



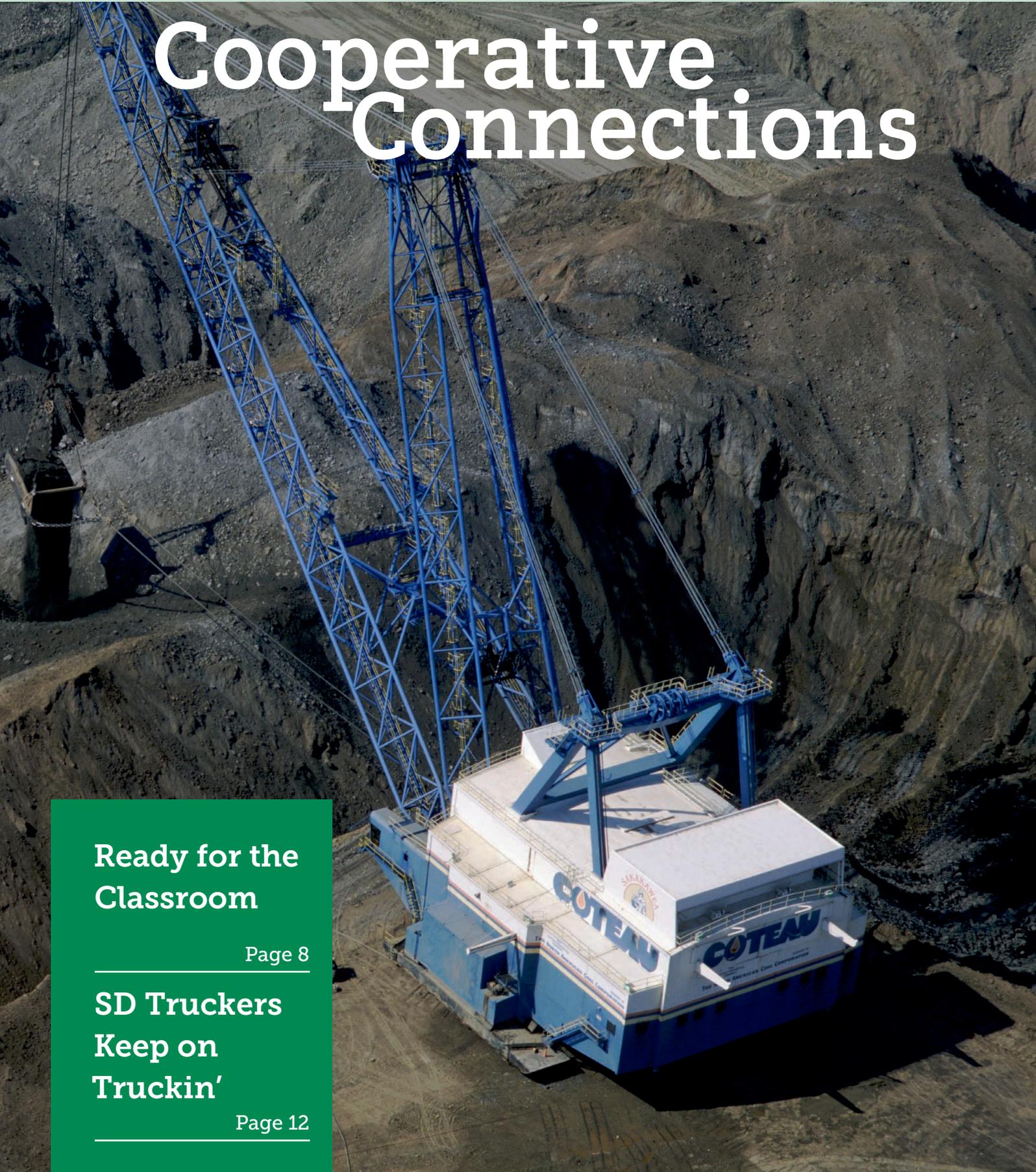
# Cooperative Connections

**Ready for the Classroom**

Page 8

**SD Truckers Keep on Truckin'**

Page 12



# Structured to Serve Our Members



**DeeAnne Newville, CEO**

dnewville@renville-sibley.coop  
 Phone: 320-826-2593 or  
 Toll Free 800-826-2593

**Since 1938, the cooperative business model and core principles have been guiding us as we make long-term decisions to ensure reliable, safe, affordable energy for our members.**

Recent news articles have falsely asserted that electric cooperatives are not regulated and question the value of self-governance or why cooperatives are different from other utilities. We want to set the record straight on these points.

We don't take for granted what it means to be different from other electric providers. We appreciate and embrace our differences because it means we can serve you, our member, in a manner that best meets your needs. While there are dozens of positive ways electric cooperatives differ from other utilities, everything we do revolves around our unique business model and our local, not-for-profit structure.

Like all electric cooperatives in the state, Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association is owned by our area's neighbors, friends and community members. Because of this member-ownership structure, the directors you elect to govern the cooperative are entrusted to make decisions that are in the best interests of our local communities.

This type of self-governance is successful in many forms – through schools, church, credit unions and various types of cooperatives. While this structure allows for local decision-making, it's imperative to recognize that self-governed organizations – including Renville-Sibley – must adhere to all local, state and federal laws and regulations. Electric cooperatives are, in fact, significantly regulated.

We have considerable oversight through hundreds of Minnesota statutes and by the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC). We follow Occupational Safety and Health Administration regulations, National Electrical Safety Code® standards and Environmental Protection Agency regulations, to name just a few. Where PUC regulation primarily differs for electric cooperatives versus utilities is in rate regulation. The PUC plays a regulatory role for investor-owned utilities (IOUs) in the rate-making process to provide checks and balances between shareholders and ratepayers. Without this oversight, it could be in the IOU's interest to charge as high of rates as possible to return profits to their shareholders. As a cooperative, any profit at the end of the year is allocated back to the members. See Page 3 for information on the allocation of the 2018 margin.

Because the board members, who are setting rates for Renville-Sibley, are also members and users of the electric distribution co-op, there is no benefit in charging any more than necessary for power. Renville-Sibley periodically undertakes extensive cost-of-service studies to ensure rates are appropriate and adequate to solely cover the costs of providing service.

