

The Nodak Neighbor

September-October 2014

Official Publication of Nodak Electric Cooperative

www.mt.nodakelectric.com

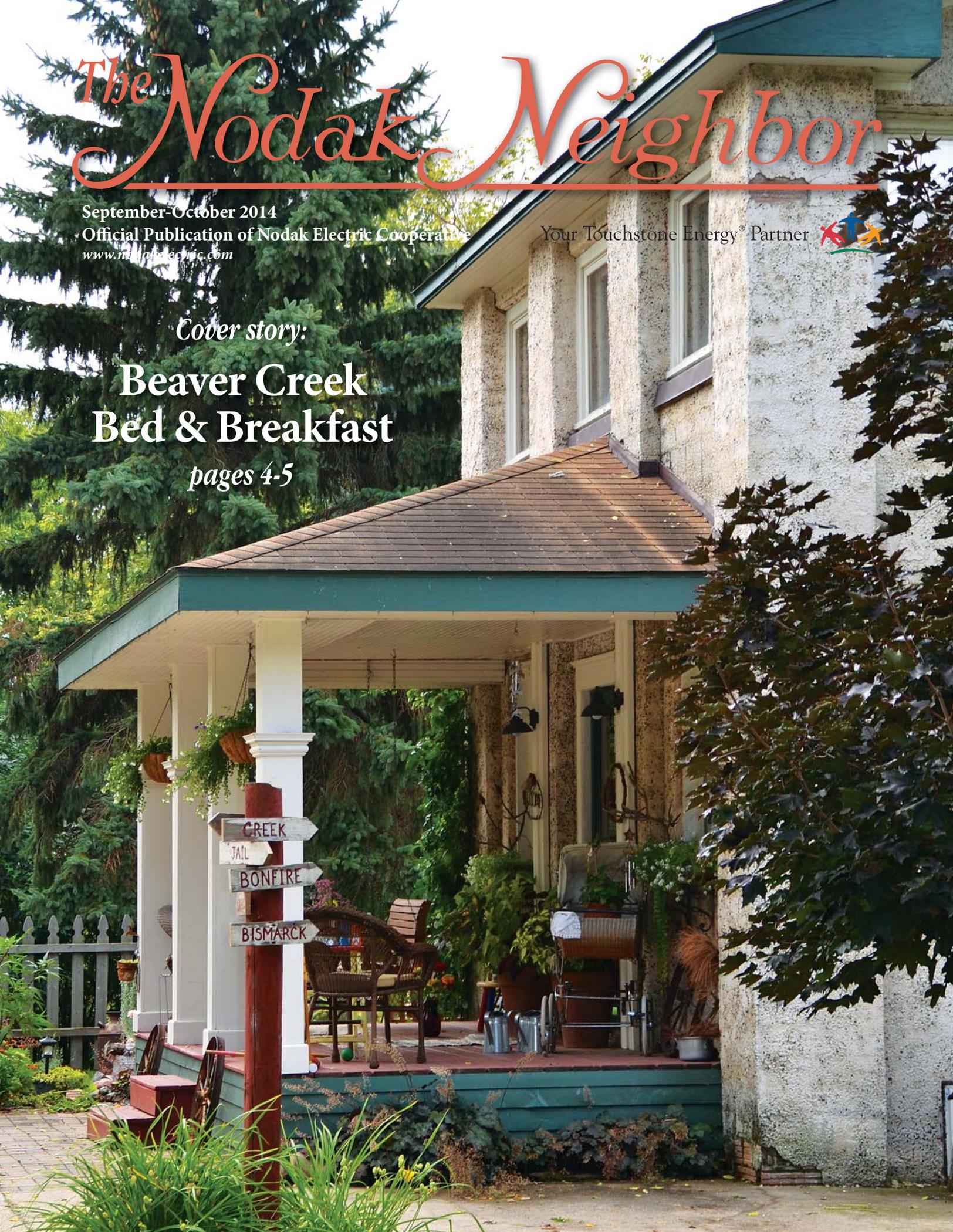
Your Touchstone Energy® Partner



Cover story:

Beaver Creek Bed & Breakfast

pages 4-5



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Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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September-October 2014
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ENERGY  EFFICIENCY

Tip of the Month



Install a programmable thermostat to keep your house comfortably warm in the winter and comfortably cool in the summer.

On the cover: The Beaver Creek Bed & Breakfast, Hatton, N.D., offers visitors an enjoyable stay in the country. Story, pages 4-5.



Neighbor helping neighbor.

