

The Nodak Neighbor

July-August 2019

Official Publication of Nodak Electric Cooperative

www.nodakelectric.com

A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 



A step
back in time
page 4

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Official Publication of the
Nodak Electric Cooperative, Inc.

746-4461 or 800-732-4373

www.nodakelectric.com

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July-August 2019
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**Our offices will be closed
Monday, Sept. 2, for Labor Day**

In case of an outage, call 1-800-732-4373

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

On the cover: The Pembina County Historical Society will hold its 26th annual Pioneer Machinery Show at the museum on Sept. 8. The event is the Society's largest annual fundraiser and typically draws more than 1,000 people. Read more about the museum on page 4.



Be prepared for summer storms

Summer in North Dakota means thunderstorms can quickly grow dangerous. When these storms hit, make sure you're ready for any situation.

Be prepared

Phone numbers help Nodak respond to your location when you report an outage. Call 800-732-4373 to update the phone number(s) on your account.

Stay safe

Stay away from downed power lines, trees and branches caught in power lines and water in contact with electrical outlets, sockets or lines. If you see a downed power line, keep your distance and call Nodak at 800-732-4373.

Be patient

Please be aware that time of restoration can vary based on weather and outage cause. Please know that Nodak crews are working as quickly as possible to restore power. We appreciate your patience!

Stay informed

Stay informed of outage details on our outage map or on our Facebook page. Report outages by calling 800-732-4373.

Take control of your smart hub account with SmartHub!



Now you can see your daily and monthly usage, pay/view your bill online, plus a whole host of other useful services with SmartHub. SmartHub is a free and secure online energy portal at www.nodakelectric.com that allows members to do the following things:

- View daily and monthly energy use.
- View and pay your bills online.
- Go paperless and receive an email notice when your bill is ready to view.
- Compare energy use to changes in temperature.

If you have questions regarding SmartHub, call us at 701-746-4461 or send an email to nodak@nodakelectric.com.



*Mylo Einarson
President & CEO*

Co-ops and environmental stewardship

The recent decline of the monarch butterfly has been “flying under the radar” so to speak, so I thought I’d bring you up to date. In the last two decades, the population of monarch butterflies that winter in Mexico has declined by 90% from its high in 1997. The decline is attributed to things such as unseasonably warm fall weather and severe hurricanes during the monarch migration, but most notably it is the loss of their spring and summer breeding habitat in the U.S. that is being blamed for the decline.

Monarch caterpillars only eat milkweed. In fact, the monarch is also known as the “milkweed butterfly.” Without the milkweed, there would be no monarch butterfly. The milkweed plant provides all the nourishment the monarch needs to transform the caterpillar into an adult butterfly.

These plants, however, are rapidly diminishing due to the loss of habitat stemming from land development, as well as the widespread use of weed killers and pesticides. The milkweed necessary for the monarch to complete its life cycle used to spring up between the rows of corn, soybeans and other commercial crops. Today, we do a better job of removing the unwanted plants from our fields, but in the meantime it also reduces the available habitat for the orange and black-winged pollinators.

As a result of this decline, in 2014 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was petitioned to protect

the monarch butterfly under the Endangered Species Act. Based on the information in the petition, it was determined that federally protecting the monarch may be necessary, so the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced it would conduct a thorough assessment. A final decision on whether to protect the butterfly was due at the end of June but has been delayed 18 months until Dec. 15, 2020.

Listing the monarch for protection as an endangered species could have wide-ranging impacts for cooperatives across the Midwest. Activities such as vegetation management and infrastructure construction and maintenance could become highly regulated and expensive to complete.

In an effort to weigh in to the listing determination, co-ops across the country are implementing voluntary conservation measures. Some are even developing pollinator habitat gardens with milkweed and nectar plants around headquarters and solar farms and in rights-of-way.

America’s electric cooperatives take pride in being good environmental stewards of the land. For decades, co-ops have implemented voluntary projects to benefit “at risk” species and their habitats. In fact, collective voluntary efforts are what has resulted in some of the greatest conservation success stories, such as the delisting of the bald eagle as an endangered species.

I don’t think you’ll see your cooperative planting weed gardens anytime soon, but we will be

following the progress of this decision very closely. When we evaluate our vegetation management practices, we will certainly look at the options for maintaining monarch habitat without adversely affecting our neighbors. In the meantime, if you hear about cooperatives across the country planting weeds, rest assured there is a good reason for it.

An advertisement for the 811 service. It features a smartphone held vertically, displaying the 811 app interface with a numeric keypad. The phone is positioned over a patch of dark, rich soil with green grass growing around it. The background is a clear blue sky with a few white clouds. The text "CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!" is written in large, bold, white capital letters at the top. At the bottom, the text "Know what's below; call 811 before you dig!" is written in white, with "call 811" in a larger font size.