To govern effectively, Renville-Sibley's directors bring a diverse and well-rounded background to the boardroom. Our directors have financial skills, industry knowledge, an understanding of regulatory and legislative policymaking, and an aptitude for determining the ongoing and future strategic direction of the cooperative.

Since 1938, the cooperative business model and core principles have been guiding us as we make long-term decisions to ensure reliable, safe, affordable energy for our members. We're proud of our track record of powering homes, businesses, schools, hospitals and other essential services in our communities. If you have questions about our policies or our cooperative structure, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Comparative Report			
	Current June 30, 2019	One Year Ago June 30, 2018	10 Years Ago June 30, 2009
Average # of Consumers	1,882	1,882	1,948
kWhs purchased	76,868,849	96,075,994	80,894,857
Cost of purchased power	\$4,559,016.17	\$5,733,505.28	\$3,051,865.33

# Renville-Sibley Cooperative Connections

(USPS 019-074)

## Board of Directors

- Roger Manthei - Chair
- Wayland Zaske - Vice Chair
- Alan Neyers - Secretary/Treasurer
- Gary Eekhoff
- Matt Haubrich
- Whitey Hinderman
- Philip Nestande
- Gary Peterson
- Helen Ruebel

## Renville-Sibley Employees

- Gene Alex - Line Superintendent
- Brian Athmann - Journeyman Lineman
- Shawn Beckler - Crew Chief
- Mike Benson - Journeyman Lineman
- Brad Braulick - Crew Chief
- Nick Bruns - Systems Coordinator
- Anthony Carruth - Journeyman Lineman
- Amy Ervin - Consumer Accounts Representative
- Brayden Fischer - Journeyman Lineman
- Cindy Mertens - Administrative Services Manager
- DeeAnne Newville - CEO
- Brandon Ochs - Journeyman Lineman
- Clint Olson - Journeyman Lineman
- Kathy Ridl - Office Assistant
- Lenae Wordes - Communications Manager

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Web site: [www.renville-sibley.coop](http://www.renville-sibley.coop)

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

# 2018 Margin Allocated to the Membership

As a member of Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association, you own a portion of the cooperative. One of the many ownership benefits is receiving an allocation of the cooperative's margin. Generally, cooperatives operate at cost. That means the goal of a cooperative is to collect enough revenue, or margin, to run and expand the business, without over charging the membership. Any excess margin is allocated back to the membership in the form of capital credits. This allocation is based on the amount of electricity each member consumed during the year. The 2018 allocation information will be located on the August statement. Past members that were on the line in 2018 and no longer have an active service with us will receive their allocation notice in the mail.

Please remember, this allocation is not payable now and does not represent cash, but rather your equity in the cooperative. You cannot apply this amount to your electric bill. Renville-Sibley uses the allocated, but unretired capital credits to improve and expand our electric system and meet our other capital needs. This reduces our need to borrow money and helps us provide reliable electric service to the membership.

When the co-op financial condition permits, the co-op retires, or pays, the capital credits to members in cash. Currently, Renville-Sibley is on a 21 year payback schedule. Allocating and retiring excess revenue to members helps distinguish the difference between cooperatives and other utilities. Renville-Sibley is proud to support our communities by putting money back into the local economy - and into the pockets of those we serve. The best way to ensure you receive this allocation when it is retired is to keep your mailing address up-to-date with the cooperative.

A common question regarding the allocation and retirement of capital credits is if this amount should be reported to the IRS. Renville-Sibley recommends members visit with their tax advisor on this matter.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

**Statement Date** 07/11/2019  
**Account Number** 123400  
**Payment Due** 08/03/2019

**Service Summary**

Previous Balance	\$222.00
Payment Received 07/01/2019	Thank You! -\$222.00
Balance Forward	\$0.00
Current Charges	\$121.00
<b>Total Amount Due</b>	<b>\$121.00</b>

**Message from your Co-op**  
 August member events include Farmfest and Family-a-Fair night. Remember to bring the coupon from the newsletter with you to Farmfest so you can be registered for a prize drawing. More information on both of these events can be found in the Cooperative Connections newsletter.

Map Location: 9876543 Service Location: 12345 ELECTRIC ROAD Substation: Emmet

Meter No.	Services	From	To	Days	Readings	Meter	kWh	Rate Description
81758445		05/31/2019	07/01/2019	31	314	318	160	640 GENERAL SERVICE
1708410		05/31/2019	07/03/2019	31	93423	93490	1	67 RESISTANCE HEAT

**kWh Usage History**

PERIOD ENDING: 06/2018 (70 kWh), 06/2019 (67 kWh)  
 Avg Daily Temp: 37, Avg Daily kWh: 21

**Current Service Detail**

Balance Forward	\$0.00
GENERAL SERVICE	\$42.00
Customer Charge	\$76.93
Energy Charge	\$6.50
Water Heater Credit	\$6.50
RESISTANCE HEAT	\$2.50
Sub Meter Charge	\$114.93
<b>Total Electric Charges</b>	<b>\$198.43</b>
Minnesota Sales Tax	\$5.93
Operation Round Up	\$0.14
Other Services & Credits	\$6.07
<b>Total Electric, Other Services &amp; Credits</b>	<b>\$210.57</b>
<b>Total Amount Due 08/03/2019</b>	<b>\$121.00</b>
<b>Total Amount Due After 08/03/2019</b>	<b>\$122.82</b>

**Capital Credit Statement**

Category	Unretired Balance	2018 Allocation	TOTAL
<b>Total Patronage for 2018</b>			<b>\$2,596.33</b>
RSCPA	\$2,573.82	\$203.32	\$2,777.14
East River	\$597.30	\$78.79	\$676.09
Basin	\$1,081.86	\$220.58	\$1,302.44
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,252.98</b>	<b>\$502.69</b>	<b>\$4,755.67</b>

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## Back to School Safety

As many prepare for this upcoming school year, we want to share some electrical safety tips that are useful for students of all ages.

