



# Cooperative Connections

**An Eye on the  
Sky: Weather  
Spotters  
Play a Role**

Page 8

**Rollin' in  
the Fun at  
Wheel Jam**

Page 12

# \$1,000 Scholarships Awarded

## Kade Brost, Draper

My name is Kade Brost, and I'm a senior at Jones County High School. I live on a ranch south of Draper, S.D., with my parents Del and Christy and my younger sister Hannah. During high school, I have participated in basketball, track, band, choir, jazz choir, pep band, and I am also a member of the National Honor Society. I plan on attending Dakota State University to pursue a degree in Cyber Operations. I would like to thank West Central Electric Cooperative for choosing me as the recipient of their scholarship.

## Morgan Cantrell, Philip

My name is Morgan Cantrell, daughter of Jim and Joan Cantrell. I have grown up on a ranch 20 miles out of Philip with my parents and two siblings. Throughout my four years of high school, I have been an active member in FFA, FCCLA and student council. After high school, I plan on attending South Dakota State University to pursue a degree in family and consumer science education. I hope to return to my hometown once I have graduated college.

## J.D. Carter, Fort Pierre

My name is J.D. Carter. My siblings and I represent the fifth generation on our family owned cow-calf operation located along the bluffs of the Bad River west of Fort Pierre. In May I will graduate from Stanley County High School where I have participated in football, wrestling and track throughout my entire middle school and high school years. I am also a

member of the National Honor Society, HOSA, FFA and student council. This year I am the student body president and our chapter's FFA president. Outside of school I work on the family ranch and part-time at the local movie theater. When there is free time, I enjoy hunting, softball, baseball and hanging out with my friends. I especially enjoy summer time along the river and all the water sports. This fall I plan to attend SDSU and major in a health-related field focusing on preventative and rehabilitative health. I'd like to thank West Central Cooperative for the generous scholarship as this will help me further my educational goals.

## Grant Chester, Vivian

Hi, my name is Grant Chester. I live in Vivian, S.D., and will graduate from the Lyman School District in May. My parents are Mike and Misti Chester. I have two older and one younger sisters: Courtney, Rachel and Emma. I have participated in football and baseball during high school. I am also a part of National Honor Society and FFA. When I am away from school I like to hunt, fish, play pool and go camping. I have worked for a local rancher for the last two years. My plans are to attend Mitchell Technical Institute and study Agronomy. Upon graduation from MTI, I plan to return to the Vivian area and pursue a career in Agronomy.

## Carter Collins, Lyman

My name is Carter Collins. I am a senior at Lyman High School. The activities that I have been involved in are football, basketball, baseball, track, Boys State, FFA and

band. I have lived in Kennebec my whole life. My parents are Matt and Christie Collins and I have two siblings, Colton and Chloe. My future plans are to attend Mitchell Technical Institute to major in Electrical Construction and Maintenance.

## Kaylee Eisenbraun, Kadoka

My name is Kaylee Eisenbraun. I am the oldest in my family with two younger siblings, Karson and Gracie Eisenbraun. My father, Chad Eisenbraun, is the Technology Coordinator at Kadoka Area High School and my mother, Dana Eisenbraun, is the junior kindergarten teacher at Kadoka Elementary. I have lived in Kadoka, S.D., and attended Kadoka Area School for all of my life. I have been heavily involved in many school and community activities throughout my years. Football (statistician), volleyball, basketball, track and field, music, student council, National Honor Society, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and drama are among the many activities and groups I have been fortunate to be a part of. A few things I really enjoy doing are hanging out with my friends and family, watching movies and baking! Next fall I will be attending South Dakota State University to pursue a degree in early childhood/elementary education. I am excited to start this next chapter of my life!

## Jesslyn Estes, Lower Brule

My name is Jesslyn Estes, and I am currently a senior at Lower Brule High School. My life has been a struggle at times, but my hard work, determination and enthusiasm for my education and



**Kade Brost**  
Draper



**Morgan Cantrell**  
Philip



**J.D. Carter**  
Fort Pierre



**Grant Chester**  
Vivian



**Carter Collins**  
Lyman



**Kaylee Eisenbraun**  
Kadoka



**Jesslyn Estes**  
Lower Brule

# West Central Electric

## Cooperative Connections

(USPS No. 018-988)

### President

Mike McQuiston, Fort Pierre

### Vice President

Shad Riggle, Hayes

### Secretary/Treasurer

Kenneth Miller, Draper

### Directors

Rich Bendt, Kadoka  
Marty Hansen, Philip  
David J. Mertens, Kennebec  
Kevin Neuhauser, Midland  
Paul Patterson, Draper  
Jim Smith, Vivian  
Jim Willert, Belvidere

### Attorney

David Larson, Chamberlain

### CEO/Manager

Steve Reed, Murdo

**Our Mission is to Provide  
Safe, Reliable Service  
to our Member Owners.**

West Central Electric Cooperative,  
Inc., is an equal opportunity  
provider and employer.

**Call 605-669-8100  
24-hour Dispatching**

WEST CENTRAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS is published monthly by West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc., PO Box 17, Murdo, SD 57559. Periodicals Postage Paid at Murdo, SD 57559 and at additional mailing offices. Electric cooperative members devote \$1 from their monthly electric payments for a subscription. Nonmember subscriptions are available for \$18 annually.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: West Central Electric Cooperative Connections, PO Box 17, Murdo, SD 57559; telephone 605-669-8100; fax 605-669-2358; e-mail [wcecc@wce.coop](mailto:wcecc@wce.coop); Web site: [www.wce.coop](http://www.wce.coop);

Twitter: @WCElectric; Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/WestCentralElectricCooperative](http://www.facebook.com/WestCentralElectricCooperative)

Design assistance by SDREA

# Spring Has Arrived



**Steve Reed, CEO**

[steve.reed@wce.coop](mailto:steve.reed@wce.coop)

Spring is here, and we hope that everyone has survived the bitter cold winter and all of the snow that we have received. The spring flooding has resulted in significant damage to our facilities in many locations that cross the White River. It will be some time before we are able to put those facilities back to normal. In many cases the poles were swept away by the current of the river. The rest of our system survived the blizzard extremely well with only a couple of small outages to contend with.

