

NORTHERN

L I G H T S

May 2021

A DAY IN MAY



It was an average day in May — one that started like any other, when Cody Conrady was at work for an ag fertilizer company.

He was an assistant manager, and it was his next-to-last day on the job. They were understaffed that day, and Cody was filling in wherever he was needed.

He jumped in the truck to try and get ahead of the sprayer. Once the sprayer was in position, he hopped out to fill the tank with fertilizer.

He and his co-worker inside the cab were unaware that the sprayer boom had either made contact or gotten too close to a power line.

Around 7,400 volts of electricity traveled through the boom and electrified the equipment and ground where Cody was standing. Unfortunately, the electricity considered Cody's body its path to ground. Since that day, Cody

and Bailey began a tough road of recovery, together. For him, it was true grit, determination and living the ups and downs that come with this type of recovery. For her, it was emotional strength and fortitude — witnessing Cody's setbacks and victories and supporting him through them all.

Cody took his first steps as part of his recovery four months later — days before their September wedding.

Cody and Bailey share their experiences to increase awareness about power line safety.


Electricity can travel through anything in its path. Unintended contact can happen in an instant.

Learn more at:

 Safe Electricity.org®



Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Operation Round Up® grants awarded — page 8

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Member Service: 218-444-2540
or 1-800-955-6083

www.beltramielectric.com

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Editor	Angela Lyseng

Minnesota State Electrical Inspectors

Beltrami County

Wade Koons

218-255-3011 - wade@kooninspections.com

Cass and Hubbard Counties

Anthony Kohrs

218-255-1046 - kohrsinspection@paulbunyan.net

These are the inspectors covering the area served by Beltrami Electric. They can be reached by phone Monday through Friday between 7 and 8:30 a.m. or by email as indicated.

Gopher State One Call 811
1-800-252-1166 or 811
www.gopherstateonecall.org

Anyone who plans to dig is required by law to notify the state of their intentions at least 48 hours in advance.

All digging requires the 48-hour notification so that buried telephone lines, television cables, pipelines, utility electrical lines, and municipal water and sewer lines can be located to ensure that none will be severed or damaged.

Mission of Beltrami Electric Co-op

To provide excellent value to our members through the safe delivery of reliable electric service, excellent member service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Legislative update

Jared Echternach, *President and CEO*

Your electric cooperative was born in politics. One of our primary objectives is to advocate on your behalf for the betterment of your cooperative. There are several pieces of proposed energy legislation I'd like to bring to your attention that could affect your cooperative. Here's a brief synopsis of bills being considered and our position on each.

Energy Conservation and Optimization Act SF 227/HF 164

We continue our push to reform the existing Conservation Improvement Program that mandates electric and gas utilities conserve (reduce) 1.5% of their retail energy sales annually and spend 1.5% of their gross operating revenues doing so. Not many business models are sustainable under a mandate that requires them to sell less of their product year after year. We have pushed for reform the previous two legislative sessions and we continue that push this session despite misguided opposition from the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and the propane industry.

The bill would update the Conservation Improvement Program to eliminate the spending requirement and allow electric cooperatives and municipal utilities to offer more flexible and innovative programs designed around efficient electrification.

Under the bill, consumer-owned utilities will continue to promote the wise use of electricity and efficient electrification, including equipment such as storage water heaters, storage space heating, air-source heat pumps, ground-source heat pumps and electric vehicles.

The ECO Act, authored by Sen. Jason Rarick and Rep. Zack Stephenson, has passed out of both the House and Senate Energy Committees and awaits floor action in both bodies.

Wood Pellet Production Incentive SF 1163/HF 1486

We are supporting legislation sponsored by Sens. Paul Utke and Justin Eichorn and Reps. Mike Sundin, Matt Grossel and Matt Bliss that would establish a production incentive in the amount of \$25 per metric ton for wood pellets produced from wood residuals at two plants that would be constructed in northern Minnesota in the Bemidji and Grand Rapids areas. The incentive would be funded through the Minnesota Renewable Development Account. The Senate Energy and Utilities Finance and Policy Committee has laid it over for inclusion in an omnibus energy bill.

Load Control Receivers SF 181/HF 215

This bill, authored by Sen. Jason Rarick and Rep. Dave Lislegard, would clarify language to allow electric utilities to continue to replace and repair cooperative-owned and maintained load control equipment without requiring a state electrical inspection for these minor activities. The MN Department of Labor and Industry erroneously claims this routine maintenance is subject to electric inspection by the state, thus requiring a fee – a fee that would ultimately be paid by our members. Unfortunately, House leadership has been unwilling to hear the bill.