### Elementary School Students

- Never throw shoes onto power lines and definitely don't try to get them off of the lines.
- Writing utensils and other supplies like paper clips should never be placed in or near electrical outlets, even if you think the outlet isn't working.
- Make sure your hands and the area around you are dry before plugging something in. This is especially important in science labs where there are usually several sets of sinks, an eye wash, chemicals, etc.
- When unplugging things from an electrical outlet, always hold the plastic base to pull the plug out.

### Middle/High School Students

- If you've just received the privilege of driving to school with your newly obtained driver's license, pay close to attention on those morning and afternoon drives for utility crews at work. Should you be involved in an accident involving a power line or pole, assume live electricity is outside of the car and use extreme caution.
- Always steer clear of pad-mount transformers – the big green metal boxes. All electrical equipment on school property should be avoided due to the possible dangers of electrical shock.
- Always be cautious in science classes, specifically the ones with labs. Sinks, eye washes, chemicals – it's likely your hands or the area near you will be wet. Keep everything dry and use caution when plugging in equipment.

### College Students

- Get in the habit of unplugging what's not in use.
- Use only approved electrical products with the mark of a recognized certification agency.
- Choose a power strip with a heavy-gauge cord that is approved by a recognized certification agency.
- Replace frayed or damaged extension cords with new ones.
- Keep extension cords out from under carpet, rugs or furniture as this could damage the cord and also present a fire hazard.
- Keep flammable materials such as books, paper and clothing away from heaters, stoves and other heating sources.
- Never leave cooking appliances unattended.
- Plug portable heaters and air conditioners directly into the outlet. If an extension cord is needed, to prevent overheating and risk of fire, use only one that is rated for this purpose to ensure that the cord can handle the electrical current.
- Never remove the third prong from an electrical product. The third prong is the grounding device and is a critical safety feature.
- Keep gadgets and cords away from bedding and curtains. The heat from a laptop charger or mini-fridge can start an electrical fire if left in contact with flammable material for too long.
- Avoid overloading outlets or circuits as this can cause overheating that may lead to fire.

Source: [twielectric.com](http://twielectric.com)



## KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER

IF YOU DRIVE INTO AN  
ELECTRIC LINE, CALL 911  
FOR HELP!



**"If you drive into an electric line, call 911 for help!"**

**Sawyer Nelson, 12 years old**

Sawyer is the son of Wes and Chris Nelson, Wolsey, S.D. They are members of Dakota Energy Cooperative, Huron, SD.

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.



# Garden Goodness

## Roasted Vegetables

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 tsp. garlic salt                         | 1 small red onion, cut into thin wedges |
| 1 tsp. Italian seasoning                   | 1 small zucchini, sliced                |
| 1/2 tsp. fennel seed                       | 1 cup asparagus pieces                  |
| 1 small green bell pepper, cut into chunks | 1 cup red potato chunks                 |
| 1 small yellow squash, sliced              | 2 T. oil                                |

Mix seasonings in small bowl. Toss vegetables and oil in large bowl. Add seasonings; toss to coat well. Spread vegetables in single layer on foil-lined 15x10x1-inch baking pan. Bake at 450°F. for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Makes 6 Servings.

*Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 93, Total Fat 5g, Sodium 342mg, Cholesterol 0mg, Carbohydrates 10g, Protein 2g, Fiber 2g*

**Pictured, Cooperative Connections**

## Apple Pie Filling

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 4-1/2 cups sugar                 | 1 tsp. salt                                    |
| 1 cup cornstarch                 | 3 T. lemon juice                               |
| 2 tsp. cinnamon                  | 2 to 3 drops yellow food coloring              |
| 1/4 tsp. ground nutmeg, optional | 5-1/2 to 6 lbs. tart apples, peeled and sliced |

In a large saucepan, blend sugar, cornstarch, cinnamon and nutmeg. Add salt and stir in 10 cups water. Cook and stir until thickened and bubbly. Add lemon juice and food coloring. Pack raw apples into hot jars, leaving 1-inch head space. Use spatula to help distribute syrup. Adjust lids. Process in boiling water bath – pints 15 minutes and quarts 20 minutes. Makes 6 to 8 quarts. Before serving, prepare pastry for a double crust 8- or 9-inch pie. Line pie plate with pastry, add 1 quart apple pie filling. Adjust top crust, cutting slits for escape of steam; seal edges. Bake at 400°F. for 50 minutes.

**Linda Goulet, Tea, SD**

## Microwave Tomato Dish

- |                             |                               |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2 large, firm ripe tomatoes | 1/2 cup seasoned stuffing mix |
| 1/2 lb. ground beef         | 2 beaten eggs                 |
| 4 T. chopped onion          | Dash of pepper                |
| 1/4 tsp. garlic salt        |                               |

Cut a slice off the stem end of tomato. Scoop out pulp; place into a small glass baking dish. Combine remaining ingredients to fill tomato shell. Place filled tomatoes in dish of pulp. Cover with waxed paper. Microwave 5 to 8 minutes. Let set covered 2 minutes.

**Elaine Rowett, Sturgis, SD**

## Kohlrabi Au Gratin

- |                                    |                                     |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6 med. kohlrabi, peeled and sliced | 3/4 cup shredded American cheese    |
| 3 T. flour                         | 1/2 cup milk                        |
| 3 T. margarine, melted and divided | 2 T. sliced green onion             |
| 1 cup sour cream                   | 3/4 cup soft bread crumbs (1 slice) |

Cook kohlrabi, covered, in small amount of boiling salt water 25 minutes, drain. Blend flour into 2 T. melted margarine. Stir in sour cream, cheese, milk and onion. Cook and stir until cheese melts. Combine kohlrabi and sauce; turn into 1.5-quart casserole. Toss crumbs and remaining margarine; sprinkle over top. Bake, covered, at 350°F. for 15 minutes. Uncover and bake and additional 15 to 20 minutes. Serves 6 to 8.