**CALL
BEFORE
YOU DIG!**

Know what's below;
call 811
before you dig!

A step back in time



Pembina County Historical Museum tells story of early settlers

Imagine taking a step back in time and following the footsteps of the early settlers in northeast North Dakota.

The state's homesteading spirit is brought to life at the Pembina County Historical Museum. Visitors are transformed into turn-of-the-century pioneers as they interact with the antique farm machinery that helped families prosper from the rich Red River Valley soil.

They stroll through an original homestead, barn and church that once brought rural citizens together.

The Pembina County Historical Museum is located across the road from the beautiful Icelandic State Park near Cavalier, N.D. Established in 1964, the 912-acre park allows visitors to learn about the state's early settlement and provides an

array of recreational opportunities. Boating, swimming and fishing are a few favorite summer activities while snowshoeing and cross-country skiing are popular during the winter. Picnic areas enable visitors to enjoy

a relaxing afternoon in the shade of old oak trees.

The Pembina County Historical Museum was originally located within the city of Cavalier and moved to its current location in 1999. The land for the museum and Icelandic State Park were donated to the state by G.B. and Esther Gunlogson. The museum officially opened for visitors in 2001.

On the grounds are 13 buildings to tour, including the historic St. Anthony's Church with a choir loft, an 1882 homestead and a 1930s barn filled with tack and tools of a real working barn that fed and housed animals. There is also a blacksmith shop, granary, engine building, restored Great Northern Depot, three buildings of restored farm equipment and the main museum building containing exhibits and a jail converted to a research library. It also has one of the largest antique vehicle collections in North Dakota, including the rare 1925 Case Model X Suburban Coupe, which was originally purchased by G. B. Gunlogson when he



was head of the Case motor car division. The Society purchased it from a collector in Maryland a few years ago.

The granary is located on 20 acres leased from the state's Parks and Recreation Department. It's adjacent to 22 acres of land owned by the Pembina County Historical Society where the barn and tractor pull track are located. Collectable historical items are donated to the museum from local collectors and those as far away as Florida.

"People originally from around the area stay in contact with the museum and help in bringing in historical items," said Zelda Hartje, museum administrator.

Although the museum is filled with the state's history, new attractions are being added on a regular basis. Recently, two 6-foot-tall statue soldiers weighing 1,300 pounds each were added to the Veterans Memorial.

For the last three years, the museum has also worked with area youth to help build a community orchard. The public is invited to visit the orchard to view the progress of the trees, bushes and pollinator plants.

The museum is free to the public and is open daily from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Machinery show to raise funds

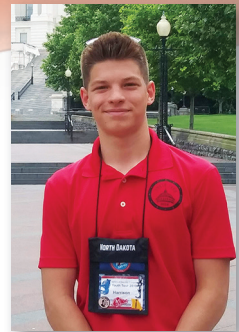
The Pembina County Historical Society will hold its 26th annual Pioneer Machinery Show at the museum on Sept. 8. The event is the Society's largest annual fundraiser and typically draws more than 1,000 people.

The day includes a Threshermen's breakfast, church service, blacksmith and sawmill demonstrations, parade, kids activities, kids pedal pull, Jim Johnston Memorial Antique Tractor Pull at 2 p.m., threshing demonstrations and much more to do and see.





Rep. Kelly Armstrong met with North Dakota Youth Tour students.



Harrison Stockeland

Grand Forks Central student joins hundreds of co-op peers for Washington, D.C. experience

More than 1,800 students from around the country attended the annual Electric Cooperative Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. from June 15-21, including Nodak's own Harrison Stockeland, a junior at Grand Forks Central High School.

Each year, Nodak sponsors one student for the event. Now in its 55th year, the Youth Tour was established to help educate youth about the political process and allow students to visit national monuments and interact with U.S. government officials.

Harrison was motivated to apply for the Youth Tour to learn more about Washington and to meet other students. "It was truly a magical experience, meeting new people from lots of different states. I made an uncountable number of friends and a few who will be friends for life," Harrison said.

Students toured the National Museum of the Marine Corps

and the Smithsonian museums, cruised down the Potomac on a riverboat and visited Arlington National Cemetery, the National Archives, the Holocaust Museum and Gettysburg National Military Park. The group had opportunities to explore the East Wing of the White House and saw all the major monuments, including the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial and more.

Tour participants also enjoyed a Capitol Hill Day, during which they toured the Capitol and met with Rep. Kelly Armstrong, Sen. John Hoeven and a representative for Sen. Kevin Cramer.