Flexible Financing for Rural America Act

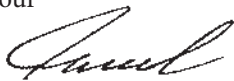
We continue to push for the Flexible Financing for Rural America Act that would allow electric co-ops to refinance their existing Rural Utilities Service loans at today's low interest rates without prepayment penalties. Just as

many homeowners have refinanced their mortgages during these historically low interest rates, electric cooperatives should be allowed to do the same, without penalty, to benefit their members. We are thankful for the support of authors Sen. Tina Smith and Sen. John Hoeven, but Congress needs to act. Delays only reduce the potential savings this bill would provide as interest rates are beginning to increase from these historic lows.

ACRE

A great way members can participate in electric co-op advocacy is by becoming a member in ACRE – the Action Committee for Rural Electrification. ACRE is a non-partisan political action committee that supports legislators who support electric cooperatives. I've been a member for many years, and we are now offering cooperative members the opportunity to join as well. If you feel strongly about your electric cooperative and would like to support those who support electric cooperatives, please consider joining ACRE. See the article on this page for details on how to join ACRE and support this great cause. Thank you for your consideration.

In closing, I promise you we will continue to engage and advocate on your behalf. That is our commitment to you. Thank you for your membership and support.



BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Beltrami Electric's board of directors conducted its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, March 31, 2021. A quorum of directors was in attendance.

The following reports were given:

- President and CEO Echernach gave his monthly report, including discussion on February financials, 2020-21 Arrears Comparison, employee updates, legal updates, COVID-19 updates and legislative issues.
- Arlene Hogquist presented the February financial report.
- Jay Welsh, Brady Martz & Associates, gave the 2020 audit report, giving Beltrami Electric Cooperative a clean audit opinion.
- Directors were presented the Vegetation Management update and reviewed updates to the cooperative Service Standards.
- Directors and the CEO shared highlights of meetings attended on behalf of the cooperative and discussed upcoming meetings and educational conferences.

The following actions were taken:

- Approved the consent agenda.
- Accepted the 2020 audit report.

The next board meeting will be Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

Co-op owners for political action

As a member-owner of Beltrami Electric Cooperative, you are among 42 million Americans who can claim ownership in a not-for-profit consumer-controlled utility that provides electricity at cost. The ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action® program is an existing opportunity for you to raise your voice and participate in the political process.

The Action Committee for Rural Electrification (ACRE®) is the political action committee of the nation's electric cooperatives. For more than 40 years, ACRE has been working to support candidates for the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives who understand and support electric cooperatives and their consumer-owners. Through ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action, you as a member-owner have the ability to strengthen this support and join more than 30,000 ACRE members who form a strong grassroots network dedicated to the long-term success of the electric cooperative program.

We hope that you will consider this program. Together we will continue to fight for a viable environment for electric cooperatives and the quality of life of the people and communities that cooperatives serve. Learn more at www.beltramielectric.com/political-action.

Contributions to ACRE Co-op Owners for Political Action® are not tax deductible. All contributions to ACRE are voluntary and will be used for political purposes. Contribution guidelines are suggestions only. You may contribute more or less than the recommended amount. You may refuse to contribute without reprisal.



For reliable, affordable electricity in *our region*.
For cleaner industries across *the United States*.
For energy stability in societies around *the world*.

Project Tundra is helping develop the carbon capture technology necessary to meet our global climate goals – right in the heart of North Dakota.

See the video at ProjectTundraND.com





Minnkota's Milton R. Young Station continued to perform reliably throughout the cold snap, at times even delivering extra power into the regional grid. (Minnkota)

Power over the market

Energy marketers combine reliable resources and demand response to avoid a cold-weather crisis

In mid-February, millions of Texans were learning how to get through brutal winter temperatures with no electricity. During that same subzero-weather event, a group of energy marketers at Minnkota Power Cooperative (Beltrami Electric's wholesale power provider) was successfully protecting its members from facing similar ice-cold consequences.

The February cold snap that essentially crippled the Texas power grid started up north. From approximately Feb. 8-14, Minnkota's service area experienced some of its coldest temperatures of the stretch. As the polar vortex dropped south, both regional demand and weather-related generation issues began to rise.