**Shirley Thedorff, Centerville, SD**

## Zucchini Chips

- |  |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 4 cups thinly sliced zucchini (about 2-3 medium) | 2 T. white balsamic vinegar |
|  | 2 tsp. coarse sea salt      |
| 2 T. extra virgin olive oil                      |                             |

Use a mandolin or slice zucchini as thin as possible. In a small bowl, whisk olive oil and vinegar together. Place zucchini in a large bowl and toss with oil and vinegar. Add zucchini in even layers to dehydrator then sprinkle with coarse sea salt. Depending on how thin you sliced the zucchini and on your dehydrator, the drying time will vary, anywhere from 8 to 14 hours. To make in the oven, line a cookie sheet with parchment paper. Layer zucchini evenly. Bake at 200°F. for 2 to 3 hours. Rotate half way during cooking time. Store in an airtight container.

**Becki Hauser, Tripp, SD**

Please send your favorite pasta, slow cooker and holiday 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 2019. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

# Operation Round Up®



Lenae Wordes

lwordes@renville-sibley.coop

Now that there are funds in the Operation Round Up® account, it is time to discuss how organizations may request funds from the program. Per the bylaws of the charitable trust, the purpose of Operation Round Up is the accumulation and disbursement of funds for charitable and educational purposes primarily in the area served by Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association.

There are so many worthy charitable and educational projects and community needs in our local area. To give you some ideas, here is a sample of organizations that have received donations from the Operation Round Up program at other electric cooperatives. Hopefully this will inspire you to request a donation for your group or organization.

- Post prom
- 4-H
- Historical Society
- Meals on Wheels
- Boy and Girl Scouts
- Food shelf
- Relay for Life
- Humane Society
- Youth group events
- Along with many other options



Among other things, the Application for Donations will ask if the organization is For Profit or Non-Profit and if Non-Profit, to include a copy of the 501(c)(3) document. The application also asks for a list of reasons why funds are need, if there is a specific project that the funds are to be used, how the funds will benefit the community or area and a place to share any other information the applicant feels the trustees should know when making their decision on where to give the donations.

The board of trustees will hold its first meeting the end of the fourth quarter of 2019. Future meeting dates will be selected at this time and listed on the website. Organizations may complete and submit the Application for Donations at any time. Completed applications will be reviewed at the next scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees. 807501

Information about the Operation Round Up program, along with the Application for Donations, can be found on our website [www.renville-sibley.coop](http://www.renville-sibley.coop) under the Your Co-op tab. Applications will also be available in our office or can be mailed upon request. Please contact our office at 800-826-2593 with any questions.

## Mark Your Calendar

The sign-up meeting for the Alaska tour will be on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at the Danube Community Center. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. Anyone interested in signing up or learning more about the trip is encouraged to attend.





If you encounter a downed power line, stay away.

# Is a Power Line Insulated?

## (and Other Myths Debunked)

Have you ever wondered why a bird can sit on a live wire or what you should do if a power line is on the ground? Here are some Q-and-As to clear up some common misconceptions concerning power lines, birds on a wire, and other conundrums:

### What do I do if I see a downed power line?

Vacate the area. Call 9-1-1 to report. Do not return to the area until you are given the go-ahead by authorities.

### Can I tell from looking (or listening) if a downed power line is still live?

**Absolutely not.** A live wire may not spark or arc and it may not make any noise at all (although it could).

### Where might downed power lines be?

A downed power line might be in the street or ditch or field after a bad storm or car accident. It could also be lurking in flood waters or under debris, trees or other objects after a severe storm.

### If a line is on the ground, is it dead?

Once a line is on the ground, it is not automatically dead, even if the power is off in your area. There's a good chance the line is still energized, which not only means you should not touch it, it also means the surrounding ground and any metal objects nearby could be energized and extremely dangerous, even deadly.

### Why might a power line be down or damaged?

A car accident may cause a line to be hanging down or on the ground; severe weather could damage a pole or line; or in some cases it's caused by another unforeseeable reason, such as a storm-damaged tree or a hungry squirrel.

Contact us at 800-826-2593 with any questions about downed lines. For more information about electrical safety, visit [SafeElectricity.org](http://SafeElectricity.org).

### Why can a bird sit on a power line and not be hurt? Doesn't that mean the line is insulated?

**No.** Lines are sometimes coated for protection against the elements but still deadly upon contact. A bird or other critter can sit on a power line all day happy as a lark because there is no path to ground. If the animal were to come in contact with the utility pole or other grounded source, it will be electrocuted, just as a person would be under the same circumstances.

### Do different kinds of utility lines look different?

Perhaps, but for the most part, the non-utility professional cannot know what kind of line it is and what it carries (electricity, phone service, cable TV and so on) just by looking. You also can't tell how much voltage it is carrying by its appearance.

### What if my car comes in contact with a downed power line?

Do not get out. Do not try to drive over it. Call 9-1-1 and wait for utility personnel to de-energize the line. If you smell gas or if there is a fire, exit your car with a solid jump landing on both feet (but don't touch the car at the same time) and DO NOT WALK, but hop away.

### Can I help someone who has been in an accident involving a downed power line?

**No.** Do not go near the scene and warn others not to do so. Although our first instinct is often to help, a person running near an energized area could get electrocuted.



Patricia DeMers of Colome, S.D., takes part in activity demonstrating the mining and reclamation process.