Neighbor helping neighbor. Cooperative helping community. Applying the basic cooperative principles, North Dakotans have worked together to help themselves, bringing the brilliance of light to homes, farms and businesses across the state.

As we observe Co-op Month in October, electric cooperative members should be proud of the success of the cooperative business model and the spirit of cooperation that these organizations promote.

What makes cooperatives special? Cooperatives are owned and controlled by those they serve. Each person has a voice and a vote in the co-op's activities. The cooperative way of doing business is a true example of grassroots involvement and democracy in action. The power of the people is exemplified in all types of cooperatives.

Nodak Electric Cooperative was organized in 1939. The cooperative serves all or parts of Cavalier, Pembina, Walsh, Benson, Ramsey, Nelson, Grand Forks, Eddy, Griggs, Steele, Traill, Barnes and Cass counties.

Nodak Electric is governed by a nine-member board. The chairman is David Hagert of Grand Forks and the CEO is Mylo Einarson, overseeing 62 employees.



Cooperatives.

Owned by our members,
committed to our communities.

CALL 811 OR CLICK N DONECALL.COM BEFORE YOU DIG

NORTH ONE DAKOTA CALL



Mylo Einarson
President & CEO

Win a trip to Washington, D.C.

I'd like to draw your attention to the advertisement on page 8 announcing Nodak's participation in the Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. In June 2015, one well-deserving high school student from our service area will join youth from around the state and across the country on a weeklong, expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

To apply for this unforgettable experience, students from this year's 10th and 11th grade classes will submit essays on the subject, "If you were asked to influence other students your age to become more actively involved in their electric cooperative, including attendance at the electric cooperative annual meeting, what would you tell them and why." One worthy essay will be chosen and its author will represent Nodak in our national capitol next summer.

Fifty years ago, the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association began coordinating youth tours in Washington, D.C. While still a senator from Texas, Lyndon Baines Johnson inspired the idea of the youth tour by suggesting that youngsters be sent to the national capitol "where they can actually see what the flag stands for and represents." The first years of the tour included approximately 400 young people from 12 states. Today, more than 1,500 students and more than 250 chaperones participate in the youth tour annually.

Youth tour directors from each state will arrange visits with their state's U.S. representatives and senators' offices, federal agencies and other educational and sightseeing activities. Student delegates get a

chance to see their national capitol up close, learn about the political process and interact with their elected officials, while gaining an understanding of American history and their role as a citizen. They may even have some fun while participating in this valuable leadership experience.

During the youth tour, one student from each state is selected for the prestigious opportunity to serve on NRECA's Youth Leadership Council. That individual will join the other members of the Youth Leadership Council back in Washington, D.C., again in July to gain a broader understanding of electric cooperatives and the energy industry. During this trip, leadership council members meet with NRECA leaders and youth tour alumni who work on Capitol Hill. One final time, the Youth

Leadership Council will gather for about four days at NRECA's annual meeting the following spring in New Orleans, La.

Since its inception, nearly 50,000 high-achieving students from electric cooperative service areas across America have participated in this program. Many youth tour alumni have gone on to lead companies, serve our country in the highest ranks of government, and to other promising careers.

If you meet the eligibility requirements and are interested in applying to become a part of this prestigious group of young people, send us a submission following the guidelines found on page 8, or call Gretchen Schmalz at our office with any questions you may have.

Good luck and we look forward to reading your essays.

Have a safe harvest season

- Use a spotter when operating large machinery near lines.
- Keep equipment at least 10 feet from lines.
- Inspect the height of the farm equipment to determine clearance.
- Always remember to lower extensions when moving loads.
- Never attempt to move a power line out of the way or raise it for clearance.
- If a power line is sagging or low, call the local utility immediately.
- Do not use metal poles when breaking up bridged grain inside and around bins.
- Always hire qualified electricians for any electrical issues.
- Do not use equipment with frayed cables.



- Make sure outdoor outlets are equipped with a ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI).
- When operating a portable generator, make sure nothing is plugged into it when turning it on. Never operate a generator in a confined area; generators can produce toxic and deadly gasses like carbon monoxide.

For more farm and electrical safety information, visit SafeElectricity.org.



A cottage garden features a pathway made of salvaged bricks from the 1997 flood in Grand Forks, N.D.

By James R. Johnson, Traill County Tribune

Charming cou

first guests in April 2013. They have had guests visit from as far as Seattle, Calif., and Norway.