With all of the snow it is going to delay the start of our summer construction by at least a month so if you are thinking you are going to need a new service or a service upgrade, you should contact us sooner rather than later.

The Keystone XL project continues to be tied up in the courts. We are assuming the outcome will be favorable and we will be able to start construction later this year or, at the worst, early next year.

We are looking forward to a nice normal summer – we hope!!!



The flooded White River covers South Dakota Highway 63 south of Belvidere .



## ACHS/Credit Card Autopay Promotion

**What:** West Central is giving away eight \$50 gift cards!

**Who:** WCE Members

- Four winners will be drawn from *existing* autopay accounts
- Four winners will be drawn from *newly signed up* autopay accounts

**When:** Drawing will take place on May 21st so sign up today!

Contact our office at 669-8100 to sign up!



### High Water, High Stakes

Flooding can happen in a number of ways including river and stream overflow, excessive rain or storm surge to name a few. Floodwater contaminants can create serious fire hazards if electrical wiring and equipment have been submerged in water.

In the aftermath of a flood, there may be hidden electrical hazards. Before beginning the cleanup effort, have a qualified electrician check the house wiring, assess other damages and proceed with repair work. Then, follow these important safety tips:

- Follow any directives to turn off utilities. If you're advised to switch off the main power source to your home, flip each breaker and THEN turn off the main breaker. You may also need to shut off the main valve for your home's gas and water.
- DO NOT go near any downed power lines especially if there is standing water nearby.
- Take care when stepping into a flooded area. Be aware that submerged outlets or electrical cords may energize the water, posing a potentially lethal trap.
- Have an electrician inspect electrical appliances that have been wet and do not turn on or plug in appliances unless an electrician tells you it is safe.
- A qualified service repair dealer should examine all electrical equipment that has been wet. Certain equipment will require replacement, while a trained professional may be able to recondition other devices.
- Do not touch a circuit breaker or replace a fuse with wet hands or while standing on a wet surface. Use a dry plastic- or rubber-insulated tool to reset breakers and use only one hand. If using a wet-dry vacuum cleaner or pressure washer, follow the manufacturer's instructions.

#### Replace or Recondition?

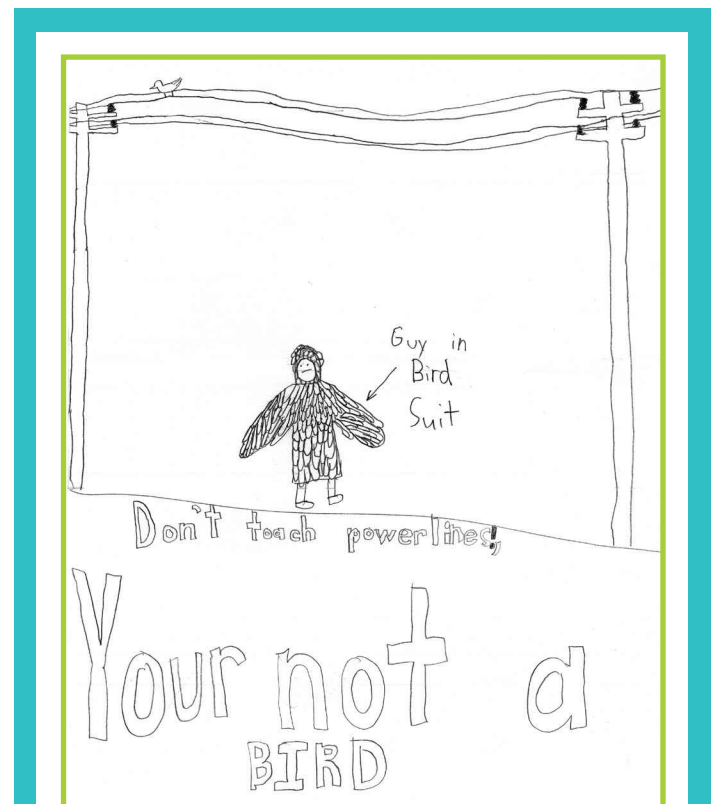
After a serious flood, some items may be reconditioned, while others will need to be completely replaced to protect you and your family. It is recommended that you allow an electrician or electrical inspector to guide the restoration or replacement of any electrical wiring or equipment. Corrosion and insulation damage can occur when water and silt get inside electrical devices and products. Water can also damage the motors in electrical appliances. Therefore, you should be prepared to replace:

- Circuit breakers and fuses
- All electrical wiring systems
- Light switches, thermostats, outlets, light fixtures, electric heaters and ceiling fans
- Furnace burner and blower motors, ignition transformers, elements and relays for furnaces and hot water tanks
- Washing machines, dryers, furnaces, heat pumps, freezers, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, vacuums, power tools, exercise equipment and similar appliances
- Electronic equipment, including computers and home entertainment systems

Source: esfi.org



### KIDS CORNER SAFETY POSTER



**"Don't touch power lines! You're not a bird."**

**Jack Bartscher, 11 years old**

Jack is the son of Jon and Tanya Bartscher, Mitchell, S.D. They are members of Central Electric Cooperative, Mitchell.

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.

# Comforting Casseroles

## Turkey Noodle Bake

1 T. oil	Seasoning Mix, Original
1 cup chopped onion	3 cups uncooked wide egg noodles
2 (14.5 oz. each) cans diced tomatoes, undrained	2 cups shredded cooked turkey
2 cups water	1 (4 oz.) package cream cheese, cubed
1 (4.5 oz.) can chopped green chiles, undrained	2 cups shredded Mexican cheese blend, divided
1 package McCormick® Chili	

Heat oil in large saucepan on medium heat. Add onion; cook and stir 3 minutes or until tender. Stir in tomatoes, water, chiles and Seasoning Mix. Bring to boil. Remove from heat. Stir in egg noodles, turkey, cream cheese and 1 cup of the shredded cheese. Pour mixture into 9x13-inch baking dish. Cover with foil. Bake at 375°F. for 15 minutes. Remove foil. Stir mixture and sprinkle with remaining 1 cup shredded cheese. Bake, uncovered, 5 minutes longer or until cheese is melted. Let stand 5 minutes before serving. Serve with assorted toppings such as sour cream and guacamole, if desired. Makes 8 servings.