# TEACHERS HIT ENERGY CLASSROOMS

Annual Seminar Equips Educators with First-hand Experience

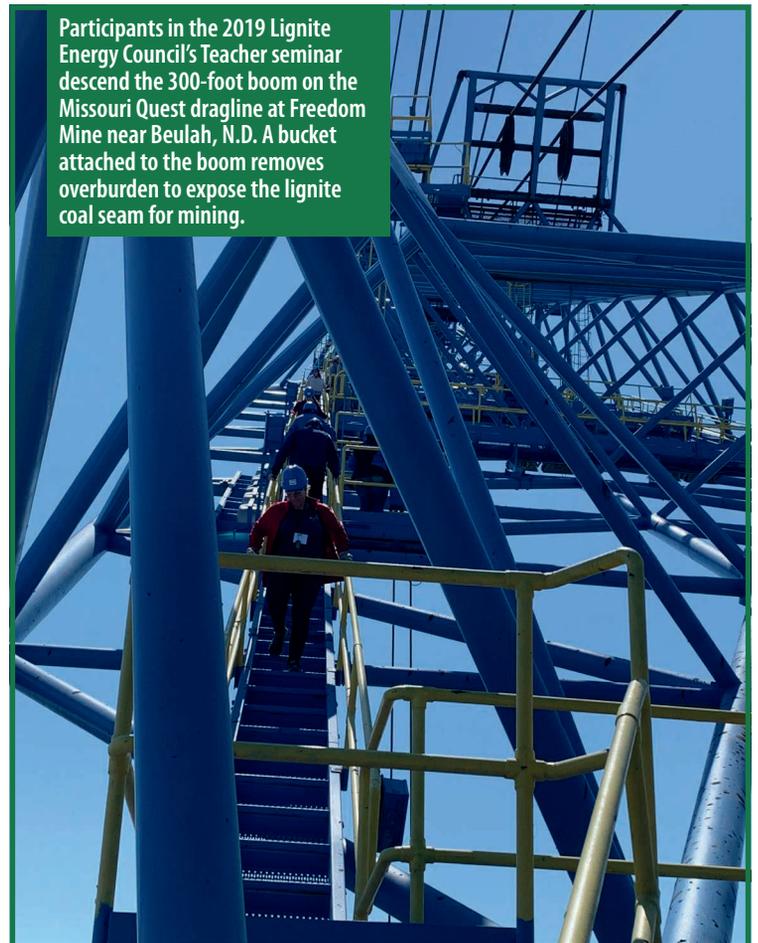
**Brenda Kleinjan**

[editor@sdrea.coop](mailto:editor@sdrea.coop)

When Craig Shryock’s vocational agriculture students at Wessington Springs High School return to the classroom this fall, they will eventually cover a section on electricity and Shryock can provide some first-hand lessons to his students thanks to a summer course he took.

Several years ago, Shryock was one of dozens of teachers to attend the Lignite Energy Council’s Teacher Seminar held each June since 1986. Since the first seminar was offered, more than 3,300 teachers have attended, giving each an insight into not only coal’s role in energy production, but also into electricity in general.

At a meeting of fellow ag teachers this summer, Shryock spoke about the seminar and its value.



Participants in the 2019 Lignite Energy Council’s Teacher seminar descend the 300-foot boom on the Missouri Quest dragline at Freedom Mine near Beulah, N.D. A bucket attached to the boom removes overburden to expose the lignite coal seam for mining.

“Being able to hold up that vial of coal and let the students see it is important,” Shryock said.

Having that tangible piece of coal to serve as a learning tool helps students understand that electricity is more than just flipping on a switch in the morning.

The piece of coal was just one take away that seminar attendees like Shryock benefit from. At the conclusion of the seminar, teachers take home handouts, videos, coal samples, and activities that can be used in the classroom, as well as two professional graduate credits.

The goal of the seminar is to provide teachers with the information and educational materials they need to teach their students about how lignite is mined and used to produce electricity for homes, farms and businesses in the Upper Midwest. In addition, the seminar covers lignite’s economic impact on the region, as well as important environmental issues affecting the lignite industry.

Educators attending the seminar are eligible to earn two professional development graduate credits from three North Dakota universities: North Dakota State University (teaching and learning),



Students in Craig Shryock’s vocational agriculture courses at Wessington Springs High School benefit lessons he learned at the Lignite Energy Council’s Teacher Seminar.

University of North Dakota (education), Minot State University (science).

All teachers and faculty are encouraged to apply for the seminar with preference given to fourth grade through 12th grade teachers, those with science, math or social studies as a primary subject matter and career counselors.

The seminar is a no-cost seminar for K-12 teachers in North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Montana and Iowa, but they may incur travel expenses. Sponsorships may be available for transportation reimbursement to and from the seminar for eligible teachers in Montana, South Dakota, Minnesota and Iowa. Those sponsorships will be arranged by the

utilities and cooperatives serving those states. Housing and most meals during the seminar are paid for as are graduate credit hours.

Handouts and classroom activities made available to the teachers go beyond lignite coal and lignite mining and reclamation. Teachers also dive into light bulb efficiencies and types, electricity transmission systems, energy use, carbon capture and storage, workforce issues, geology and environmental compliance.

For more information on the seminar, visit <https://lignite.com/events/teachers-seminar/> or contact the Lignite Energy Council at 701-258-7117.



Teachers get an up-close view of equipment used in the mining process at Coteau Properties’ Freedom Mine at Beulah, N.D.

# July Board Meeting Highlights

The July board meeting was held on Monday, July 22, at 8 a.m. All board members were present. Others present were Attorney Jeff Whitmore, CEO DeeAnne Newville, Gene Alex, Lenae Wordes and Tom Boyko and Bob Sahr with East River Electric Power Cooperative.

## The board reviewed and approved the following items:

- Minutes of the June board meeting
- Operating and disbursement reports for the month of June
- Capital credits to an estate
- Safety report for July
- Policy 528 – Use of Hand-held Communication Devices
- Basin Electric annual meeting voting delegates
- Proposed agreement with East River Electric relating to the existing wholesale power contract

## The board reviewed:

- Total new members for the month of June
- Reports from staff members as to the activities in their department. Items in the reports include:
  - High level Statement of Operations review – YTD through June (unaudited)
  - Organization activities
  - East River update
  - Basin update
  - NRECA Update
  - MREA Update
  - Line crew work in progress, equipment update and outage update
  - Accounts receivable
  - Alaska tour
  - Farmfest
  - Family-a-Fair night
  - Operation Round Up

Please contact the Renville-Sibley office if you would like more information regarding the board meeting.

## FREE Want Ad Service

Members can submit ads for the following categories: Giveaway, For Sale, For Rent and Wanted. Ads should be or are limited to no more than 15 words and must be received by the first of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter. Renville-Sibley reserves the right to edit content or exclude ads due to space restrictions. Ads will be run one time only unless resubmitted. Please complete the following information and mail to the Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power, PO Box 68, Danube, MN 56230.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Ad to be placed (limit of 15 words per ad)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Type of ad:     Giveaway     For Sale     For Rent     Wanted

## Notice:

The August board meeting will be held on Monday, Aug. 26, at 8 a.m.

