREGORY R. COTTON, GARY/ROSE COUNTS, CAROLYN A. ESTATE COWAN, CHANTA (QUITERIO) COX, BYRON CRADDOCK, DANNY CRAWFORD, JOHN/LISA CREIGHTON, ADA ESTATE CRISP, JAMES / ROBIN L. CRONIN, MIKE CUI P. MICHAFL F. CULPEPER, JAMES/MARCI CURL, GARY D. ESTATE CURTIS, DON E./TERI

D M & E RAILROAD - CANA-DIAN PACIFIC REAL ESTATE DAFOE, LESA/MICHAEL DAHLQUIST, HAZEL DAKOTABADLANDOUTFITTERS □ DONALDH.HUSTED D'ALESSIO, ROBERT/DARLEEN DAMES & MOORE INC DANIEL VIEGUT DANKS, IRENE M. DARLING, DOUGLAS E/JENA L. DAUGHTERS, BIRDIE A. DAVIDSON, CLAUD/DONNAN. EBY, KEN (JAMES) DAVIS, FRANK E. DAVIS, RICK/JOANNE DAVIS, TERRY L./CARLEEN DEAN, JESSE DEAUX, RODNEY DEDRICK, MARY-PAMELA F. DEEBLE, JOEL W./JOANN DEER MTN RESORT PROP INC DEJONG, DEAN N./JULIE DELLAMORTE, BARBARA A. **DELUCA, JAMES** DEMETRIOU, JAMES P. DENNETT, ROY/EVELYN DEPRIEST, LELAND/VIRGINIA DERAAD, ROGER/LILA **DETERMAN, DIANE** DEWALL, DARRELL DEZEEUW, PRESTON/KATHY

DHILLON, DRROBIN/SHARON EVANS, JON D. SR.

DILORETO, SUSAN A. DIMOND, LOIS A. DISHMAN, S. R. DITTMAN, WES W. DIXON, ERICA L./JAMES H. DIXON, ROGER/LIZ DOBBINS, DONALD G/MAUREEN L. DOHN, JEANETTE E ESTATE DOLBERG, BRENDA

DONG, LIH. DONOFRIO, STEVE A. DONOHOE, MICHAEL/LAURIE DOUD.LINDSYL. DOUGHTY, BONNIE

DOUGLAS, GERALD L. DOUGLAS, STEVEN E./VICKI A. DOWTY, EARL DOYLE, JOSEPH F. DOYLE, TONJA

DRABEK, DR GREGG A./ELLEN B. DRAVES, ORIN DRESSEL, ED/AMY DRURY, CAROL A./JOHN H. DUEKER, LEE J./TRISHA L. DUMIRE, JERRY/KIM DUNCAN, BILLY/PAULA DUNMIRE, JERRY DUNMIRE, TIMOTHY E./MARSHA

DUNSTON, NANCY/JAMES L. **DUNWORTH, BERDELL ESTATE** DUPREY, RICK DURBIN, KENNETH L./CAROL C. DURHMAN, SERIC C./MERLIN R. DYF.LUCILLEG.

DYKEMA, DAVE DZINTARS, PAUL/ARIANDE

EAGLE MATS INC ECKER, FRANCES A. EDGECOMB, RAY R./SHIRLEY EDSTROM, WILLIAM/MARY R. EISENBEISZ, PEGGY EITEMILLER, BARBARA ELLINGSON, S. D./DOROTHY ELLIOTT, CARLY/R. J. ELLWANGER, CARL H. ENGLER, JAMES R. ENGLER, JOSEPH P. **ENVIRONMENTAL ART** ERICKSON, JERRY ERICKSON, KAREN M. **ERLANDSON, ROBERT** → W./SHIRLEY J. ERWIN, ROGER D. EUDAILY, CHARLES A./CHERYL

EVANS, KERRY W. EVANS, RAYMOND D./CYNTHIA A. EVANS, ROY A./LIINDA L. EVERITT, JOSEPH R. EWERT, DOROTHY I.