*Nutritional Information Per Serving: Calories 325, Total Fat 17g, Saturated Fat 9g, Sodium 530mg, Cholesterol 93mg, Carbohydrates 23g, Protein 20g, Dietary Fiber 3g*

**Pictured, Cooperative Connections**

## Chili Pheasant Casserole

8 to 10 oz. egg noodles	1 to 2 tsp. chili powder
1/2 cup chopped raw onion	1 tsp. smoked paprika
1/2 cup chopped celery (optional)	1 cut-up cooked pheasant
1 can cream of chicken soup	1/2 cup of sour cream
1 T. fresh or dried parsley flakes	1/2 lb. of white Cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese, grated

Cook noodles in boiling water 8 minutes; drain. Combine all ingredients in a greased 3- to 4-quart casserole; stir together. Pour 1/2 cup hot water over casserole before baking. Bake at 350°F. for 40 minutes.

**Laurie Wernke, Lennox, SD**

## Wonder Tot Casserole

3/4 lb. salmon	1/2 cup chopped celery
3/4 lb. tater rounds	1 can cream of mushroom soup
1/4 lb. American cheese	3/4 cup milk
1/2 cup chopped onion	

Put salmon and tater tots in a greased casserole, reserving a few tots for topping. In a saucepan, combine cheese, onions, celery, soup and milk; heat until cheese is melted. Pour over salmon and tater tots. Bake at 325°F. for 1 hour. Season with salt and pepper.

**Deb Merkwan, Yankton, SD**

## Crescent-topped Cheeseburger Casserole

1 lb. lean ground beef	1/8 tsp. pepper
1/4 cup chopped onion	1-1/2 cups shredded American cheese
1/4 cup chopped dill pickles	1 (8 oz.) can refrigerated crescent rolls
1/2 cup water	1 egg, beaten
1/2 cup ketchup	1 T. sesame seed
1 T. yellow mustard	

In a 10-inch nonstick skillet, cook beef and onion over medium-high heat 5 to 7 minutes until thoroughly cooked; drain. Stir in pickles, water, ketchup, mustard and pepper. Spoon beef mixture into an 11x7-inch glass baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese. Unroll crescent dough; press into 12x8-inch rectangle. Cut into 6 squares; place on top of cheese. Brush with egg; sprinkle with sesame seed. Bake at 375°F. for 25 to 30 minutes or until deep golden brown.

**Stephanie Fossum, Hudson, SD**

Please send your favorite dairy, dessert or vegetarian recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3).

Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in June 2019. All entries must include your name, mailing address, telephone number and cooperative name.

# Keep Cool for Less



Pat Keegan

Collaborative Efficiency

**Dear Pat:** We moved into our home last spring. It's pretty new and seems well-insulated in winter. But it was hot last summer, so we had to run the A/C a lot, and the electric bills were a killer. Do you have any tips on how we can cool our home this summer – without going broke? – Brandon

**Dear Brandon:** We've discussed some of the easiest ways to make your home more efficient, like reducing solar gains, insulating and ventilating the attic, and sealing air leaks. You may need to focus on inefficiencies in your home's cooling system. But before we address that, let's look at some other potential problems:

- Do you have freezer or second refrigerator in the garage? This can be a major energy hog, especially if it's old and you live in a warmer climate.
- Do you have a well? Your pump may be draining your energy use as you rely on it more during the summer. Start by looking for leaks in the system, and if necessary, reduce irrigation.
- How about a swimming pool? It may be time to overhaul or replace the pool pump. If the pump is in good shape, try putting it on a timer.
- If you have central air conditioning (A/C) or a heat pump, make sure your filter has been changed or recently cleaned. The next step is to call an HVAC contractor for a tune-up and a complete an assessment of the system. A tune-up can improve the efficiency and extend the life of the unit. The tune-up includes cleaning the condenser coil, a check of the refrigerant levels and a good look at the pump and electrical contacts. Talk to the contractor about the efficiency of the A/C unit. If it's old, it may be cost-effective to replace it, even if it's still functional.
- Ductwork is equally important as the A/C unit, so make sure the contractor you choose is capable and willing to provide an expert assessment. A real pro will know how to measure the air flow at each supply and return register. If you're not getting cool air to the rooms that need it, the contractor may be able to make modifications to the ductwork.
- Leaky ductwork could be your problem. If the ducts are in unconditioned areas like a crawl space or attic, it's especially important to make sure they're sealed and insulated. It will also help to seal ducts that are in conditioned spaces.
- Some HVAC contractors can do a duct-blast test to measure duct leakage. Discuss whether you should ever close any supply registers. Most experts recommend that supply registers are always open.
- If you cool your home with window A/C units, there are a few things you can do to maximize your cooling while keeping costs as low as possible.
- Use window A/C units in rooms that can be closed off with a door, to make the cooling as effective as possible.
- Make sure you have the right sized unit for the size of the room. A unit that's too big will cool the room before the humidity has been lowered, which will make it feel less cool, while a unit that's too small will have to work harder, causing a shorter life span—and it may not do the job.
- Use an electric fan or ceiling fan to help distribute the cold air throughout the area you are cooling.
- Turn off the A/C unit when no one is in the room.
- If your window A/C unit isn't cooling properly, it may need to be replaced. Look for an ENERGY STAR-certified unit to make the most of your cooling dollars.



That old fridge or freezer in your garage could be taking a bite out of your wallet.  
Photo Credit: Alex Weimer

This column was co-written by Pat Keegan and Brad Thiessen of Collaborative Efficiency. For more information, please visit: [www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips](http://www.collaborativeefficiency.com/energytips).

Of course, the simplest way to save money on your A/C is to not use it. As much as possible, keep your activities limited to rooms that are easily cooled. Try to spend more time cooking and eating outside. If you have a basement, think about setting up a second bedroom down there where it's cooler. Think of it as your new summer hideaway!