The September board meeting will be held on Monday, Sept. 30, at 8 a.m.

## Where's the Number?

Last month Dave Zaske found his member number in the newsletter. Congratulations Dave! The credit will start over with a value of \$10. Another number has been hidden in this newsletter. If you find your number and call the office by Sept. 3, you will receive this credit on your electric statement. Good luck in your search!



## For Sale

**Wanted:** 50-gallon pick-up fuel tank with or without transfer pump.  
Lawrence Hanson, Fairfax, MN, 507-828-296

**For Sale:** Motorcycle foot pegs, off 2002 Goldwing 1800 - \$15  
Scott and Beth Person, Renville, MN 320-249-4145

**For Sale:** Hiniker Snowplow, fits 250/350, all controls - \$3,000  
Leon Greenslit, Olivia, MN 320-522-1685

**For Sale:** 40-foot 2008 Dauron Tuscany diesel motor home, 60,000 miles, 360 Cummins, six slide outs, Blue Ox interior, two-wheel dolly to tow car - \$105,000  
Leon Greenslit, Olivia, MN 320-522-1685

We are looking for updated address for these former co-op members.

# OUTSTANDING CAPITAL CREDIT CHECKS

Listed below are Renville-Sibley members who were mailed a capital credit check in December of 2018 and have either not cashed the check or the check was returned to our office due to

an old address. If you know of a correct address or telephone number for these members, please contact Renville-Sibley Co-op Power at 800-826-2593.

## Outstanding capital credits dated 2013 and older

Alarcon, Jose	Duis, Bonnie	Helmuth, Sr., William	Martin, Jerry	Reek, Shirley	Schultz, Lee
Barajas, Ramon	Eckland, Steve	Hillmann, Todd	Marxen, Bill	Reid, Mary	Schweiss Farm, Inc.
Baune, Michael	Edwards, John	Jansen, Jaureen	Morarie, Mark	Renville, Renee	Seehusen, Douglas
Beager, Todd	Elsing, Tracy	Jensen, Deryl	Morrin, Jeff	Ridler, Patrick	Smith, Kory
Borth, Rueben	Evans, Jr, Leamon	Johnston, Michael L	Mulligan, Ron	Robbins, Ryan	Swanson, Jim
Brockway, Steve	Evridge, Charles	Jones, Darlene	Nesburg, David	Rocha, Jorge	Swenson, Bryan
Burdick, Donald	Fischer, Gerald	Keiper, Dwayne	Olson, Allen	Roebke, Alan	Thorne, James
David, Robert	Haase, Linda	Knutson, Ervin	Pflugger, Tim	Salinas, Jr., Erasto	Trevino, Oscar
DeClercq, Dennis	Hale, Tim	Kohler, Darwin	Pomeroy, Randy	Sanders, James	Vandevoort, Brian
Devries, Larry	Hanson, Erland	Kordovsky, Dan	Raddatz, Marjorie	Schickert, Diane	Whiteley, James J
Dugan, Marilyn	Heimerman, James	Mallon, Mike	Raddatz, Elvira	Schmidt, Charles	Wold, Dennis

## Mission Statement

Renville-Sibley Cooperative Power Association will provide efficient, reliable electric energy and services to enhance the quality of rural living.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

**Cookware Tip:** Copper-bottomed pans heat faster on the stove. In the oven, ceramic and glass dishes are better than metal. With ceramic and glass dishes, you can turn the oven down about 25 degrees, and your meal will cook just as quickly.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)



# Trucking Along

## Future Driver Shortage May Tap the Brakes

**Brenda Kleinjan**

editor@sdrea.coop

**Our industry could be short just over 100,000 drivers in five years and 160,000 drivers in 2028.**

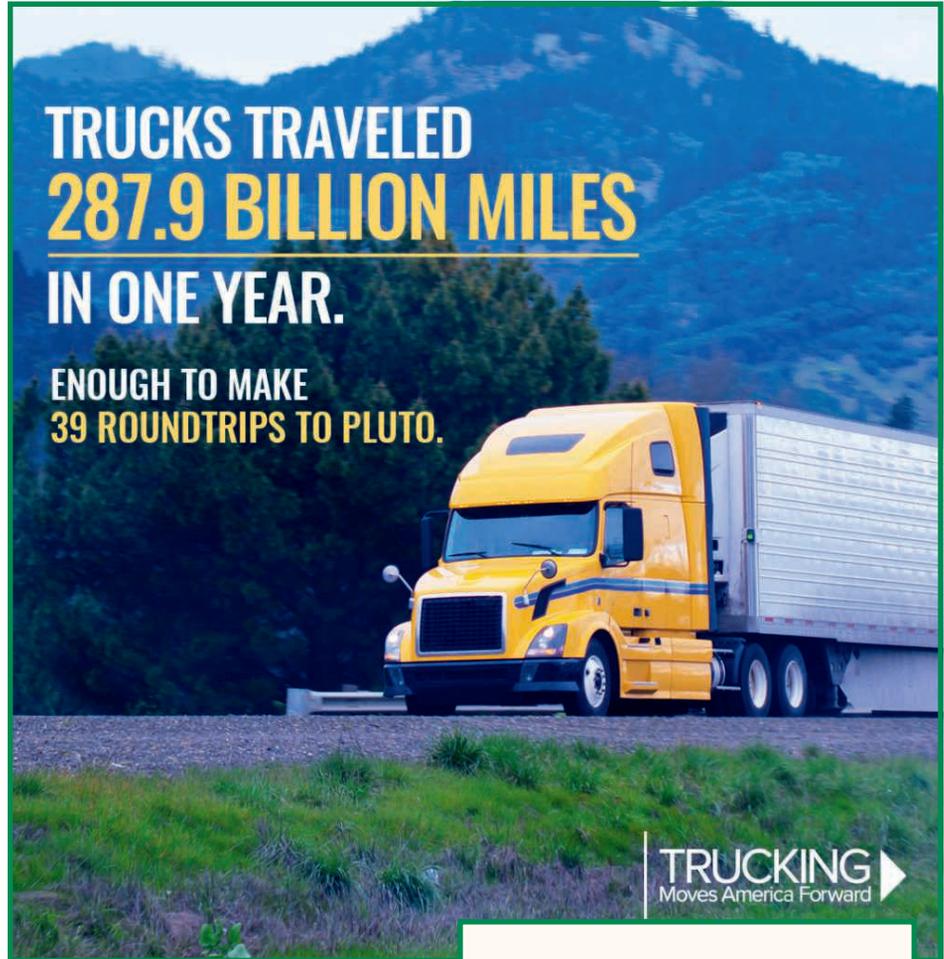
Travel down any major highway in the region and chances are you'll encounter dozens of semi trucks.