FACKRELL, REX/RAE FANNING, RUBY FARIS, WILLIAM H. FARRAR, DEBRA FARRAR, DON R. FARREL, DAVID J./PRISCILLA FARRELL, ROBERT/DOROTHY FAST HORSE, HAZEL FAST HORSE, LONA M. FAST WOLF, GLORIA FAST WOLF, TODD E, ESTATE FAST, DIANA L. ESTATE FAUSON, ERNEST/BOBBIE FEIND, RAND E./MARGARET R. FERGUSON, JAMES M. FERGUSON, JANICE M. FERNEN, FRANCIS J. FINCK, TERESA FINE, GARY W. FISCHER, GINGER M. FISCHER, SUSAN FISCHER, WILLIAM/KAREN FISH, DENIS M. FISTLER, ERICA L. FITZGIBBON, L. J. FITZNER, TIMOTHY/KATHRYN FITZPATRICK-GAMBELL, FLAIG, STEVE/VICKIE FLANAGAN, KATHLEEN FLANIGAN, STEPHEN/PATRICE FLEISHMANN, MATTIE ESTATE FLEMING, CHARIS FLORKE, JAMES C. FOREMAN, JOSEPH M./JODEE FORIT, CHRISTOPHER J./TAMMY FORNEY, JOSEPH S. FORNEY, JOSEPH S./RANEE L. FORSYTHE, BILLIE/JAMES FOSSUM, VIVIAN FRALEY, RAY M. FRANKLIN, WILLIAM W./LAURA FRANXMAN, KIMBERLEY J. FRASER, HARVEY R. FRAZEE, JAMES W.

FRAZIER, KEVIN W./CAROL A.

FRENCH, MARK A./JANICE D.

FROCK, DAVID E./KIMBERLY J.

FROELICH, KENNETH P.

FREEMORE, JERRY

FRITTS, JAN

FROST, STACY

FUCHS, MARY FULLER, SANDI

C

GAEDE, GARY GAFFIN, MARJORIE E. GAGNER, BRADLEY J. **GALAXY CABLEVISION** GALLENTINE, JERRY/SHIRLEY GAMACHE, BRENDA S. GARDNER, JOY C. GARDNER, ROSIE GARRETT, DAVID/KRISTINA GARRETT-COLLINSON, KONNIE J. HAGAN, JACK S. GATZKE BROTHERS - DALE GATZKE GAUDINO, ROBERT A./LAURIE A. GAUSE, GARY A./WILLIAM GAVIN, JO-ANNE GEIGER, VERNON/DOROTHY GEISSLER, MARC A. GENTRY, DORENE GERBEC, DANIEL E. GERLACH, MEL R./LYNNE GERMAN, PAUL J. GIAMMONA, PHILIP GIFFORD, BERNICE A. GILL, ROBERT P./PAMELA J. GILLASPIE, KATHY GILLESPIE, DALE E./JUNE C. GILSON, CHARLES/CHARLOTTE GISI. RANDY/CHERYI GLEASON, MICHAEL R. GLOVER FAMILY TRUST GOEDERT, NICK GOFF, STEVEN K./PATRICIA GOGOLIN, WANDA **GOLDEN INVESTMENTS INC** GOMEZ, MIGUEL/ESTHER GOOD VOICE ELK, CHARLES GOODELL, DUKE GOODEN, LARRY D./RUBY D. GOODHUE, ALAN/LOIS GOODSELL, JUANITA M. GOODSELL, RUSSELL ESTATE GOTTSCHALK, DALE/LINDA GOULD, RUSSEL/JACQUELINE GOVE, WALTER GRANT, ANN I. GRAPENTINE, JIM/LISA GREEN, CAROL A. GREEN, DAVID R. GREEN, JUSTIN L./MELANIE GREENFIELD, JILL GREENWALT, GARY/DONNA GREGG, JULIE L.

GRIEBEL, DAVID GRIFFIN, ARI FNF J. GRIFFIN, JOHN E./KATHRYN L. GRIFFITHS, THOMAS A. GROSS, KURT GRUDNIEWSKI, CURT GRYGIER, BRUCE N./SHARON GUBBRUD, GRANT/MARY A. GULDEN, LARRIE A. GUNDERSON, DAVE P.

HAEDER, COREY L. HAGEN, DORIS V. HAGEN, RON/JAN HAGEN, VERNON HAGENSON, I FO HALIBURTON, RICHARD/RENEE HAMMER, DEBRA L. HAMMETT, MELODY L/JEREMY S. HAMRICK, BABS HAN, KENNETH N./HELEN HANBURY, JAMES V./J. L. HANCE, TRACY/CAROLYN HANES, KIMBERLY S./JOE R. HANNA.TRUDI HANSEN, DIANA R. HANSEN, LLOYD HANSEN, TERESA HANSON, MARILYN J. HANTSBARGER, LOREN HARDEE, JAMES R. HARITOS, ANGELO D. HARNISCH, RUDY/MICHELLE HARRINGTON, HARVEY A. HARRIS, TIMOTHY/ELAINE HART, ELLA HARTINGER, RICH HARTLE, ED HARVEY, TIMOTHY/ANNETTE HASART, TIMOTHY J./ERIN C. HAVELAAR, PATSY R. ESTATE HAWK HAUMPO, MARYANN HAYDEN, DARLENE HAYES, RICK/SHERRI HAYES, ROBERT HAYTON, RICHARD D./TINA M. HEADRICK, JOHN HEALEY, CLIFFORD/THELMA HECKERT, MARK HEDGES, LYNN S./BARBARA HEIDRICH, MICHAEL HEINEN, DONALD G./VERGIE HEINTZMAN, JILL M.