## Work Begins Wyoming CarbonSAFE Project Test Site

Dirt work started March 31 on the Dry Fork Station plant site where geologic testing will be done for the Wyoming Carbon Storage Assurance and Facility Enterprise's (CarbonSAFE) Phase II project.

The CarbonSAFE initiative, implemented by the U.S. Department of Energy, is focused on investigating the feasibility of underground carbon dioxide emissions storage from coal-based electric generation facilities. Feasibility will be determined by whether storage is found to be practical, secure, and permanent. Several deep geologic layers are being studied for their suitability for carbon dioxide storage, including the site at Dry Fork Station near Gillette, Wyoming.

James Sheldon, Basin Electric supervisor of reliability and performance engineering, and Basin Electric lead for CarbonSAFE activities, said dirt work should be finished within a few days. "Currently, our schedule shows drilling of the test well could occur as soon as mid-April," Sheldon said. "Core samples will be collected from the well, and the well will be plugged and abandoned according to regulations. The results of the analysis of the data will be used by geologists at the University of Wyoming's Center for Economic Geology Research to create geologic computer models to test storage scenarios."

Analysis of the geologic cores, coupled with collected seismic survey data, may suggest carbon dioxide storage is technically feasible near Gillette. If project partners decide it makes business sense to do so, University of Wyoming would seek additional Department of Energy funding for a more detailed examination of the geology for a specific carbon dioxide storage project.

Wyoming CarbonSAFE is one of just six Phase II projects funded through that initiative; another, sponsored by Basin Electric, is in North Dakota. Sheldon said the initiative could play a role in the development of an environmentally friendly, economical, and long-term carbon mitigation strategy for coal-based power generation facilities.

## Member Matching Program Maxes Out For Third Time

For the third time in the history of the program, Basin Electric's member matching program maxed its budget.

Sixty-two co-ops from Basin Electric's service area participated in the 2018 member matching program, helping support organizations in their communities.

In total, 314 donations were made last year through the member match program, according to Jennifer Holen, Basin Electric's charitable giving administrator.

"Our goal every year is that our members use this program to the fullest," Holen said. "Our members know their communities best, and we're proud to be their partner in supporting their communities."

Each year, one-third of Basin Electric's charitable giving budget is allocated for member matching donations. Funds are allocated to member matches on a first-come, first-served basis.

Basin Electric's board of directors established the co-op's Charitable Giving Program in 2001 to bring greater support to rural America. Basin Electric had provided charitable donations for decades prior, but the board wanted to do more and make sure the program was managed in an equitable manner.

## Scholarships Awarded to Future Linemen



The South Dakota Rural Electric Line Superintendents Association awarded \$500 scholarships to eight Mitchell Technical Institute Power Line Construction and Management Program students. An additional Scholarship, the Mark and Kathy Hofer Power Line Scholarship, was awarded to Oakley Denne of Madison. Pictured are front row, from left are: Colt Moyer, Baltic; Wiatt Hively, Madison; Kameron Cochran, Sturgis; Tanner Griebel, Parkston; Oakley Denne, Madison – Braeden Bruning, Onida; Logan Ruesink, Dell Rapids; and Jack Hasche, Lake Preston. In the back row are members of the SDRE Line Superintendents Scholarship Committee: Jon Christensen, Whetstone Valley; Mark Iyotte, Cherry-Todd Electric; Trever Turner, Union County Electric; Rob Vetch, FEM Electric; Jared Terhark, Codington-Clark Electric and SDRELSA Scholarship Committee Chairman Bill Brisk, Black Hills Electric.



SKYWARN® weather spotter training aids volunteers in providing first-hand information to the National Weather Service.

# AN EYE ON THE SKY

## Spotters Play A Role in Weather Alert Process

**Brenda Kleinjan**

editor@sdrea.coop

Trained volunteers form a network of weather observers providing critical first-hand information for National Weather Service.

The spotters give first-hand accounts of what they are observing at ground level, an area often times obscured from what radar can detect. (Depending on the distance from the radar, that gap can extend from several hundred feet to nearly two miles.)

“Spotter reports add credibility to our warnings,” said Kelly Serr, who was conducting a training in Pierre in March. “We’re never sampling the lowest level of the storm.”

Serr kicked off the training with some basics: “This is weather spotter training, not weather chasing training. Never risk the safety of yourself or others and do your observation from a safe location.”

In most years, thunderstorms, tornadoes and lightning caused hundreds of injuries and deaths and billions in property and crop damages. To obtain critical weather information, the National Weather Service (NWS) established SKYWARN® with partner organizations. SKYWARN® is a volunteer program with between 350,000 and 400,000 trained severe weather spotters. These volunteers help keep their local communities safe by providing timely and accurate reports of severe weather to the National Weather Service. In South Dakota, several hundred volunteers attend training throughout the spring each year.

Although SKYWARN® spotters provide essential information



Clouds form a backdrop to a power line in northeastern South Dakota.

Photo by: Northern Electric Cooperative member C.J. Lane



for all types of weather hazards, the main responsibility of a SKYWARN® spotter is to identify and describe severe local storms. In an average year, the United States experiences more than 10,000 severe thunderstorms, 5,000 floods and more than 1,000 tornadoes.

Since the program started in the 1970s, the information provided by SKYWARN® spotters, coupled with Doppler radar technology, improved satellite and other data, has enabled NWS to issue more timely and accurate warnings for tornadoes, severe thunderstorms and flash floods.

### Who is eligible and how do I get started?

NWS encourages anyone with an interest in public service to join the SKYWARN® program. Training is free and typically lasts about two hours. Volunteers learn:

- Basics of thunderstorm development
- Fundamentals of storm structure
- Identifying potential severe weather features
- Information to report
- How to report information
- Basic severe weather safety

## Weather Spotter Class

While many training classes were held in March and April, a few are still being offered in South Dakota through May:

**Wednesday, April 17, 7 p.m.** – Bon Homme County Spotter Class, Avon Fire Hall, 106 E 1st Ave.

**Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m.** – Lebanon, S.D. Community Center

**Thursday, April 18, 7 p.m.** – Clay County, S.D., Spotter Class, Vermillion, S.D., High School

**Friday, April 19, 1 p.m.** – Custer Highlands/Elk Mountain, Elk Mountain School, 10222 Valley Rd, Dewey, S.D.

**Monday, April 22, 7 p.m.** – Clark, S.D., Community Center, 120 N Commercial St

**Monday, April 22, 7 p.m.** – Douglas County Spotter Class, 4-H Building, 408 9th St, Armour, S.D.

**Thursday, April 25, 7 p.m.** – Lake/Moody County Spotter Class, East River Electric Power Cooperative, 211 Harth Ave S, Madison, S.D.