Some are hauling agriculture equipment or products, others may be hauling specialized loads such as wind turbine components. Yet others contain items destined for your local grocery store's shelves. Even your electric cooperative relies on timely deliveries of poles and materials hauled in by trucks.

There's no doubt about it, we're all connected by this nationwide trucking industry network.

This summer, the American Trucking Associations released its latest examination of the driver shortage, finding the industry needed 60,800 more drivers at the end of 2018 to meet the country's demands for freight services.

"Over the past 15 years, we've watched the shortage rise and fall with economic trends, but it ballooned last year to the highest level we've seen to date," said ATA Chief Economist Bob Costello. "The combination of a surging freight economy and carriers' need for qualified drivers could severely disrupt the supply chain.



The increase in the driver shortage should be a warning to carriers, shippers and policymakers because if conditions don't change substantively, our industry could be short just over 100,000 drivers in five years and 160,000 drivers in 2028."

The report details the factors that contribute to the shortage, including an aging driver population, increases in freight volumes and competition from other blue-collar careers. It also outlines potential market and policy solutions. While the report covers the entire trucking industry, the bulk of the shortage is in the over-the-road for-hire truckload market.

"The trucking industry needs to find ways to attract more and younger drivers," Costello said. "Right now, the average age of an over-the-road driver is

**Sept. 8-14 is National Truck Driving Appreciation Week**

**National Truck Driver Appreciation Week is a week recognizing the 3.5 million professional truck drivers that are an important part of our economy. Every day these dedicated professional men and women transport goods and services safely, protected and on time, while keeping highways safe.**



A semi travels along U.S. Highway 281 north of Plankinton, S.D.

46 years old, and almost as alarming is that the average age of a new driver being trained is 35 years old.

“Whether by removing barriers for younger drivers to begin careers as drivers, attracting more demographic diversity into the industry, or easing the transition for veterans, we need to do more to recruit and retain drivers,” he said. “That includes increasing pay, which happened at a brisk pace last year, to keep pace with demand, addressing lifestyle factors like getting drivers more time at home, and improving conditions on the job like reducing wait times at shipper facilities.”

In order to meet the nation’s freight demand, the report says the trucking industry will need to hire 1.1 million new drivers over the next decade – an average of 110,000 per year to replace retiring drivers and keep up with growth in the economy.

Myron Rau, president of the South Dakota Trucking Association in Sioux Falls, recently commented on the shortage in the *SDTA Trucking News*.

“It is probably not new news to anyone but it is reported that the U.S. trucker shortage is expected to double over the next decade. The driver deficit swelled by more than 10,000 to 60,800 in 2018 from a year earlier. The American Trucking Associations (ATA) estimates that 160,000 driver positions will go unfilled a decade from now. A possible solution has been proposed to regulators by the ATA. That solution is to lower the age for commercial drivers who can cross state lines by three years to 18. This proposal included increased training and supervision. Over 40 states now allow 18 year old drivers to get a commercial driver license to operate within the borders of their license issuing state. I believe there is a chance, if all parties come to the table, to implement this proposal that will bring some relief to predicted driver shortages,” Rau wrote.

The SDTA holds its annual convention Sept. 4-6 in Sioux Falls, S.D.

## Facts About Trucking

- Professional truck drivers drove over 287.9 billion miles in 2016, more than double 25 years ago. Those miles accounted for 14.2 percent of all motor vehicle miles and 29.8 percent of all truck miles.
- The trucking industry paid \$41.8 billion in federal and state highway taxes in 2016, and represented 13.3 percent of vehicles on the road. The trucking industry paid \$17.6 billion in federal highway-user taxes and \$24.2 billion in state highway-user taxes in 2016.
- The trucking industry consumed 54.9 billion gallons of diesel fuel and gasoline in 2016. Based on consumption and price, ATA reported that motor carriers spent \$142.9 billion in 2015.
- The federal fuel tax for diesel in 2018 is 24.4 cents per gallon; the average state tax for diesel fuel was 25.2 cents per gallon.
- There are 3.68 million class 8 trucks on the road in the United States and 11.7 million commercial trailers were registered in 2016.
- There are 7.7 million truck drivers in the United States. Total industry employment is 3.5 million or one out of every 16 people working in the United States.
- There are 777,240 for-hire carriers and 700,591 private carriers in the United States; 97.3 percent of them have fewer than 20 trucks and 91 percent are operating six trucks or less.
- In 2016, the trucking industry hauled 10.77 billion tons of freight, or 70.1 percent of total U.S. freight tonnage. Rail was the next busiest mode, moving 13.8 percent of the nation’s freight tonnage.
- In 2017, the trucking industry was a \$700.18 billion industry, representing 79.3 percent of the nation’s freight bill.
- More than 80 percent of U.S. communities depend solely on trucking for delivery of their goods and commodities.

Source: *Professional Truck Drivers and The Trucking Industry*, October 2018



International Vinegar Museum volunteer Dick Snaza extols the virtues of seven types of vinegar available for sampling at the museum's tasting bar.

# ALL THINGS VINEGAR

## Roslyn Attraction Celebrates International Vinegars

**Brenda Kleinjan**

editor@sdrea.coop

As county fair and state fair season rolls around, it's easy to think of prize-winning jars of pickles preserved in vinegar-based solutions.