HENCKE, BRYAN/TAMMY

(continued on page 14)

HENDERSON, BETHEL

GREGG, PAUL E. ESTATE

GRENSTINER, TONY/JOLENE

GRIBBEN, TERRANCE/KATHRYN

GHOST TOWNS

South Dakota's History Remembered

Jacob Boyko

jacob.boyko@sdrea.coop

Scattered across open fields and through narrow mountain gulches, a careful eye can spot many of South Dakota's nearly 250 long-lost prairie villages and prospecting towns.

Many of these communities were once thriving outposts, railroad hubs, farming villages and mining towns, but were dealt their final blows by the hardships of the dust bowl, changes to railroad systems and the depletion of natural resources.

Most of the towns are long forgotten, their existence marked only by the rotted shell of an old wood barn or a crumbling foundation poking up from the ground.

Thanks to the work of local historical societies who have pieced together the history of the communities' "booms and busts" through old newspaper clippings, plat maps and land records, we can get a glimpse into the lives of the first rural South Dakotans and learn about the communities that once bustled with life.

Galena

Unique among a cavalcade of abandoned Black Hills gold-rush towns, Galena's roots are in its silver. The town was settled in the late 1870s after prospectors Patrick Donegan and John F. Cochran discovered layers of lead and silver ore near Bear Butte Creek while searching for gold deposits.

The U.S. government removed the two men from the area in accordance with Native American treaties. However,

their exile turned out to be short-lived. Donegan and Cochran returned shortly after to mine their claim as more and more gold-hungry settlers tested the increasingly unenforceable treaties.

The claim, which would later become the Sitting Bull mine, turned out to be a mother lode, according to Galena Historical Society member Jeff Jacobsen.

Over the next several years, other mining operations popped up in the gulch as the miners' families made Galena their new home. The town soon had multiple houses, a hotel, restaurant, stores, a catholic church, cemetery and school, attracting new settlers through its peak between 1881 and 1883.

Arriving from Chicago in hopes of expanding his fortune, Col. John Davey soon became a Galena mining heavyweight, buying up claims along the Bear Butte Creek, including the Sitting

Davey's more than 125-man operation was running smoothly until trouble arose from a claim dispute. The owners of the nearby Richmond claim suspected Davey was digging too far into the hill and mining their silver. Davey claimed he was following the path of the ore, which according to mining law, he was allowed to follow onto another claim. The Richmond claim owners said the law didn't apply to a horizontal blanket formation of ore, like the one in Galena.

A lengthy court battle ensued, and the judge shut down the Sitting Bull mine



until the ruling. Galena was suspended in controversy as many of the townsfolk found themselves out of work.

Thus began Galena's rocky "boom and bust" cycle, Jacobsen explained.

"The boom time was when Col. Davey and other mines were producing, and then the lawsuit shut that down and you have a bust," he said.

The judge ruled against Davey, and the operation never recovered. Galena would never again be the bustling town it was in the early 1880s.

"In 1892, some more people came into town and tried to start up again, so that was a boom, and then they went bankrupt, so there's a bust," Jacobsen continued. "There's like three or four cycles like that in Galena."

By the mid 1930s, the town had seen its final bust. The mining wasn't comparable to the riches of the past, and interest in the gulch slowly started to fade. The tracks were removed and the school house closed

Today, Galena is the best-preserved Ghost Town in South Dakota. On the second Saturday of each June, visitors can tour the town, visit the maintained graveyard and go inside the newly-restored schoolhouse, courtesy of the Galena Historical Society.

"It just kind of stands out," Jacobsen said. "Galena is just one of the very few silver mining areas in the Black Hills when almost everyone else was trying for gold."