**Monday, April 29, 7 p.m.** – Minnehaha County Spotter Class, Washington Pavilion, 301 S Main Ave, Sioux Falls

**Wednesday, May 1, 6 p.m.**, Murdo, S.D., Ambulance Shed, 101 N Main

**Wednesday, May 1, 7 p.m.** – Yankton County Spotter Class, 201 W 23rd St, Yankton, S.D.

**Online spotter training available:** The Cooperative Operational Meteorology Education and Training (COMET) offers an online Skywarn® Spotter Training course in two sections: "Role of the Skywarn® Spotter" and "Skywarn® Spotter Convective Basics". The course is designed for people interested in becoming storm spotters. The course is free and each section takes one to two hours to complete.

## Weather Ready

### Aberdeen Weather Team Aims to Improve Preparedness and Response

by Ben Dunsmoor

The Aberdeen office of the National Weather Service is bringing together emergency managers, broadcast media, transportation officials, and private sector organizations – including electric cooperatives – to prepare for severe weather events. Officials with the office in Aberdeen held the second annual Integrated Weather Team (IWT) workshop on March 20 to improve communication and coordination between these groups.

"The IWT is an ad-hoc 'team' of people and entities who are involved in the preparedness and response to high-impact weather events," NWS Aberdeen Warning Coordination Meteorologist Kelly Serr said.

The goal of the annual one-day workshop is to meet with organizations and discuss best practices and methods to improve communication with the public before, during, and after a severe or high-impact weather event.

According to Serr, the IWT is a nationwide initiative led by the National Weather Service. The weather service offices in Sioux Falls and Rapid City have held similar events, but the Aberdeen office is the first in South Dakota that is meeting every year.

"The IWT philosophy was born out of the desire to bring together those involved in the weather warning and public safety process," Serr said. "The vision of the workshop is to better understand each group's role in public safety, expectations, and how each IWT member can work together toward mutual goals."

Northern Electric Cooperative Communications Director Ben Dunsmoor and retired Operations Manager Mike Kelly presented information during the March 20 workshop about a mid-October winter storm that caused widespread power outages. The information was intended to help the National Weather Service, emergency managers, and those attending the workshop understand the weather conditions that cause power outages.

"My hope is that we continue to learn from each other, understand each other's strengths and weaknesses and make central and northeast South Dakota as ready, responsive and resilient as possible," Serr said.

More than 30 people attended the March 20 workshop.



About 30 people attended Integrated Weather Training in Aberdeen in March.



**Morgan Feddersen**  
Murdo



**Samantha Fillingim**  
Philip



**Kaitlyn Fosheim**  
Midland



**Austin Hand**  
Fort Pierre



**Chauncey Hauptman**  
Murdo



**Jewel Jones**  
Midland



**Mattie Jones**  
Hayes

my community has brought me more motivation to pursue my education. I plan on pursuing a degree in sociology, and I intend to earn my degree at South Dakota State University.

### **Morgan Feddersen, Murdo**

My name is Morgan Feddersen, son of Chris and Beth Feddersen, brother to Taylor and Cooper Feddersen and Erica Mund. I am a senior at Jones County High School and have lived in Murdo my entire life. Throughout high school I have been involved in basketball, football, golf, track, band, choir, school play, student council, FFA, FCA, MYF, 4-H and National Honor Society. I am the Senior Class President and a Representative for the Capitol Region Student Council. My favorite hobbies are fishing and hunting. I plan to attend Mitchell Technical Institute in the fall and will be majoring in architectural design and building construction. I have been active in my small community and would love to live in a small town once I graduate. I am very thankful to receive this scholarship as it will help me to continue my education and achieve my career goals at MTI.

### **Samantha Fillingim, Philip**

My name is Samantha Fillingim, daughter of Schon and Tanya Fillingim. I lived on a pig farm in Milesville until age six and then my family moved to Philip where I started kindergarten. I have one sibling, Jesse, who is currently in eighth grade. I love living in a small town, but I am excited to go explore new things this fall! I will be attending the University of South Dakota for a degree in dental hygiene. I am very excited for what my future holds!

### **Kaitlyn Fosheim, Midland**

My name is Kaitlyn Fosheim; I am the daughter of Jared and Tracy Fosheim. I have two brothers, Clayton and Colby, and one sister, Kalli. I have lived in the small town of Midland all of my life. I started kindergarten there and then transferred to Philip Elementary School. Even though Philip High School has treated me well, I am eager to be independent with my studies at Southeast Technical Institute. I have decided to pursue a degree in Surgical Technology so that I can give back to the community that has given so much to me. My new adventure will be overwhelming and stressful, but the excitement outweighs all of that by far.

### **Austin Hand, Fort Pierre**

Hello, my name is Austin Hand. I am a senior at Stanley County High School. I live and work on my family's farm and ranch which is 35 miles west of Fort Pierre. I plan on going to South Dakota State University to study Agronomy and Precision Agriculture. My favorite pastime activities include snow skiing, baseball, softball, working on our farm and ranch and boating during the summer. I would like to thank you for the opportunity to apply for this scholarship.

### **Chauncey Hauptman, Murdo**

My name is Chauncey Hauptman and my parents are Heath and Brandee Hauptman. I had the amazing privilege of attending and graduating the South Dakota Highway Patrol Youth Trooper Academy. After I knew law enforcement was right for me, I applied to one school, Western Dakota Tech, and was accepted to their law enforcement program. The future awaits me, and I have to say it looks promising. I can't thank the scholarship committee

enough for selecting me to be the recipient of this scholarship. It will greatly help pay for the cost of school. Thank you!