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO) – the organization that manages the transmission grid and energy markets of a region that includes Minnkota's territory – asked its providers to enter conservative operations Feb. 14-20 and declared a Maximum Generation Event on Feb. 16. Over those days, the combination of expanded regional need and less generation availability (from frozen plants, natural gas pipeline constraints and less production from wind farms across the midsection of the country) made the cost of

buying energy from the grid skyrocket.

Minnkota had to protect itself from relying on the volatile market. Although the coal-based Young Station continued to provide electricity reliably throughout the event, wind power generation dropped due to low winds and temperatures. Minnkota's healthy demand response program – through which member-consumers volunteer to have certain electric loads controlled for a reduced rate – helped Minnkota's energy marketers decrease the demand on the grid.

"With events like these, we're identifying where our exposure is in the market," said Todd Sailer, Minnkota senior manager of power supply and resource planning. "We're making sure we're doing something that is beneficial to our members and maximizing the value of our resources."

Ultimately, Minnkota's members experienced few weather-related service interruptions. The cooperative used 84 hours of dual-fuel heat control, which helped avoid high energy market costs. The electricity provided by the Young Station covered the remaining demand and added needed power into the national grid.

"Our value of reliability shined through in a moment where others were

facing crisis," said plant engineering and environmental manager Tim Hagerott, adding that the Young Station is specifically designed to operate in a cold-weather climate.

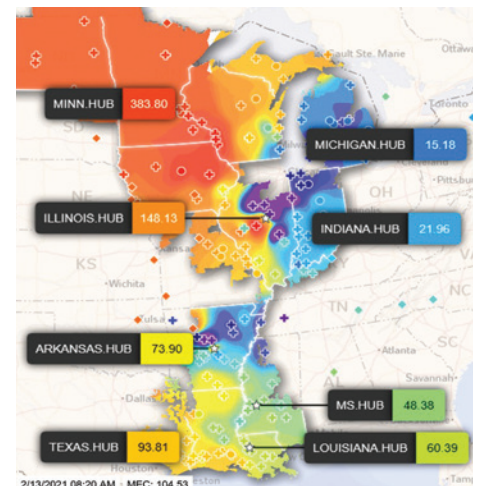
In Texas, the situation was starkly different. Many generation resource technologies, including natural gas pipelines, coal plants and wind turbines, could not perform in the low temperatures. For most of the country, this would mean importing energy from a neighboring grid system operator. However, the Electricity Reliability Council of Texas (ERCOT) is nearly independent of those grid interconnections.

Additionally, hundreds of Texas power consumers who were enrolled in programs that connect them directly to wholesale power rates were burned by that week's market volatility, receiving bills that were thousands of dollars higher than normal. Minnkota and its member cooperatives protect their member-consumers from this price fluctuation by using their own generation resources to limit market exposure.

To learn more, read "Power over the market" at news.minnkota.com.



Minnkota's energy marketers examine the load data of the day. (Minnkota/Michael Hoeft)



A screen capture from Feb. 13, 2021, shows how high energy market prices had risen in the north at the beginning of the polar vortex, hundreds of dollars higher than average. (Courtesy: MISO)



(Left) John Vojacek displays the Verve 3 Trek, one of the best-selling e-bikes at Scheels. (Above) A close-up look at an e-bike's removable battery pack.

AN

E-BIKE FOR EVERYONE

Courtesy of Minnkota Power Cooperative



Have you been curious about electric bicycles (or e-bikes) cruising around your community? If you're wondering how they work or why you would even want one, you're in good company – we've heard the same questions from our members. We decided to check in with the Grand Forks Scheels store to learn more about this newly trending technology.

John Vojacek, Scheels service shop manager and e-bike expert, says his store has carried battery-powered bikes for more than six years. However, they've become more mainstream in the past year or so as people begin experiencing the wide range of benefits for every age and activity level. Vojacek loves hearing stories from customers whose lives have been enhanced by a little electric pedal assistance.

"One gentleman who winters in Arizona, he would sit on his porch and every morning he'd watch a bike group go by – just a simple coffee ride," he recounted. "He said there was no way he could keep up, but now with an e-bike, he can ride with that group down to the corner to get coffee. It's exciting, on our side, to know that we can help folks fit in or keep up."

E-bikes have three levels of clas-

sification. Class 1 e-bikes give electric pedal assist only, with the motor simply amplifying the rider's pedal power up to 20 mph. Class 2 e-bikes have the same 20-mph cutoff, but they are also allowed to have a throttle, allowing the motor to fully propel the rider forward. Class 3 are higher-performing e-bikes, with a drive system that will assist pedaling up to 28 mph.