Did You Know

In 1947, Deadwood resident Ollie Wiswell came across an orphaned coyote pup while he was out on a hike. He gave the pup, named Tootsie, to Fred and Esther Borsch of Galena. Tootsie gained fame as the mascot for the Borschs' Deadwood liquor store, famously appearing on the store's sign. Fred taught Tootsie to howl along to his singing, and the two recorded the album "South Dakota Tootsie."

Tootsie, at this point a South Dakota mascot, rode through parades, was featured in an airline advertising campaign, and even embarked on a nationwide tour where she visited the White House and performed for President Dwight D. Eisenhower and Vice President Richard Nixon.

Gov. George Mickelson, a fan of Tootsie himself, signed legislation in 1949 making the coyote the state's official animal. Tootsie died in 1959 and is buried near her home in Galena.

Argonne

About nine miles northwest of Howard, just off state Highway 25, lay the remains of the ill-fated farming community, Argonne.

Marked by a blue historical sign, travelers-by can catch a glimpse of the town's massive cement bank vault with its swinging iron door, an old silo bearing the town's name, several concrete foundations, and a house falling into its own footprint.

The town's founder, Dr. Louis Gotthelf, was a Prussian-born physician who emigrated to the United States in the aftermath of the Prussian revolution. Gotthelf staked his claim in 1881 and established the townsite in 1886.

The town was originally called St. Mary's, named after Gotthelf's daughter, and was strategically positioned along the Chicago and North Western railroad, with the streets running parallel to the railroad rather than the traditional east-west layout. Confusion with another St. Mary's led to the residents voting to change the name to Argonne in 1920, which was chosen to honor local soldiers who had served in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive during World War I.

Despite having what should have been a prime location, Argonne failed to grow to Gotthelf's satisfaction, and he left with his family for Parker in 1889.

A 1919 land boom in South Dakota finally turned things around for Argonne, Miner County Historical Society member George Justice Forster said.

"Most of the growth that happened initially was when it kind of took off as a trade center," he explained. "Suddenly the town had a railway depot, lumberyard, farmer's cooperative and general store."

In the early 20s, Argonne's population boomed to about 100 residents, and the town offered new amenities including a school, blacksmith and post office.

Argonne's peak was short-lived, and by 1930 the population had fallen to about 65 residents.

When Doug Jerlow moved to town in 1953, much of what was built in the town's prime was left abandoned, and most of the businesses that did remain were struggling.

"It was past the peak," Jerlow recounted. "One general store closed when the post office inside it closed, and that was an elderly lady who ran that and lived in a house by herself. The Haxby family's store was open for maybe a year or two after that."

Though the town was facing a bleak outlook, there remained one huge point of pride for Argonne: high school basketball.

Delbert Gillam, also known as the

Argonne Ace, led the Argonne Arrows to a 10-1 start in his junior year in 1953. Gillam also broke the state record for the most points scored by a player in a single game, making 31 field goals and 10 free throws, scoring 72. Argonne still holds this

The high school closed in 1956, but the community limped on for a few more years before the grade school closed in 1970 when the railroad picked up and left.

Doug Jerlow's family, the last residents of Argonne, left town that same year.

Jerlow pointed out that while many other communities along the rail line like Unityville, Canova, Carthage, and Esmond struggled to recover from the abandonment of the line, for Argonne, it was the death blow.

Now, Forster and other members of the Miner County Historical Society are working to preserve the history of Argonne.

A historical marker will soon be placed east of Argonne on state Highway 25 that will tell the story of Argonne from its founding to its final household.

Though Jerlow now lives near Madison, he still farms near Argonne and owns most of the former townsite. As the unofficial mayor of Argonne, as Jerlow sometimes calls himself, he wants to keep the memory of his childhood hometown alive.

"It was just a nice community to grow up in," he said. "Those small communities, I think it's becoming harder to find them anymore."