Along with touring Washington, D.C. and visiting the White House, all Youth Tour students gathered for Rural Electric Youth Day to hear featured

speakers provide insight on the important roles electric cooperatives play in their communities. They participated in a pin-trading event, where trading state pins with other students from other states helped them to meet new people.

Harrison has traveled to Washington, D.C. before, but the idea of a cooperative was new to him.

"I didn't know much about electric cooperatives," he said. "I thought that electric cooperatives just provided power, but we had a speaker who was a lineman and he went to Haiti to help set up power in their community. It was awesome to see how passionate he was about helping. That is what cooperatives are about – community."

Harrison said he enjoyed the entire trip, but the highest point was the people.

"It truly was all that I was told it would be," he said, "and more!"



A new bill design coming at you!

Your Nodak Electric bill will soon take on a new and improved look. A simplified layout will make your bill easier to understand, while electricity usage charts will give you more insight into how weather and habits contribute to your bill.

How to read your new electric bill:

- 1 Your account number, statement date and past due date are provided with a summary of existing charges.
- 2 This section will contain important information regarding your bill along with useful tips from Nodak Electric.
- 3 This section expands upon your service summary, including account details and a breakdown of your energy and demand charges. Additional charges or credits will appear in this section.
- 4 A history chart provides an easy way to compare how electricity was used from month to month and to the previous year with usage, temperature and cost averages.
- 5 Paying by U.S. mail? Be sure to include the bottom portion of your bill with the appropriate side facing out.

Nodak ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE
A Tri-State Energy Cooperative
4000 32nd Ave. S. • P.O. Box 13000
Grand Forks, ND 58208-3000
Questions & Outages: (701) 746-4461 or 800-732-4373
Business Hours: Mon.-Fri. 7:30-4:30
www.nodakelectric.com

3106 1 AV 0.380
YOUR NAME
1234 YOUR STREET
CITY STATE ZIP

5 3106
C-8 P-8

1

Account Number	1234567
Statement Date	07/08/2019
Past Due Date	07/25/2019

Account Summary

Previous Balance	\$256.00
Payments Received	-\$256.00 CR
Balance Forward	\$0.00
Electric Charges	\$147.88
Other Charges and Credits	\$1.12
Amount Due	\$149.00

Penalty Charges will be applied against all unpaid balances @ 1% per month.

2

Location: 111-222-111 Address: 1234 YOUR STREET Description: T123-R55-S11

Meter # 64974 From 06/01/19 To 07/01/19 Services Days 30 Previous Readings 45194 Present 46239 Mult. 1 kWh/KW Usage 1,045

3

Detail of Charges

Facility Charge	Quantity	Unit Cost	Extended Cost
Energy Charges	1,045	0.1000	\$104.50
Renewable Surcharge	1,045	0.0040	\$4.18
Electric Charges			\$147.88

Other Charges and Credits

Operation Roundup	\$0.37
ND REC Magazine	\$0.75
Total Other Charges and Credits	\$1.12

4

kWh Usage History

Previous Year Current Year

COMPARISONS

	Days	kWh	Avg Temp	Avg kWh
Current Month	30	1045	65	35
Previous Month	31	2077	52	67
Same Month Last Year	30	775	68	26

Avg Cost Per Day: \$4.95

5

KEEP SEND

YOUR NAME
1234 YOUR STREET
CITY STATE ZIP
(222) 222-2222 Home; (000) 000-0000 Business; (111) 111-1111 Mobile

Cycle: 1

PLEASE CALL OUR OFFICE WITH ANY INFO CHANGES

- ✦ MOVING / TRANSFER / DISCONNECTING SERVICE
- ✦ PHONE NUMBER / MAILING ADDRESS
- ✦ CHANGE IN JOINT-MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Your payment may be processed electronically.
Please do not submit post-dated checks.

Account Number 1234567
Past Due Date 07/25/2019
Amount Due \$149.00

Amount Enclosed: _____

Nodak Electric Cooperative Inc
PO Box 13000
Grand Forks ND 58208-3000

0001234567 0000000000

Nodak Electric Cooperative & Minnkota Power Cooperative present

PLUGGED IN TO THE FUTURE

AUGUST 8 - 5:30 p.m.

Minnkota Power Cooperative

5301 32nd Ave. S., Grand Forks, ND

FREE Food Trucks (first 200 guests)

FREE Outdoor Movie –
Back to the Future

Electric Vehicle Showcase / Ride-Along

All-Electric School Bus

Home & Public Charging Info

*The future is now, and it's
electric!*



Find this event on