Scheels usually stocks Class 1 and Class 3 models, with prices ranging from around \$1,500 for the Electra Townie Go up to \$3,150 for the popular Verve 3 Trek. There are models on the market that are more expensive (some up to \$7,000 or more), and there are also some that are less. However, Vojacek urges potential buyers to seek out a store with an e-bike-trained service staff (like Scheels) or a knowledgeable independent bike shop to ensure you are purchasing a safe and durable bike with a UL-listed battery.

"E-bikes in Europe are huge, and have become one of the main ways people get around. That technology is now making its way over here, and they already have all of the kinks worked out. They're super reliable and super easy to use," he said.

E-bike batteries can typically be

charged from depleted to full power in three hours, giving 30-80 miles in assisted range, depending on performance setting. Some daily commuters (who arrive to work sweat-free) will plug in their bike or battery pack at their desk and have a full charge for the ride home. The effective range of the battery does decrease slightly in colder temperatures, but the batteries are water resistant for off-roading experiences that take a rider through puddles or rain.

"If you've never ridden one before, come in and take one for a test ride. We always see guests with a 'perma-grin' when they get back, because they're so much fun to ride," Vojacek said, adding that they are a great way to work toward health goals. "It makes it enjoyable to get out and ride. If you enjoy the activity, you're going to do it a lot more than if it's a chore."

Our Scheels expert doesn't yet have an e-bike at home – but he'll soon be one of the many taking a seat. "I have two young boys that are into racing BMX right now. When they get into high school, there's no way I'm going to be able to keep up with them on a bike, so an e-bike is going to be my jam," he said with a chuckle.

CLASSIFIEDS

Classified ads rules

- Ads are due by the first of the month prior to publication of the next issue.
 - Ads submitted between April 1 and May 1 – will be published in June issue.
 - Ads submitted between May 2 and June 1 – will be published in July issue.
- Ads may be submitted via our website at www.beltramelectric.com. (preferred)
- No real estate, rental, personal or commercial ads will be accepted.
- All ads must be 50 words or less and typed or printed clearly.
- Editor reserves the right to edit or reject any ad.
- Members may only submit one for sale and one wanted or free ad per issue.
- Ads are published at no charge as space permits on a first-received, first-printed basis, with no guarantee your ad will appear.
- Ads are only allowed to be repeated for three consecutive months and must be resubmitted each month.
- Include name and Beltrami Electric account number on all submissions.
- **NOTE:** As of April 24, 2021, anyone with a telephone number from the 218 area code will need to dial 10-digits (area code + telephone number) for all local calls.

For Sale:

Lowrey spinet piano. Beautiful colonial maple finish, matching bench, used very little. \$550/obo. 218-759-1919.

Tires: 235/75-16, 50% tread. Pickup. 218-766-2132.

HM fish smoker, made from steel shell, includes grates, room for a dozen fish, \$20. Rough-sawn solid black walnut plank, approximately 2 1/2" x 12" x 55", great for a bench top or rifle stocks, \$50. 48 rounds Western 3006/150 gr ammo, including a bag of brass from a "tight" bolt action chamber, \$50. Cash only. 218-760-9608.

2016 Chevy Malibu LS, white w/gray interior. 38K miles, like new. \$11,950. 218-759-1963.

Schwinn Airdyne AD-3, \$300. 42" lawn sweeper, \$100. 2000 Chevy Silverado, \$1,000. 1981 16' Lund console steering, 50 hp Johnson, \$3,000. 1939 2-door Ford Coupe, \$3,700. 218-586-2563.

Homemade quilts: 4-5-6 Crazy, Block, Star, Twin, \$40. Full, \$45. Queen, \$65. King, \$70. Sewing machines, \$15 each. Brown swivel recliner, \$75. New Super all grip 700-15 LT tubeless tire, \$55. 218-243-2702.

Jenn-Air convection oven/microwave, counter-top, can cook large turkey, 16 7/8" H x 25" W x 23 3/4" D (child lock), \$200. Castle Creek halogen oven (infrared), bought from Sportsman's Guide catalog, countertop, cooks chicken, fish, shrimp, lobster, etc., \$100/obo. Harvest Right freeze dryer, can freeze dry fruits, vegs, meats, dairy, meals, desserts, etc. Mylar bags, 25-yr shelf life, can add another oxygen absorber and reseal an open bag, \$1,800.