CAPITAL CREDITS

(continued from page 11) HUETTL, CLETE/DARLENE JONES, KERRY HENDERSON, DORA R. HUFFMAN, TED E./SUSAN R. JORDAN, SHERRILL L. ESTATE HENDRICKSEN, KRIS HUGH, PHILLIP E./MAUREEN JUNGCK, CARL E./ELLEN L. HENKEL, PAUL/BARB JURRENS, TROY HUGHES, RICHARD J. HENRICH, BRAD HUGHES, SUSAN M. HENSLEY, ROBERT W. HUISENGA, DERICK/MELANIE HERBOLD, RANDY/BARBARA N. HUMPHRES, CAMERON D/CARLA KAISER, TIMOTHY J./JAN HERLIHY, JOHN J. HUNTER, RYAN KAISLER, SUELLEN/KURT J. HERMAN, DENNIS/MARLENE HUNTER, TERRY KAMINSKI, WALTER/JO E. HERMOSA CABLETV INC HURD, JERRY M./TAMARA S. KAMMERER, PAMELA HERROLD, JAYCIE/JEFF HUSTON, CHARLENE K. KANESKY, ED ESTATE HEWITT, DOUG HUTCHINSON, LEON/LORI KARR, PETER W./AMY HIBBARD, OWENT./NANCY J. HUTCHINSON, NANCY D. KAUL, G. R./MAXINE L. HICKS-BEACH, EDWARD/BETTY HUTTO, JAMES M./REBECCA A. HIGGINS, STEVEN KAUPP, MARVIN HIGHLEY, MECHAEL ESTATE KAVAJECZ, JULIE M. KAZY, JOEL/MELISSA HILL, ALAN C. ESTATE IRWIN, MIKE/BEVERLY KEIL, EDWIN W. HILT, GREG KEITHLEY, CLAREN/PAM IVERSON, KEVIN J./LAURIE L. HINKER, PAUL/ROBEN R KELLEYTRUST-KELLEY, BETSYLOU D/DONALD J. IVES, MARILYN A./DANIFL J. HINKLE, IRA M./BARBARA A. KELLEY, BARBARA ESTATE IVES, SHARON K. HITSHEW, HAROLD (DEAN) KELLY, JOSEPH HOBART, PAUL J. HOBBS, LARRY B./JANA E. KELLY, REGINA J. KENEFICK, MARK HOCHBERGER, ADA JACKSON, ANDREW J. KENNEDY, DARREN HOCHSTAFL, ROBERT JACKSON, JAMES/SHERYL KENNEDY, NANCY HODGE, GRAYLAN W. JACKSON, RAYMOND/ALISON C. KEZAR, NORMAN HOEBEL, DARYL J./KATHLEEN JACOBSEN, STEPHEN (JAKE) KII GANNON, JODI HOFER, DAN JACOBSON, LEWIST, /ANNA KILL, THOMAS W. HOFFMAN, PERRY L./DONNA JAEGER, ETHEL G. ESTATE KIMBALL, MITCHELL HOFFMANN, JO A. JAMES, ROBERT/SUSAN HOFFMASTER, MARTIN KIMES, KEN/VICKIE JASSMANN, LEANDER A/HARRY P. KINDLE CONSTRUCTION - DOUGLAS KINDLE HOFSTETTER, DOROTHY D. J-D RANCH OPERATING LLC KING, ALBERT W./THERESA G. HOGG, MARK F. → JOHN HAMNER KINSELLA, DONNA/JIM HOLCOMB-PATTERSON, THERESA JEFFRIES, ARDITH/JAMES KIRBY, BILL HOLLADAY, LARRY/EVELYN JENISCH, BARRY K. KISER, ROSE F. HOLSCHUH, ANTHONY A/JILL C. JFN JF, BARB KISFR, SUF HOLSO, NANCY ESTATE JENSEN, VOLMER K./VONDA L. KISSER, MARVIN HOLSTE, RICHARD A./CINDY L. JESTER, JIM L./LEAH HOMELVIG, HEATHER S. KISTLER, BARBARA JINKINS, ARVIL E HOMER, GWEN KITZMAN, DUANE JOHENGEN, ENID R. ESTATE KJALLSTROM, AGNES HOOPER, KRISTIE JOHNSON, ANTON E. KJERSTAD, ELNORIS ESTATE HOPPER, RICKY D. JOHNSON, ERIC/SIERRA KLEIN, EUGENE A./JACKIE L. HORLOCKER, NOEL JOHNSON, GLEN H./CYNTHIA J. KLEIN, KELLY L. HORTON, BONNIE L. JOHNSON, GUSTAV K. KLEINSASSER, RON/ELAINE HORTON, DAVID j. JR. JOHNSON, JAMES B. ESTATE KLINE, DONALD H./BARBARA L. HOSTETLER, JOSEPH/KRISTINE JOHNSON, JENNIFER/HANS KLINE, GARY HOTZ, KATHRYN JOHNSON, JERRY C. KLINE, O. H. HOUGDAHL, PAUL JOHNSON, JP (JACK)/DONNA KLINEFELTER, ROBERT HOUGHTON, MICHAEL/JERI JOHNSON, JUNE H. KLOOZ, ALTA F. HOUSER, DICK/SALLY W. JOHNSON, LES KNIGHT, RANDALL/KATHLEEN HOWELL, LOUIS G. JOHNSON, LUANN I. KNOCK, CRAIG K. HOWEY, BEVERLY JOHNSON, MATTHEW/KAREN HRESKO-SCHAEFER, LUANA KNODEL, MARK JOHNSON, PAUL S./DONNA KNOLL, ROBERT D./PATRICIA HRNCIR, BRENT R. JOHNSON, RAYMOND KNOWLES, JEFFREY J. HUBBARD, JANICE T. ESTATE JOHNSON, RODNEY K./KERI J. KNOWLES, RUSSELL/GINGER HUBER, TIM/CINDY JOHNSON, ROGER A./DEBORAH KNOX, CURTIS L./SANDRA J. HUDSON, CHARLES E. (GENE) JOHNSON, TARVER/LISA KOBALL, KEN HUDSPETH, DENITA JOHNSON, THOMAS R. KOBBEMAN, JOHN F.