### **Jewel Jones, Midland**

My name is Jewel Jones and I am the daughter of Jon and Jennifer Jones. I live in the small town of Midland, but I go to school in Philip. At school, I participate in many different activities including band, FCCLA, Tri-M, National Honor Society, Student Council, FCA, volleyball and basketball. These activities have helped me become the student I am today and will continue to help me as I further my education. My new home for the next couple of years will be in Cheyenne, Wyo., at Laramie County Community College. Here I plan to get my degree as a radiology technician.

### **Mattie Jones, Hayes**

My name is Mattie Jones; I am the daughter of Todd and Darcy Jones from Hayes. In elementary and middle school, I attended Cheyenne Country School in Stanley County. I am currently a senior at T.F. Riggs High School in Pierre. I am involved in National Honor Society, Future Business Leaders of America, Pierre Fastpitch Softball, book club, school newspaper, T.F. Riggs Clay Target Team and peer tutoring. In my free time, I enjoy spending time with friends and helping my family on the farm. This fall I will be attending the University of South Dakota to pursue a degree in psychology and intend to go into a career in forensic psychology. Thank you for awarding me this scholarship and offering me the opportunity to further my education!

### **Avany Long, Oacoma**

Avany Long of rural Oacoma, S.D., is the



daughter of Renee and Derek Long. She has been a four-year basketball, volleyball and track athlete at Chamberlain High School. In addition, she has performed in marching band, having the honor of being drum major her senior season. She is a member of the National Honor Society. For the City of Chamberlain, Avany works as a lifeguard in the summers and for recreational services on some weekends during the school year. Her future plans include attending Dakota Wesleyan University where she has been accepted into the nursing program. Avany is interested in specializing in trauma or emergency room nursing. She will continue her commitment to athletics by being part of the track team at DWU as a hurdler and jumper.

**Cylver Lurz, Philip**

My name is Cylver Lurz, daughter of Dustin and Carrie Lurz. I have three other siblings and have lived in Philip my whole life. I will be graduating high school at Philip High School and then continuing my education and athletic career at the University of Jamestown. I will be studying elementary education and playing volleyball.

**Dyson Schofield, Philip**

My name is Dyson Schofield and I am a senior at Philip High School. Throughout my high school career, I have been actively involved in many sports including football, wrestling and rodeo. I am the oldest son of Jared Schofield and Chaney Kirk, I have three brothers and one sister; their names are Chayson, Tyan, Ryden and Emmerson. This summer I plan to rodeo in the SDHSRA and SDRA all while working for West River Excavation. After high school, I plan to attend Gillette Community College, obtain an electrician

degree, and continue riding broncs in college. After getting my electrician degree in two years at Gillette I am considering getting a construction degree as well. I will not attend Gillette for that but will head south and further my rodeo career down there.

**Kallie Shook, Presho**

My name is Kallie Shook. I moved to Lyman County when I was one and have lived here ever since. I started preschool in Kennebec and moved to Presho when I was in first grade. I will graduate from Lyman High School in May. I have been involved in cheerleading since I was a freshman, which I have enjoyed very much. Riding horses has been what I have most enjoyed growing up since I got my first horse, Sarge, when I was nine. My family consists of my older sister-who is in nursing school in Rapid City-my three younger sisters and two brothers, and my parents. I plan on attending South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in the fall to pursue a career in civil engineering.

**Kadi Terca, Presho**

Hi, my name is Kadi Terca. I am currently a senior at Lyman High School. I live on a farm outside of Presho, S.D. I have four older siblings, making me the baby of the family. During the school year, I participate in many school activities such as volleyball, track, basketball stats, drama, oral interp, band, choir and student council. In the summers I work at the Presho Pool as a lifeguard and a city worker. I am very grateful and proud to be a recipient of the West Central Scholarship. I plan to put it to good use by furthering my education at USD this fall. I am excited to major in business marketing with a minor in social media marketing because I want to help South Dakota busi-

nesses grow. I am looking forward to being a Coyote! Thanks again for choosing me for your scholarship!

**Sydney Theobald, Fort Pierre**

My name is Sydney Theobald and I live in Fort Pierre, S.D. My parents are Roger and Carolyn Theobald. I am a senior at T.F. Riggs High School in Pierre, S.D. I grew up on my family ranch with my older sister, Ashley, and my younger brother, Grady. In my free time I enjoy riding my horses and competing in rodeos. Throughout high school, I have participated in competitive swimming, volleyball and rodeo events. Next fall, I plan to attend Black Hills State University and major in business. While I am in college, I also look forward to being a part of the Yellow Jackets Rodeo Team.

**Layna Tibbs, Fort Pierre**

My name is Layna Tibbs and I am a senior at Stanley County High School. My parents are Raymond and Darla Tibbs. I have two older brothers, Zane (Katie) and Grady Tibbs. I live on our ranch in northern Stanley County where we raise cattle. I enjoy hockey and have played for 13 years. I am very active in rodeo and enjoy barrel racing, breakaway roping and team roping. I've participated in 4-H rodeo, Junior High rodeo and High School Rodeo. I am a member of the student council at Stanley County High School, an honor roll student and a 4-H member. In the past I have played volleyball, ran track and threw discus and shot put. I will be attending Odessa College in Odessa, Texas, this fall for Agricultural Science. I will also be on the Odessa College Wrangler Rodeo Team. Thank you to West Central Electric Cooperative for this scholarship. I am honored to receive it and I appreciate it!



**Avany Long**  
Oacoma



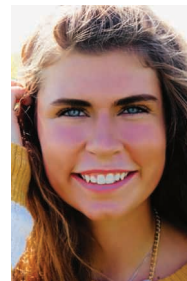
**Cylver Lurz**  
Philip



**Dyson Schofield**  
Philip



**Kallie Shook**  
Presho



**Kadi Terca**  
Presho



**Sydney Theobald**  
Fort Pierre



**Layna Tibbs**  
Fort Pierre

# Fun Rolls into Huron

Wheel Jam Celebrates Two, Four and 18 Wheels – and more

Brenda Kleinjan

editor@sdra.coop

**More than 40 competitors are also expected for the South Dakota BBQ Championships.**

Whether two wheels, four wheels or 18 wheels, vehicles of all types will be rolling into Huron May 31-June 2 for the 16th annual Wheel Jam.