Chuck Norris Total Gym, DVDs, program: Pilates, Smart trng 6-8 min workout, nutritional program, training deck, wing attachment, pulley cable, toe bar, handles, leg pull access, like new, \$250. IHS Air Cooler Plus, floor fan, with ice packs and remote, floor version, rolls very easily, brand new, used only one summer as we put in A/C. \$200. Haier space-saving portable washing machine, compact electric top-load washer, rolls over to sink to hook up, \$100. 218-751-1616.

2007 Ford Taurus, Silver, good used shape, very clean. New battery, new tabs. Leather, sunroof. 159K miles, \$4,700. 218-280-4050.

Like new chrome six-tier heavy duty metal wire shelving units (48" x 72" x 18"), 35 available. Wheels are available for shelves as well. \$59 each/obo. Like new black four-tier metal wire shelving unit (36" x 54" x 14"), 3 available. \$20 each. Text or call 218-214-9765.

Dog kennel: 5' x 10' with full cover. Galv. welded wire. 5 - 5' panels with 1 - 5' door. Includes XL Igloo dog house. Also includes XL travel kennel with insulated camo cover. All for \$300/obo. 507-330-1507.

Grader back blade, 3-point, 8-ft. heavy duty. \$350. 218-368-2933.

'95 16' Kingfisher boat, 50 hp PRO Yamaha outboard, roller bunk trailer. Asking \$5,750. Pictures available by email, leave an address for me. 218-333-9012.

Older 2-stall horse trailer, double axle. \$600. 218-586-2839.

2015 5th-wheel Crusader camper 29/5', 3 slide outs, self-leveling, 30-amp and 50-amp electric cords. Fireplace, 40" tv, center island, 5th-wheel hitch for truck, full size queen bed. \$19,500. 218-556-7550.

1964 Larson 16-ft. aluminum boat, 75 hp env. w/ controls and tilt trailer. \$700. 1987 Chevrolet Suburban 3/4 ton, 4x4, rebuilt, create motor and new trans, clean body, new interior. Lift. \$8,800. Call Bill 218-255-2903.

Bissell Green Machine, canister, vacuum with attachments. Older unit. Used twice for water clean-up. \$45. Panasonic 6.0 PLUS, telephone system, model KX-TG4233, caller ID, call block, silent mode. Has base unit and one remote unit. One remote failed. Takes rechargeable AAA Ni-MH batteries. \$20. 218-444-2280 ask for Steve.

Costa Fisch polarized sunglasses, matte black frame, copper/green glass lenses, good condition, \$150. Otterbox cases and screen protectors for Samsung Galaxy S9+, various prices. ADCO SFS Aqua Shed truck camper (8'-10') cover, like new, \$100. 218-243-3029 leave message.

110-ft. rain gutter, with downspouts and connectors. Chocolate brown color. \$25. Bad Dawg ATV/UTV HD 18" disc plow, great for food plots. Attaches to receiver hitch. Used very little. \$350 new, will sell for \$150. 218-556-1213.

Real 1940's leather hockey gloves and leg pads, \$55. Fred Bear compound bow, \$75. 3 Bridgestone tires P275/65R18. \$75. 4 Firestone tires P275/65 R18. \$145. 4 new Tasco rifle scopes in original boxes. All 4 scopes for \$175. Call 218-586-2617.

4-wheeler, 2000 Honda Rancher, electric shift and electric start. \$2,000 firm. Call 218-760-8266.

2004 Coachmen Chaparral 5th-wheel 26-ft. \$8,000/obo. Very clean, one owner, new pull-out couch, updated furniture, new bedroom mattress, wood floors. Call or text for pictures. 320-249-0734.

Large steel dumpster with plastic lids, 2-yard, nice shape, \$300. Strongway 1-ton rotating engine stand, 93lbs, new still in box \$190. Treated 8" x 8" half cut post, \$20 each, about 50 units. Wood fencing boards 1/2" x 5 1/2" wide, 6' tall \$1.25 each, about 100 units. 218-224-2483.

Older dining room table, with 6 chairs, fairly good condition, no children – just myself and hubby, bought at Dewey Furniture store a number of years ago, hubby has reglued chairs, few scratches but in good, but used condition. Call evenings. 218-751-5959. \$200 cash.

Vintage Schwinn women's 10-speed Traveler bike, recently tuned-up, \$100. Powerful TP-Link cable router \$40 (\$120 new). 612-940-7312.