KOCH, EUGENE/KANDI KOCH, RICHARD KOEPKE, MARK KOKA, BARNABAS S. KOLLEEN, C. H. KORTEMEYER, RONALD L. KOSMISKI, DAN KRAAI, GARY A./E. NAOMI KRAKIE, LORETTA/GEORGE J. K-RAM INDUSTRIES - ROBERT PAGAM KRICK, CHIP/JESSICA KRUEGER, RONALD KRUGER, WENDY KRUSE, JAMES E./PATRICIA A. KRUTSCH, HARLAN/HAZEL KUBIAK, JEFFREY/TONI KUHARSKI, PEGGY KUIL, JERALDINE (JERRI) KULZER, JIM KURAN, IVANKA KUSIEK, MICHAEL L&LINC-LARRY LAWRENCE LILITRUST - HFI FN DALIGNY LAFOLLETTE, DALE C./JOANNE B. LAMB, GEORGET.

LANCE, DALEW. LANDGUTH, MARK/CATHY LANE, CARROLL LANG, JEFF LANGDEAU, LISA LANTGEN, RICK LARKIN, JADEE J./MARILYN L. LARSON, BRIAN/JANE LARSON, CHARLES T./BETTY J. LARSON, JAMES E./DIANE LARSON, MARVIN LARSON, SCOTT/LYNETTE LAUINGER, ROBERT/LORNA LAW, MILTON J./MARY A. LAWTON, FRANK J./KIMBERLY A. LECOUR, KENNETH/ELIZABETH LEE, C. F./LEANNA LEE, DARIN LEE, DAVID W./KAREN D. LEE, EDWARD O./BARBARA J. LEE, WILLIAM L. LEEPER, WENDELL LEESCH, DONALD

LEFEBRE, LINDA

LEFLER, LON/ELLEN

LEHNERT, TOM/KELLY A.

LENNOX, CALVIN C./MARYANN

LEGRAND, ROBIN

I FIFR. TFRRANCE

I FN7. ROBERT M.

LEMBO, NATHAN N.

LENSTROM, LEONARD

HUFBNFR, KATHFRINF M.

HUEBNER, LISA/PHILLIP

JOHNSTON, ALBERT

KOCH, BRIAN

CAPITAL CREDITS

LETTENMAIER, STEVE/KRIS LEWANDOWSKI, RONALD/MARY LEWIS, NANCY W./TED G. LEWIS, ROGER K. LEWIS, TIMOTHY/DORIAN LIMING, RONALD D. LINDAUER, JAMES LINDE, LORI LINGREL, VIRGIL/FRANCES LINN, CLARK R. LIPPMAN, PAUL E. LITCHFIELD, MICHAEL LIVERMORE, LEF/ROBYN LOEN, ALLAN/TERESA LOFTUS, DANIEL K./MARY LOFTY-JOHNSON, LINDA K. LOOFBOURROW, EUGENE LORE, DENNIS ESTATE LORENCE, MARK/HEIDI LOUDENSLAGER, KERRY/DOREEN LOVE, CLIFTON LOVE, DEBORAH LOWE, SONJA LUFFMAN, HERMAN/PATRICIA LYONS, SHIRLEY M. ESTATE