The celebration of transportation takes place on the South Dakota State Fair Grounds and will include the 13th annual Original South Dakota BBQ Championships cook off as well as musical entertainment.

Organizers of the event note, “When semi-trucks, classic cars, motorcycles, stock car races, and a few rock and roll bands all get together, it means one awesome weekend for the state of South Dakota!”

Between the concurrent shows for big rigs, cars and pickups and motorcycles, visitors to Wheel Jam will see thousands of gleaming wheels. They can also watch (or be in) the BIG RIGS run in the Dynamic Engine Brake Competition, listen to



A truck in the 2017 Wheel Jam Dynamic Engine Brake Competition gives the course a run.



classic rock bands in South Dakota or just sit back and enjoy the weekend on the South Dakota State Fair Grounds.

Smokin' hot wheels won't be the only



## Wheel Jam Schedule

### Poker Run

**Friday, May 31** • 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. • Registration: 5 p.m. at Red Arrow Bar – A free will offering meal will be served during registration. The poker run is open to all vehicles. Entry fee: \$10. The entry fee includes admission into the Big Jim Jam Fest.

### Pick-Up Party

**Saturday, June 1** • Registration from 9 a.m. to noon; show from noon to 4 p.m. • Awards at 4 p.m.

Come to Wheel Jam and bring your 25+ year old pickup – in any stage of repair or dis-repair. No fee to park in designated area! We will be giving trophies for the pickup that is the ugliest, best of show, and came the furthest. Come park your pickup, set up your camper/lawn chair and set back and enjoy the fun!

### Make It Mine Show-n-Shine (Classic cars/motorcycles)

**Saturday, June 1** • Registration from 9 a.m. to noon; show from noon to 4 p.m. • Awards at 4 p.m.

There is no entry fee to participate in the Make it Mine Show n' Shine. Vehicles do not have to be in a "judged car show" condition. Winners are chosen by trophy sponsors. Each sponsor will choose from cars and bikes to award its trophy to. There is no criteria to follow. The winner is chosen based on the sponsor's preference.

### 11th Annual Midwest SPL Sound Competition

**Saturday, June 1** • Registration from 10 a.m.-11 a.m. • Qualifying Time: 11 a.m.

JM & TEAM FLEXICUTION presents the 11th annual Midwest SPL Sound Competition located in the Hippodrome.

### Wheel Jam Parade

**Saturday, June 1** • 10:30 a.m. • Participants line-up on Market Street starting at 9 a.m. – All wheels are welcome to participate!

Parade route: Market St. east to Dakota Ave. south to 21st St. and back around to the fairgrounds.

### Dynamic Engine Brake Competition

**Saturday, June 1** • 1 p.m. • Located on Nevada Ave. between Market St. and Gate 3

### Biker Games

**Saturday, June 1** • 6 p.m. • East side of carnival mat

### Wheel Jam Truck Show Light Show

**Saturday, June 1** • Dusk • Located in West Machinery

Trucks will tune into Big Jim 93.3 from 10 pm - 11 pm for Saturday Night Rockin' Lights w/ Wheel Jam Truck Show Light Show.

### Backstreet Cruisers Car Show

**Sunday, June 2** • Registration Time: 9 a.m. to noon • Show Time: 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

### Windriders ABATE Motorcycle Show

**Sunday, June 2** • Registration: 9 a.m. to noon • Show from noon to 4 p.m. • Family Living Center



The Wheel Jam Parade takes to the streets of Huron on June 1.

feature of the weekend as grilling maestros light up their grills to compete in the Original SD BBQ Championships. The event began in 2007 and is a Kansas City BBQ Society sanctioned event. Each year, more than 40 teams compete in the event, which offers more than \$14,000 in total KCBS purse. The grand champion wins \$2,500 as well as an invitation to compete at the prestigious American Royal in Kansas City, Mo. The Reserve Grand Champion pockets \$2,000 in the competition.

The event also features the Backyard BBQ People's Choice Competition, which is open to anyone. Participants do not have to compete in the KCBS portion of the event to register for the Backyard BBQ Competition.

And for chili lovers, there's the F.A.T. Friday Chili Challenge on Friday, May 31. The people's choice public tasting is held from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.

For more information on the BBQ, visit <http://www.sdbbqchampionships.com/>

Learn more about Wheel Jam at <http://www.wheeljam.com/> or by calling the South Dakota State Fair office at 800-529-0900 or 605-353-7340.



Above: The Wheel Jam Truck Show Light Show illuminates the evening on Saturday. Right: Cars of all types will be on display during Wheel Jam.





# 12 WAYS TO PREPARE

<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Sign up for Alerts and Warnings</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Make a Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Save for a Rainy Day</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Practice Emergency Drills</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Test Family Communication Plan</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Safeguard Documents</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Plan with Neighbors</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Make Your Home Safer</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Know Evacuation Routes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Assemble or Update Supplies</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Get Involved in Your Community</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	 <b>Document and Insure Property</b>

## WHAT'S YOUR PLAN?

### Storm Preparation Key

#### Federal Emergency Management Agency

Make a plan today. Your family may not be together if a disaster strikes, so it is important to know which types of disasters could affect your area. Know how you'll contact one another and reconnect if separated. Establish a family meeting place that's familiar and easy to find.

**Step 1: Put together a plan by discussing these four questions with your family, friends, or household to start your emergency plan:**

- How will I receive emergency alerts and warnings?
- What is my shelter plan?
- What is my evacuation route?
- What is my family/household communication plan?

**Step 2: Consider specific needs in your household.**

As you prepare your plan tailor your plans and supplies to your specific daily living needs and responsibilities. Discuss your needs and responsibilities and how people in the network can assist each other with communication, care of children, business, pets, or specific needs like the operation of durable medical equipment. Create your own personal network for specific areas where you need assistance. Keep in mind some these factors when developing your plan:

- Different ages of members within your household
- Responsibilities for assisting others
- Locations frequented
- Dietary needs

<https://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>

- Medical needs including prescriptions and equipment
- Disabilities or access and functional needs including devices and equipment
- Languages spoken
- Cultural and religious considerations
- Pets or service animals
- Households with school-aged children

**Step 3: Fill out a Family Emergency Plan.**

Fill out a family emergency plan or use them as a guide to create your own.