Toro Electric Super Blower Vac Model 51591, 2-speed. 215 MPH Air Blast. \$35. 218-759-2099.

Off-of-ground, large-barrel turning composter with screen, \$40. 2-piece air conditioner, excellent shape, \$50. Large-volume garden pump, never used, \$75. Canoe, \$25. Medium-size soaking tub, \$45. Undercounter electric oven, \$50. Regular-size toilet in good shape, \$45. Various equipment for disabled people. 218-586-2860.

Women's Stiletto cowboy boots: Jeez boots by Capezio, size 7 narrow, new, never worn, \$50. 218-368-4579.

Delta 10" table saw. 1.5 horse motor - belt drive, Vega 50" rip fence, Inca miter gauge, extra zero clearance inserts, crosscut sled, and more. \$395. 218-444-4140.

Beautiful flowers! Local organic flower farmer wants to deliver four weekly bouquets at one monthly price of \$85. Annuals, perennials and herbs. Every bouquet will surprise you. Call 218-556-0586.

Weber Performance charcoal grill with propane starter and cover, 53 x 25 x 39, \$200/obo. Danby 45pt humidifier, Energy Star®, \$59. Boatlift: aluminum 1500# load capacity w/winch, canopy cover. Good condition \$850/obo. Perfect for jet ski, fishing, sailboat. Hugo quad cane w/comfort handle adjustable shaft, \$18. New Cardinal shower chair w/back, \$25. 320-583-0471.

Wood glide rocker with tan upholstered cushions, wood nightstand with drawer and open shelf (20" W x 17" D x 25" H), leather motorcycle jackets: Men's size 46, dark brown Schott with zip-out lining; Wm's 10/12 Taurus in deep wine. 218-547-1836.

For sale: large La-Z-boy recliner, cranberry in color, good condition. Reclines with footrest and in sitting position. Would make an excellent relaxing recliner for your cabin! Cash only. \$60. 218-760-9638.

Six-burner stainless gas grill with side warming plate, weather resistant cover and propane tank, \$100. Fishing rods, reels, baits, landing nets, gaff hooks, coolers and more. Draw Tite tent with floor, \$125. Sleeping bags and misc. camping equipment. 586-2884.

Maytag window air conditioner. 8000 BTU. Used only one season. \$150. 218-556-8507.

444 Bobcat Skid steer, needs light mechanical work. Tandem axle trailer, 5'x13', needs better tires. \$1,800 for parts. 218-854-7483. Please leave message if no answer.

1961 Johnson 3-hp short shaft outboard. \$200. 218-243-2466.

Solid oak dresser. Good condition. 4-ft, 3 inches long by 1-ft, 5 inches wide. \$100. L-shaped office desk with hutch drawer and filing cabinet. Good condition. 70 1/4" long 23 1/2" wide, plus the filing cabinet is 47 1/4" long. \$100. Pick up only. 218-308-1221.

Dog crate with Cabela's quilted cover. \$50. 218-586-2009.

Nice solid oak desk with three drawers, including file drawer and upper hutch with shelves and storage cupboard. Dimensions: 69 1/2" H x 62" W x 24" D. \$200. Call or text 218-556-0805.

Crossbow: brand new, never used, Excalibur Axiom SMF with case. Draw: 175 lbs, power stroke: 14.5", mass weight: 6 lbs, arrow length: 20", arrow weight: 350 grain min., trigger pull: 3 lbs. Up to 305 FPS. \$300. Call or text 218-368-8593.

Solid oak 6-ft church pew, \$175. Large mushroom-colored storage ottoman, new, too big for my living room, \$150. Solid oak corner hutch, great shape, \$200. 218-759-8781.

2007 Honda CR-V EX-L, 173,300 miles, one owner, very clean, like new, leather seats, sunroof, all-wheel drive, service records. \$5,900. 218-987-2307.

Wanted:

Front tine Snapper garden tiller in running condition. 218-760-9608.

Looking for free giant trampoline frame. 218-556-2743.

A used youth saddle, in good shape. Please call or text 218-766-7499.

Good, usable older Lincoln 180-amp welder. 218-209-6397.

Dumbbells: over 45 lbs. Octagonal iron type. Looking for a bargain, if you want rid of them. 218-368-8749.

Do you have errands to run, shopping to do or chores to complete but simply don't have the time? Do you need help with balancing your checkbook, keeping track of your finances, or paying your bills? Help is available. Just call 218-553-1110.