MAAS, LAURA MAAS, MOIRA/PETER L. MACHOVEC, JEROME/MARY L. MACINNES, JAMES/MARY MACKEY, DEBORA K. MACRAE, THOMAS H. MALEHORN, KATHY MALISON, KURT J. MALLARY, RONALD/TERRY MALLOY, DEAN G. MALONEY, MARGARET MANDRAKE, KAT A. MANGOLD, DOUGLAS W. MANUEL, GARY MARANTOS, ALLEN A./WANDA J. MARKLEY, SUSAN MARQUARDT, SAMUEL MARSHALL, VIOLA J. MARTENSON, ROBERT/CHERYLL MARTIN, AUDREY P. MARTIN, KATHI N./SIEGMUNT MARTINEZ, LAZANNE/ALVINO MARTINEZ, LEE R. MASARIK, AL MASSETH, DANIEL MATHEWS, M. J. MATHIS, ARDIST. MATHIS, C. R./JUDY L. MATTIS, JOHN W./VALENTINA MATTOX, HENRY W. MAVIS, KATHLEEN

MAXWELL, CHARLENE MAXWELL, DONALD P. ESTATE MAY, WOLFGANG T./SUZANNE D. MCBRIDE, VICKI MCCADDEN, GEORGETTE A./MICHAEL E. MCCLASKEY, BRYAN L. MCCLASKEY, THOMAS/ROSE MCCLUNG, HARRY R. ESTATE MCCLURE, MARGARET I. MCCOLLAR, PHIL/COLLEEN MCCORMICK DANIFLE MCCUTCHEON, WALT MCDONALD, CHARLES ESTATE MCDOWELL, GARY A./MARGARET MCGEE, JAMES M./REVA J. MCGIRR, BRAD MCGOWAN, JUDY S. MCGULLION, DAVE/BRENDA MCKEE, STAN MCKERNAN, PATRICK MCKOWN, DOLRIS MCLAUGHLIN, LISA MCLAUGHLIN, TERRY MCLEOD, MICHAEL/MARJORY MCMURTRY, PAMELA/MICHAEL MCNAIR, DARRYL MCNAIR, NORMA L. MCNEIL, KEITH/TERESE MCNFILL KENDALL P/AUDREY MCPHERSON, JAMES/JAMIE MCVEY, MARY K. MEEGAN-BLOTE, LAURA MEHLHOP, PAT/TARA MFLIUS, DONALD MELLGREN, EDITH ESTATE MELLO, JILBERTO MENDEL JAY MENNING, CLAIR R./JANA MEREDITH, PATRICIA MERRILL, LARRY/KAY MERRITT-LAMPL, JUDY MERTENS, LISA MESSER, RICK MESSER, ROBERT/JUDY M. MESSMER, RODNEY A. MEYER, CAROL/PHILLIP MEYER, DANIEL L./ANGELA M.

MEYER, MARY L. ESTATE

MIDDLETON, SHARON

MIDWEST GAMING INC

MIFS INC. - PETER MIFS

MIGLIORINO, ROBERT R.

MILLER, JOHN A./DAWN

MILLER, DORTHY M.

MILLS, DENNIS M.

MILLER, AUGUST F./EVELINE L.

MICHAEL, STANLEY J. ESTATE

MEYER, RODNEY

MITCHELSON, LEE/DAY MOFRIKE CARLA MOLER, DAVID N./SHANNON D. MOLITOR, NANCY MOLTZEN, ROBERTA MONCRIEF, KEITH W./TONG M. MONTANA, GARY/LINDA MONTANA, LINDA MONTE KAHLER RENTALS JANET M KAHLER MONTGOMERY, JOHN/SHEREE MOORE, DANNY/CYNTHIA MOORE, ROBERT E. ESTATE MOORE, SUSAN B. MOOS, THEODORE C./MARCIA MORGAN, ROBERT L. MORGAN, SUSAN MORRILL, KEITH MORRIS, LARRY/JACKIE MORRIS, RUBY A. MORRIS, SUSAN D./JOEL E. MOSER, ERIC/MICHELLE MOSEY, PAUL A. MOSKAL, LEONARD S. MUELLER, DAVE/BRENDA MUNOZ, JOSE L. MUNOZ, RAUL MUNOZ, SERGIO/ANA L. MUNSELL, ROBERT MURAIDA, RONALD/JUDITH MURRAY FAMILY LTD PARTNERSHIP MURRAY, MARIAN D. MYFRS, JASON MYERS, KEITH/TRACY MYERS, LESLIE E. MYHRE, DONALD J.