**Step 4: Practice your plan with your family/household.**



# Family Emergency Communication Plan

FEMA P-1095/July 2017HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

<b>Family Name:</b>	
Home #:	
Address:	
Name:	Mobile #:
Other # or social media:	
Email:	

<b>Important medical or other information:</b>	
Name:	Mobile #:
Other # or social media:	
Email:	

<b>Important medical or other information:</b>	
Name:	Mobile #:
Other # or social media:	
Email:	

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS and INFORMATION

<b>Police/Sheriff:</b>	Dial 911 or ☎
<b>Fire:</b>	Dial 911 or ☎
<b>Poison Control:</b>	☎
<b>Doctor:</b>	☎
<b>Doctor:</b>	☎
<b>Pediatrician:</b>	☎
<b>Dentist:</b>	☎
<b>Medical Insurance:</b>	☎
<i>Policy #:</i>	
<b>Medical Insurance:</b>	☎
<i>Policy #:</i>	
<b>Hospital/Clinic:</b>	☎
<b>Pharmacy:</b>	☎
<b>Homeowner/Rental</b>	☎
<b>Insurance: Policy #:</b>	
<b>Flood Insurance:</b>	☎
<i>Policy #:</i>	
<b>Veterinarian:</b>	☎
<b>Kennel:</b>	☎
<b>Electric Cooperative:</b>	☎
<b>Gas Company:</b>	☎
<b>Water Company:</b>	☎
<b>Alternate/Accessible Transportation:</b>	☎
<b>Other:</b>	

## SCHOOL, CHILDCARE, CAREGIVER and WORKPLACE EMERGENCY PLANS

<b>Name:</b>	
Address:	
Emergency/Hotline #:	
Website:	
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:	

<b>Name:</b>	
Address:	
Emergency/Hotline #:	
Website:	
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:	

<b>Name:</b>	
Address:	
Emergency/Hotline #:	
Website:	
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:	

<b>Name:</b>	
Address:	
Emergency/Hotline #:	
Website:	
Emergency Plan/Pick-Up:	

## IN CASE OF EMERGENCY (ICE) CONTACT

<b>Name:</b>	Home #:
Home #:	Email:
Address:	

## OUT-OF-TOWN CONTACT

<b>Name:</b>	Mobile #:
Home #:	Email:
Address:	

## EMERGENCY MEETING PLACES

<b>Indoor:</b>	
Instructions:	
<b>Neighborhood:</b>	
Instructions:	
<b>Out-of-Neighborhood:</b>	
Address:	
Instructions:	
<b>Out-of-Town:</b>	
Address:	
Instructions:	

---

**April 26-28**

Short Grass Arts Council's 20th Annual Gallery Art Show, Pierre, SD, 605-567-3562

---

**May 17-19**

State Parks Open House and Free Fishing Weekend, Pierre, SD, 605-773-3391

---

**May 24-26**

South Dakota Kayak Challenge, Yankton, SD, 605-864-9011

---

**May 25-26**

Annual SDRR Foothills Rodeo, Wessington Springs, SD, 605-770-4370

---

**May 30-June 1**

Senior Games, Sioux Falls, SD, Contact Nick Brady at 605-978-6924

---

**May 31-June 1**

South Dakota BBQ Championships, Huron, SD, 605-353-7354

---

**May 31-June 1**

Pork Palooza, Sioux Falls, SD, garrett@agemedia.pub

---

**May 31-June 2**

Wheeler Jam, Huron, SD, 605-353-7340

---

**May 31-June 3**

Fish Days, Lake Andes, SD, 605-487-7694

---

**June 1**

Dairy Fest, Brookings, SD, 605-692-7539

---

**June 1**

Annual Casey Tibbs Match of Champions, Fort Pierre, SD, 605-494-1094

---

**June 5-6**

Oahe Shrine Circus, Expo Center, 4 and 8 p.m., Fort Pierre, SD



**May 31-June 2: Fort Sisseton Historical Festival, Lake City, SD, 605-448-5474**

---

**June 7**

East of Westville with Kenny Putnam Kiwanis Club Concert, 7 p.m., Riggs Theatre, Pierre, SD, 605-280-0818

---

**June 8**

Train Day, Redfield, SD, 605-472-4566

---

**June 14**

Match Bronc Ride, Philip, SD, 605-859-2516

---

**June 14-16**

Scotty Philip Days, Philip, SD, 605-859-2516

---

**June 15**

Demolition Derby, Philip, SD, 605-859-2516

---

**June 21-23**

8th annual Scavenger's Journey, 100+ mile Garage Sales and More, from Kadoka to Stickney, scavengers-journey@midstatesd.net or see our Facebook page, Chamberlain, SD

---

**June 21-July 12**

River City Friday Nights "Bridging Families and Communities Together!" Weekly Fridays 6 to 10 p.m., Live music, vendors, kids activities, beer garden, Free Admission, Main Street, Chamberlain, SD, Contact Mollie at 605-682-9051

---

**June 28**

Naja Shrine Circus, Rodeo Grounds, 6 p.m. MTN, Wall, SD, Contact Joel at 605-209-2556

---

**June 28-29**

"Fishing for a Cure" Ladies Only Fishing Tournament, Rules Meeting Friday at 6 p.m., Tournament Saturday at 8 a.m., American Creek Marina, Chamberlain, SD, Contact Kelli at 605-730-1967

---

**July 19**

Gumbo Ridge Bronc Ride, Murdo, SD, 605-669-3031

---

**July 20**

Ranch Rodeo, Murdo, SD, 605-669-3031

---

**July 24-27**

Senior Games, Rapid City, SD, Contact Kristi Lintz at 605-394-4268

---

**August 17**

American Island Days, American Creek Campground, Chamberlain, SD, Contact Donna at 605-680-1202

**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.**