1979 Ford F-150 long box. Call or text 218-888-2075.

Fire-starting drip torch. 218-335-6778.

If you have beaver flooding an area or taking trees down that you'd rather they didn't, I will be able to help you out! Call/text 218-888-2075.

Looking for a Jonsered 2050 turbo chainsaw for parts, need not be running, please text 218-209-1863.

Pet sitting. Will watch your pet at your house or mine. 218-766-6510.

Aluminum roll-in dock 60 to 70 ft long. 612-718-6721.

Looking for a grapple for my 753 Bobcat. Call 218-526-0111.

Sun Ancon Chi machine, and/or Far Infrared Hot-House. Hulda Clark books: Cure for all Diseases, Cure for All Cancers. Anthony William books: Medical Medium, Liver Rescue, Thyroid Healing, Life-Changing Foods, Celery Juice. Book by Keith Mumby: Diet-Wise. 218-368-4579.

In search of a lightweight Kevlar style tandem canoe. Open to all makes and models, just no aluminum or fiberglass. Give Toby a call at 218-368-8643 if you have something you would be willing to part ways with.

1955-1957 Chevy car or pickup for parts or to restore. 218-368-4923.

In search of dark house spears. I have three young sons who love spearing and I'd like to find some older blacksmith made spears. Please call or text 218-368-0368.

Ammunition, 30-30, 243, 22, 12-gauge double BB shotgun shells, full or partial boxes. 218-751-6210.



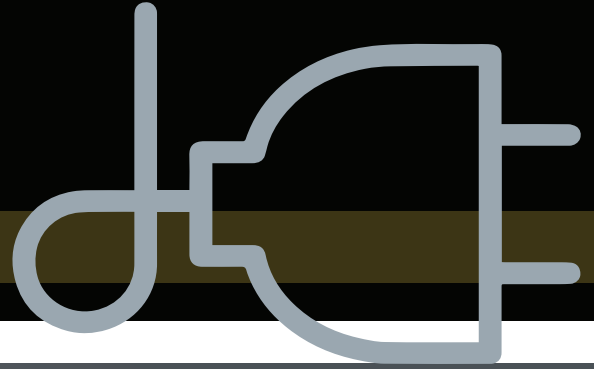
Beltrami Electric Cooperative
will be closed

Monday, May 31,

**in observance of
Memorial Day.**

BE POWERFULLY PROACTIVE FOR

National Electrical Safety Month



May is Electrical Safety Month, and your team at Beltrami Electric Cooperative knows you're aware of the big rules of electrical safety – stay away from downed power lines, don't overload an outlet and keep electrical devices away from water. But there may be additional safety precautions you could take to keep your home undamaged and your family safe. We gathered some lesser-known electrical safety tips to get your summer off to a secure start.

Be wise with GFCIs

If you have an older home, it may not be equipped with ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) – so get some! These are a vital safety tool for rooms with water sources, like kitchens and bathrooms. A GFCI acts as a split-second circuit breaker to shut off electricity fast in case of a ground fault.

Careful with your cords

Did you know extension cords have different ratings? Some are only rated for indoor use and can cause dangerous issues if they are used outside in the elements. If you are using an outdoors-rated extension cord, also be sure that the electrical source is protected from the weather.

Observe your outlets

If your outlets are warm to the touch, trouble could be around the corner. Heat could mean that the load is too high, the wiring is melting or the electrical work isn't up to code. Also be mindful of how your plugs are fitting – if they feel loose, you may need an outlet replacement. Call an electrician to help.

Be quicker to stop the flicker

If you are noticing flickering lighting in any of your home's rooms, don't assume it is just a bulb starting to burn out. It could indicate you have a damaged electrical panel that needs replacing, or you have too many appliances plugged into a single circuit.

Prepare for pets

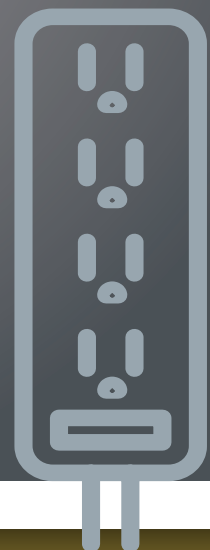
If you've never lived with a playful puppy or a curious kitten, you might not think about electricity when bringing one home. Young pets tend to find things to chew on, including cords. Safely tuck away or bind any cords that may be low and exposed, and don't leave pets unattended until you know their habits.