NAUHAUSER, DIANE NAUHAUSER, MICHAEL NAUS, MARK

NEELS, WILLIS/DOROTHY

NELSON, CLIFFORD J./MARIEV. MINES, ROBERT NELSON, ROBERT L/LORI MINKLER, BRUCE A. MITCHELL, ROBERT L./SUSAN B. NEUBERGER, W. G. NEWLIN, STEPHEN/TERRY NEWSOM, RAYMOND F./MARIANNE K. NICHOLS, STU/LINDA NICHOLSON, GERALD/JENNETTE NIELSEN, FRED L. NIELSEN, MARVIN/DELORES NIELSON, MARI NIELSON, MARI/SCOTT NOAA NATIONAL WEATHER NOFFSINGER, DEVIN K./LOLITA D. NORDNESS, RICHARD A./CONNIE NORMAN, ROBERT G./CAROLE A. NORTHWEST DISTRICT OF THE OAKES, JACK S./HARRIET O'BRIEN, PATRICK O'CONNOR, THOMAST.

O'CONNELL RANCH - O'CONNELL, MITCH O'CONNOR, JOHN W./NANCY B. O'DEA, IRENE/JOHN OLESEN, RICHARD/MARGUERITE OLIVER, KIRK OLIVER, KIRK/DEBBIE OLOFSON, SHERRY M. OLSEN, MARVIN/ROXANNE OLSON, ALAN C. ESTATE OLSON, ALBERT/KATHLEEN OLSON, DENNIS D./JUDY M. ONE FEATHER, DAN O'NEILL, PATSY O'NEILL, RUTH ONEY, MICHAEL E./SHERRIE ON-SITE INSPECTION AGENCY ORBAN, JOHN/MARY ORMESHER, LORRAINE ORTMAN IIM OSTRANDER, JESSICA O'SULLIVAN, JOHN OWEN, BERNARD A.

→ RONNIE L. RUST

OX YOKE RANCH INN

P-Z will be published in the November edition.





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.

SEPT. 27-29 Coal Springs Threshing Bee and Antique Show

Meadow, SD 605-788-2299

SEPT. 28 Oktoberfest

Naja Shrine Center www.najashriners.org/event/ okterfest-2024/

OCT. 4-5 Holman Acres Pumpkin Fest and Vendor Show

Philip, SD 605-441-1060

OCT. 4-5

25th Annual Pumpkin Fest Webster, SD

Webster, SD webstersd.com/home

OCT. 5-6

Run Crazy Horse Marathons

Crazy Horse 605-390-6137 www.runcrazyhorse.com

OCT. 6

Giant Pumpkin Festival

Bentley Memorial Building Bison, SD Enter Pumpkins by 11:30 a.m. 605-244-5475

OCT. 10-11 Rural Women in Agriculture Conference

Oct. 10 from 1-9 p.m.
Oct. 11 from 7 a.m.-3 p.m.
Deadwood, SD
SouthDakotaWomeninAg.com

OCT. 11,12, 18, 19, 25, 26 Shriek with Shriners Haunted House

Naja Shrine Center www.najashriners.org/event/ haunted-house/

OCT. 12

Fairburn Fall Festival

4:30 p.m. Fairburn Church Fairburn, SD

OCT. 12

Uniquely You 5K for Autism Society of the Black Hills

3 p.m. Founders Park Rapid City, SD www. autismsd.org

OCT. 13

Senior Sunday Breakfast

8 a.m.-noon Hill City Center Hill City, SD 605-574-3211

OCT. 25

Hill City Main Steet Merchant Trick-or-Treat Boys & Girls Club Annual Halloween Carnival

Hill City, SD 605-574-2368

OCT. 25-27

Forest of Fears Haunted Trail

7 p.m.-10 p.m. Reclamation-Ranch 40787 259th St. Mitchell, SD

OCT. 26

Hill City Children's Boo Bash & Pumpkin Festival

Hill City, SD 605-574-2368

OCT. 26

Hartford Women of Today Fall Craft Fair

9 a.m.-3 p.m. West Central Becker Center Hartford, SD 605-359-2049

OCT. 26 Owl-O-Ween

Noon-5 p.m. Black Hills Raptor Center Caputa, SD 605-391-2511

OCT. 31

Treat Street

5:30 p.m.-7 p.m. Main St. Milbank, SD 605-432-6656 MilbankSD.com/Chamber

NOV. 1-3

Hill City Girlfriends' Weekend

Hill City, SD

NOV. 2 Black Hills Meat Fest

Free Admission The Box Elder Events Center www.Facebook.com/ BlackHillsMeatFest

> Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.