The inn is featured at the North Dakota Bed and Breakfast Association's website at www.ndbba.com. There are plenty of spots for photo opportunities and Shelley and Kevin have stories to share. They are also licensed and insured.

The Wolds have lived in the house since 1994. The two-story stucco home was built in 1925. The interior rooms are smoke-free and air-conditioned, but not handicapped accessible. Wireless Internet is available. There are three comfortable bedrooms and a youth room with a crib and twin bed.



Shelley and Kevin Wold have turned their home into a bed and breakfast. The charming dining room can seat up to 14 people.



One of three bedrooms.

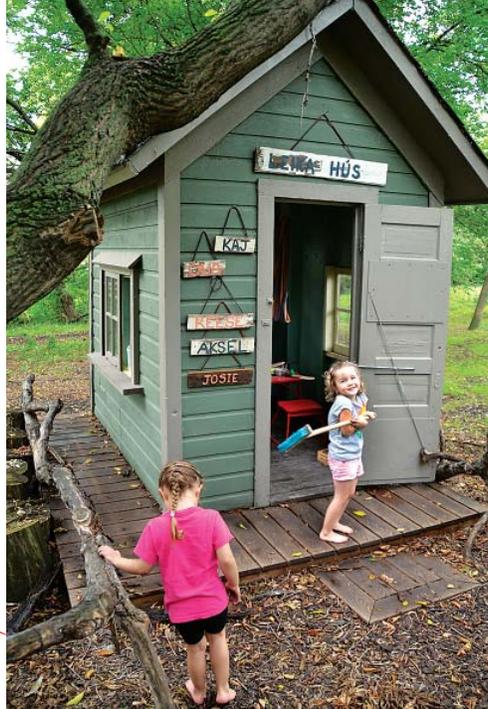
After the last of their five children moved out of the house, Shelley and Kevin Wold felt there was something more they could do on their 13-acre farmstead seven miles west and a mile south of Hatton.

"I helped Kevin's mom with her bed and breakfast over by Cooperstown, and she's done it for many years," Shelley said. "It's fun. It's fun to meet the people and do something different."

They'd been complimented about their amazing scenery next to Beaver Creek, so they've turned their home into Beaver Creek Bed & Breakfast. They hosted their

The dining room table expands to serve 14 people. Around it are plate rails Kevin installed, a roll top desk that belonged to his father and an old wooden Gibson refrigerator that Shelley restored. The kitchen is welcoming in its high ceilings with tin accents and a butler's pantry where Shelley makes delicious desserts.

Outside is a cottage garden, the pathway made from bricks salvaged from the 1997 flood in Grand Forks. The property is surrounded by groves of evergreens and cedars that keep the wind out and the



(Far left) The back of the property overlooks Beaver Creek where guests can relax around a campfire or camp out on the hill top.

Shelley and Kevin's granddaughters, Ona (left) and Reese, play in the "leika hus" playhouse, one of many outdoor activities at the Beaver Creek Bed & Breakfast.

Country retreat

variety of songbirds in.

There's also the "leika hus," Icelandic for "playhouse." Shelley had it moved from a friend's home near Mayville for her grandchildren to play in, but also to welcome other children, as well as pets. The names on the outside of the playhouse are her grandchildren. And it includes a sliding pass-through window where the children serve juice and cookies.

"I did some research on other b-and-b's and there were quite a few that said no children allowed," Shelley explained. "I want to encourage families with children to come here and enjoy the country, whether they want to rent a room or put up a tent. That is something we look for when we're traveling."

At the back of the property is a scenic overlook of Beaver Creek. Here Shelley has lanterns, a picnic table and lawn chairs



around a campfire. Guests are welcome to camp on the hill top, and the Wolds will board

horses – as they have two of their own, in their corral for an additional fee.

Breakfast behind bars

Shelley cooks a breakfast based on her Icelandic heritage or a "cowboy breakfast" with freshly ground coffee, served in the

dining room, on the sun porch or even in a late 1800s jail. Shelley has hosted an afternoon coffee gathering inside the two-cell lock up that still has its original bars and doors. The slammer was something Shelley didn't want to part with. Her dad purchased the jail from the city of Sheldon for \$42 and had the heavy metal-and-brick structure moved to the old farmstead. Kevin later moved the jail to its current location, first using it as a tack room and later adding a porch and connecting power to the jail. It is now is used for other fun events.

There are still scratches and marks from inmates serving time in 1905 and 1915. Legend has it that former middleweight boxing champion Rocky Graziano was a guest for a night.