But, there's so much more to the world of vinegar than the basic white vinegar or apple cider vinegar sold by the gallon in grocery stores.

And, the folks of Roslyn, S.D., want to tell you that story.

Enter the International Vinegar Museum located on the north edge of Roslyn's business district. Housed in a historic auditorium built by the community and Public Works Administration employees during the Depression, the museum seeks to inform and educate about vinegar.

Twenty years ago, Lawrence Diggs, also known as



The International Vinegar Museum is located in the Roslyn Auditorium, a building built by the Town of Roslyn and the Works Progress Administration in 1936.

The Vinegar Man, moved from California to Roslyn. Discussions soon began on ways to improve the quality of life and future of the towns of Roslyn and Eden. The museum opened in 1999 in the historic Roslyn Auditorium.

Once home to the Roslyn Vikings, the building's wood floors would become the foundation to showcase all things vinegar. Community volunteers oversee the museum's daily operations and provide tours to guests.

The first stop on entering the museum is a display explaining the process of making vinegar. According to eight yellow signs on the wall, one starts with a starch from either grains or root crops which becomes sugar by malting, molds, enzymes and hydrolysis. The sugar is converted to alcohol by yeast and then the alcohol is converted to vinegar by *Acetobacter Aceti*. The vinegar is then aged to improve flavor and mouth feel before finally being packaged and shipped. (The museum's own brand of balsamic vinegar is aged 18 years.)

The museum's north wall is lined with 200-plus different bottles of various vinegars from around the world. Explanatory panels describe different types of world vinegars. Fruit vinegars include wine vinegars

and cider vinegars, while grain vinegars include malt, corn and rice vinegars. The displays further explain differences between balsamic vinegar, Chinese vinegar, Japanese vinegar, Korean vinegar and vinegar uses in the Bible.

The displays also explain different health-related uses for vinegar as well as household and farm uses.

A corner of the museum features artwork made from vinegar, including paper made from vinegar. (The paper is formed from vinegar bacteria to produce a sheet of cellulose. The cellulose is pressed and dried to produce paper.)

From Memorial Day to Labor Day, the museum is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. During the rest of the year, it may be open by appointment by contacting museum volunteers. If you're planning adventures for 2020, be sure to mark the International Vinegar Festival down on your June calendar.

For more information on the museum, contact them at PO Box 201, Roslyn, SD 57261 or online at [museum@internationalvinegarmuseum.com](mailto:museum@internationalvinegarmuseum.com). They also have a Facebook page @internationalvinegarmuseum.



A corner of the museum features items for sale, including several varieties of vinegar as well as Roslyn community items. The museum has its own labeled balsamic vinegar for sale. (Pictured above, right.) The vinegar, which is aged 18 years, is a product of Italy and is bottled for the museum in North Dakota.

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**August 21-25**

Corn Palace Festival, Mitchell, SD, 605-995-8430

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**August 22-24**

Senior Games, Watertown, Contact Andrew Magedanz at 605-949-0028

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**August 22-25**

Prairie Village Annual Steam Threshing Jamboree, Madison, SD, 605-256-3644

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**August 22-25**

Kool Deadwood Nites, Deadwood, SD, 605-578-1876

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**August 22-25**

Hugh Glass Rendezvous, Lemmon, SD, 605-393-5832

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**August 24-25**

Great Dakota Wine Festival, Vermillion, SD, 605-624-4500

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**August 26-September 1**

Mustang Rally, Sturgis, SD, 605-490-1663

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**August 29**

South Dakota State Fair Value Added Ag Day, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. CDT, Huron, SD

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**August 29-September 2**

South Dakota State Fair, Huron, SD, 605-353-7340

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**August 30-September 2**

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Powwow, Fair and Rodeo, Eagle Butte, SD, 605-964-2447

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**August 30-September 1**

Studebaker Car Show, Custer, SD, 605-673-2244

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**September 1**

Mount Rushmore Rodeo at Palmer Gulch, Hill City, SD, 605-574-2525

**August 24-25: Fourth Annual Fall River Balloon Fest, 6 a.m., Airport, Hot Springs, SD, 605-745-4140**



Photo courtesy: travelsouthdakota.com

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**September 6-7**

Supermoto, Sturgis, SD, 605-720-0800

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**September 6-7**

Ribs, Rods & Rock n' Roll, Vermillion, SD, 605-624-2021

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**September 7**

Sidewalk Arts Festival, Sioux Falls, SD

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**September 7**

Insect Festival at McCrory Gardens, Brookings, SD, 605-688-6707

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**September 7**

Germanfest, 1 to 10 p.m., Fawick Park, Sioux Falls, SD

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**September 7**

Foothills Bud Light Bull Bash, Wessington Springs, SD, 605-770-4370

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**September 7**

Geothermal Greenhouse & High Tunnel Tours, Mission, SD, 605-430-4699, SDSPAmembers@gmail.com

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**September 7-8**

Quilt Show, Hill City, SD, 605-574-2810

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**September 8**

Homesteader Day Celebration, Valley Springs, SD, 605-367-4210

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**September 13**

Organic Grains & Pumpkin Patch Agritourism Tours, Milbank, SD, 605-430-4699, SDSPAmembers@gmail.com

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**September 13-14**

Deadwood Jam, Deadwood, SD, 605-578-1876

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**September 13-15**

Dakota Western Heritage Festival, Fort Pierre, SD, 605-222-0079

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**September 14-15**

Stirling Family Memorial Ranch Rodeo, Fort Pierre, SD, 605-870-2472

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**September 14-15**

Twin Rivers Old Iron Harvest Festival, Delmont, SD, 605-505-0535

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**September 19-21**

St. Joseph's Indian School Powwow, Chamberlain, SD, 605-234-3452

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**September 21**

AgriCulture on the Square, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. MDT, Free, Main Street Square, Rapid City, SD, 605-394-1722

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**September 26-28**

Buffalo Roundup Arts Festival, Opens at 10 a.m., Game Lodge grounds, Custer State Park, Custer, SD, 605-255-4541

**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.**