Protect your power tools

If your shop or garage isn't well-protected from the outside world, be sure to store your electrical tools inside. This will protect them from extreme temperature fluctuations, snow or water that may get into the garage or any gnawing critters that sneak through the cracks.

Fire extinguishers are your friend

The Electrical Safety Foundation International says electrical fires account for around 51,000 fires each year, causing an average of \$1.3 billion in damage. Never use water on a fire that may be electrical. Have a fire-retardant chemical fire extinguisher on every level of your home – and know how to use it.





Beltrami Electric Cooperative Inc.

® Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

4111 Technology DR NW
PO Box 488
Bemidji, MN 56619-0488
218-444-2540 • 800-955-6083
www.beltramielectric.com

Small change makes a BIG DIFFERENCE!



The Beltrami Electric Cooperative Trust Board for Operation Round Up® met in April to review 36 grant applications, which it received requesting funding for various local programs. The total amount requested was \$134,420. The board awarded grants to 30 area nonprofit and community organizations totaling \$56,112. Many local programs and organizations benefit from Operation Round Up, a charitable program designed to give members a means of working together to use their small change to make a big impact in our local communities. Together, we are doing some wonderful things for our friends and neighbors.

The average amount a member will contribute is 50 cents a month or \$6 a year, while the maximum annual contribution possible is \$11.88 per year. Contributions to Operation Round Up are tax deductible and will be shown on your billing statement. Participation is voluntary and members may opt out at any time or opt back in by contacting our office. The next application deadline is Sept. 24, 2021. Applications and information about the Operation Round Up program may be found on the cooperative's website at <https://www.beltramielectric.com/operation-roundup>.

The following organizations were awarded Operation Round Up grants in April:

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	GRANT
Belle Thalia Creative Arts Space	Taste for the Arts-Fall 2021 Rural Driving Tour	\$ 1,163
Bemidji Figure Skating Club	Spring/summer programming 2021	\$ 6,000
Bemidji Rotary Club Foundation	Natural playground at North Country Park	\$ 1,000
Bemidji Symphony Orchestra	Believe in the Power of Music	\$ 2,500
Bemidji Youth Baseball League	Scoreboard installation project	\$ 2,000
Blackduck Senior Center	Kitchen plumbing and outdoor sign replacement	\$ 750
Boys & Girls Club of the Bemidji Area	2021 summer financial aid	\$ 5,000
Camp Oak Hills, Oak Hills Fellowship	Large group meeting and event tent	\$ 2,000
City of Bemidji - Parks & Recreation	Safe Sitter babysitting program	\$ 345
Deeper Life Bible Camp	Mattress replacement project	\$ 2,000
Family Safety Network	Advocacy services for victims of domestic violence and their families	\$ 3,000
Gene Dillon Elementary PTO	Gene Dillon Elementary Disc Golf Course	\$ 1,000
Headwaters Science Center	Environmental Science Club	\$ 304
Headwaters Science Center	3:30 STEM Science virtual and live shows	\$ 1,500
Helga Township	Nary Heritage Park	\$ 2,000
Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District	Kabekona River recreation restoration study	\$ 2,000
Hubbard County Soil & Water Conservation District	Urban gardening initiative for pollinator habitat and pollution control	\$ 600
Kelliher Kids Child Care Center	Kelliher Kids Playground	\$ 1,700
Kelliher Library & Information Center	Kelliher Community Library - Children's Area	\$ 1,700
Lady Slipper Scenic Byway	Restore portal signs at north and south ends of LSSB	\$ 1,500
Laporte Area Take a Kid Fishing	Laporte Area Take a Kid Fishing	\$ 1,000
LSS of Minnesota Meals on Wheels	Health-sustaining meals for low-income, high-risk seniors	\$ 2,000
Mississippi Headwaters Audubon Society	Neilson Spearhead Center Nature Trail improvements	\$ 1,700
Red Lake Rosie's Rescue	Red Lake Animal Wellness Center	\$ 4,000
Support Within Reach	Emergency assistance funding for victims of sexual violence	\$ 2,000
Trinity Lutheran Church-Laporte	Coats for Kids	\$ 1,250
UMN Extension-Beltrami County (Bemidji Area Farmers Market)	One Vegetable One Community	\$ 600
United Way of Bemidji Area	Mobile food pantry	\$ 2,000
Voyageurs Area Council	Support for Boy Scouts of America programs	\$ 1,000
Walker Area Food Shelf	Flooring redo	\$ 2,500