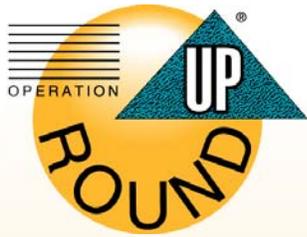
"My mother brought ladies out to play cards and have lunch in the jail," Shelley said. "She also inspired me to open the bed and breakfast."

"We want to entice city people to come out and enjoy the country."

For more information, you can log onto www.ndbba.com and click on "Hatton" underneath the North Dakota map, or e-mail Shelley and Kevin Wold at beavercreekbedandbreakfast@yahoo.com. You can also reach them by phone, 701-330-1084.



The late 1800s jail, which was originally purchased from the city of Sheldon, is a gathering place for cards, breakfasts and suppers.



Applications due Oct. 13

One of the seven guiding principles for a cooperative is *Concern for Community*. Since its formation, Nodak has demonstrated its dedication to improving the quality of life for people in eastern North Dakota through Operation Round-Up.

Rounding up your electric bill is an easy and affordable way to help others in your community in their time of need. Four times a year, Nodak Electric's Operation Round Up board of directors meet to distribute money to families or individuals within its service territory who have faced a hardship. Some of these needs are food, shelter, clothing, health care, emergency services, education and charitable causes. The average monthly contribution is \$0.50 per month or \$6 per year. To date, more than 50 percent of Nodak Electric members are involved with the program that raises more than \$45,000 each year.

Do you know someone who could benefit from receiving Round-Up funds? Do not hesitate to submit their name to an Operation Round-Up board member or download the application from our website.

The Operation Round Up board consists of seven directors, who represent the areas served by Nodak Electric. Current directors are: Jay Estvold, Lakota; Sheryl Kjelland, Park River; Maynard Messer, Hannaford; Pat Osland, Mayville; Harvey Puppe, Hensel; Mitchell Vold, Mekinock; and Roger Windjue, Devils Lake.

Applications are due Oct. 13, 2014.

If you would like to join our Operation Round Up program and have your electric bill rounded up to the nearest dollar each month, please call 800-732-4373 or 701-746-4461. You can make a difference!

Center to Grand Forks Project

Minnkota Power
MPC COOPERATIVE, INC.

Construction finished on Center to Grand Forks transmission line

The largest investment in Minnkota Power Cooperative's transmission facilities ever, the Center to Grand Forks (CGF) 345-kilovolt Transmission Line is finished, with the last wires being strung July 31 and the line being placed in service Aug. 7.

The \$353 million, 250-mile line is transporting energy from the Milton R. Young Station near Center, N.D., to Minnkota's service territory in eastern North Dakota and northwestern Minnesota.

Minnkota is Nodak's wholesale energy supplier.

The CGF Project is the longest line in state history that begins and ends within the state of North Dakota.

The line will meet Minnkota's obligations as a transmission services provider for grid reliability and to meet long-term load growth needs. The recent reassignment of an existing transmission line also drove the need for additional transmission facilities.

Project Manager Mike Hennes said, "After 117 weeks of almost continuous construction, the CGF Project is now complete. The hard work of up to 250 workers working outside and exposed to the elements has turned more than 2,000 truckloads of raw material into a major infrastructure improvement.

"A 345-kV transmission line can be compared to an interstate highway system. Once built, the bulk flow of electricity moves to the new line, which frees up capacity on the underlying system. The crews worked

safely in difficult conditions and my hat is off to all who participated in the planning, design, permitting and construction of this challenging project."

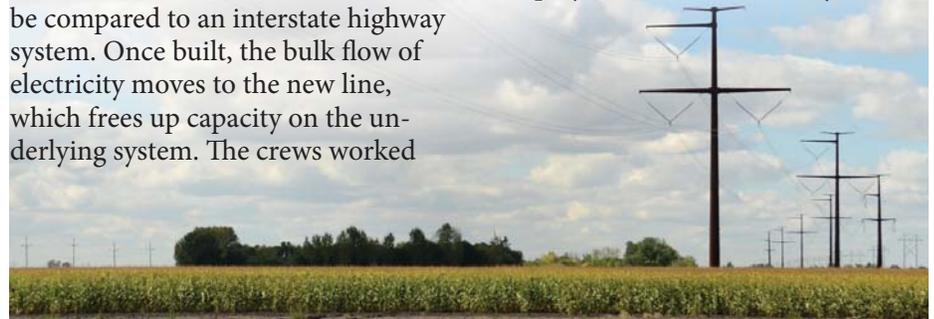
From the start, Hennes and his top project assistant, Construction Manager Duane Phillips of Stanley Consultants, stressed safety as the No. 1 priority.

"Safety on this project has been outstanding," Phillips said. "With more than 300,000 hours worked during construction, the project only had two instances requiring medical attention. Considering the type of work being performed, that is a great testament to the people working and the attitude of safety that all the workers had."

Tri-State Drilling of Hamel, Minn., (foundations) and Michels Power of Neenah, Wis., (structures and line stringing) were the primary construction contractors.

"We have had great support from Minnkota staff," Hennes said.

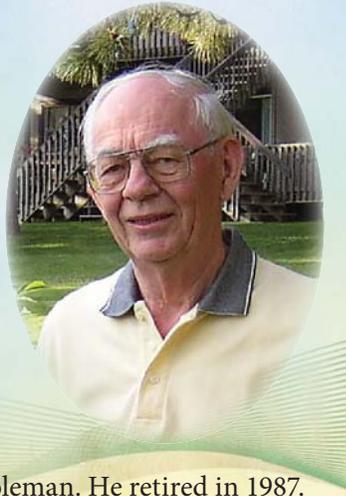
Phillips said, "Being one of the largest transmission projects that's been constructed in the last 10 years across the nation, the construction team worked together extremely well to not only keep production rates high, but also to finish with a minimal amount of rework and at one of the lowest costs per mile of any 345-kV project across the country."



Remembering Duane Fossum

We were saddened to hear of the passing of former Nodak Electric General Manager Duane Fossum on Aug. 12. Duane grew up on a farm near Christine, N.D., and later attended North Dakota State University, where he graduated with a degree in agricultural engineering. He began his 40-year employment with Nodak Electric in 1947 as electrical utilization advisor until being promoted to assistant manager in early 1975, and eventually manager replacing Jim Coleman. He retired in 1987.

Duane resided in Maple Grove, Minn. He is survived by his three children and seven grandchildren. His wife, Irene, preceded him in death.



Nodak's electric heating rebate program!

Incentives available for installation of an off-peak electric heating system



- Receive \$20/kW rebate for the installation of a qualifying electric heating system that is on off-peak.
- Air-source heat pump incentive is \$100/ton – heating mode must be controlled on off-peak.
- Ground-source heat pump incentive is \$200/ton – heating mode must be controlled on off-peak.
- Equipment must be new and off-peak systems must have a qualified backup.
- Program began May 1, 2014.
- Homeowner will receive a rebate check after visit from Nodak Electric technician.
- Maximum incentive per off-peak meter is \$600.

Homeowners adding new off-peak heating systems qualify for these rebates.

Contact our Energy Services Department for details at 701-746-4461 or 800-732-4373

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I certify that 60% of all my distributed copies (electronic and print) are paid above a nominal price.

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ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS & SENIORS

WRITE A WINNING
ESSAY AND WIN A TRIP
OF A LIFETIME!

An all-expense-paid
trip to
WASHINGTON, D.C.

June
13 to 19,
2015



TOP 3 REASONS TO ENTER THE ESSAY-WRITING CONTEST

1. All-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., compliments of Nodak Electric Cooperative.
2. A whole week to visit unforgettable historic monuments, museums and the U.S. Capitol.
3. A learning experience you'll never forget.

- To enter the essay-writing contest, you must be a junior or senior in high school in the fall of 2015.
- You and your parents or guardian must be served by Nodak Electric Cooperative.
- Essay is not to exceed two standard 8½- by 11-inch typewritten, double-spaced pages on this topic:
If you were asked to influence other students your age to become more actively involved in their electric cooperative—including attendance at the electric cooperative annual meeting—what would you tell them and why?
- Submit your essay in hard copy or electronic format to Nodak Electric. Electronic submissions should conform to the two-page, double-spaced guideline described above. Include a cover page with your name, date of birth, school and grade in 2015, parent or guardian's name, address and telephone number.
- The deadline is **Jan. 30, 2015**. Emailed entries should be directed to gschmaltz@nodakelectric.com, and hard-copy entries mailed to: Youth Tour Essay Contest, Nodak Electric Cooperative, 4000 32nd Ave. S., PO Box 13000, Grand Forks, ND 58208-3000.
- If you have a question, contact Gretchen Schmaltz, Nodak Electric, at the address listed above, or call 701-746-4461 during regular business hours.

CHECK IT OUT AT
www.ndyouthtour.com and www.youthtour.coop