#### coal creek connection



# Steele-Waseca Coop Electric

**Coal Creek Tour-Bismarck, ND** June 23-25, 2020

# REGISTRAT



### WHO'S COMING

(list first & last names; include age for students ages 10-18 yrs.; minimum age to participate on the trip is 10 years old)

- 3.
- Δ

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### HOW DO WE REACH YOU

-

**Emergency Contact Phone:** 

### WHERE WILL YOU DEPART



(please circle one location)

Steele-Waseca in Owatonna OR

Flying J/Big Steer-Hwy 19

(we recommend getting on the bus in Owatonna)

### ACCOMODATIONS

(please circle room type)

- a. 2 Queen Beds & 1 Pull Out Sleeper; (5 people)
- b. 2 Queen Beds-Handicap; (4 people)
- c. 1 King Bed & 1 Pull Out Sleeper; (3 people)
- d. 1 King Bed & 1 Pull Out Sleeper-2 Rooms; (3 people)

# **TELL US HOW MANY ARE COMING**



Members: \$310.00	each x	_adults = \$	
1-3 Students:	FREE		FRE
$\wedge dd' = 0$	) agab y	studente \$	

Non Members: \$620.00 each xpeople =\$	<u>.0</u> 0
2nd Time Travelers: \$620.00 x people =\$ (if you bring a first time member, then the price is \$310.00)	.00

TOTAL	\$	
	D	ate:

Signed:

**SEND IT IN** Mail this form & payment to: Steele-Waseca Coop Electric Attn: Jack Schwab 2411 West Bridge St. P.O. Box 485

Owatonna, MN 55060

(email: jschwab@swce.coop)

507-451-7340



<u>.00</u>

### a monthly newsletter from Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric

### inside connections

- **2** Manager Connection
- **3** Guide to energy-efficient appliances
- Cookin' Connection SWCE community solar update Sparks in brief Steele County Tip Line
- 5 Warning signs of overloaded outlets Air source heat pump operation Hometown Sampler
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- Steele-Waseca accepting auditions to sing national anthem at 84th annual meeting Remembering DeAnn Kaplan
- Signup form for 2020 Coal Creek

### calendar of events

#### March

- 1 Final day of Community Pathways of Steele County Hometown Sampler at Little Theatre of Owatonna
- 2 Dr. Suess' birthday National Read Across America Day
- 3 "The Star-Spangled Banner" made U.S. national anthem in 1931 8 Daylight saving time starts
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 19 First day of spring



Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric line crews in March and April will be con-ducting their yearly inspection of the co-op's power lines, including an in-depth inspection of their underground facilities. The co-op services the lines up to the meter pole at member service locations, so it may be necessary for Steele Waseca trucks to enter driveways during line inspections. The yearly check is mandated by the co-op's insurance provider. Thank you for your cooperation.



Mar20.indd

Add'l Students: \$150.00 each x \_\_\_\_\_ students=\$



# separation plant

Courtesy: Great River Energy; plant to be powered by Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric

onstruction is underway in Fari--bault on an independently owned and operated air separation plant that will be powered by reliable electric service from Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric (SWCE), one of Great River Energy's (GRE's) 28 member-owner cooperatives.

Absolute Air—a consortium of five independent gas and welding supply distributors along with the Independent Welding Distributors Cooperativewill bring gases often used in the medical, electronic, food packaging, laboratory and metal fabrication industries to the Upper Midwest region beginning sometime in early 2021. Together, the consortium represents 30 business locations with more than 50,000 customers in a seven-state region.

"Now we're going to be making a bulk of those gases ourselves...It's kind of a disruption to the normal course of business, and the eyes of the industry are on us," said Brad Peterson of Mississippi Welders Supply, one of the five distributors that created Absolute Air, at the project's groundbreaking. "The big guys are watching to see if we stumble, and the little guys are watching to see if this is a replicable model that they can go out and reproduce. I think we're up to the challenge; we're ready.'

Peterson said the plant is expected to be an economic driver for the region as many larger businesses seek out collocation opportunities "since these gases are so critical to their process."

The Northern Industrial Park site chosen by Absolute Air was identified after GRE Economic Development Services



Representatives from the companies that make up Absolute Air are pictured at the plant's groundbreaking event last year.

Manager Tom Lambrecht suggested Faribault as a location that would meet their needs. As a cooperative, GRE is committed to the sustainable development of communities served by its member-owners, and works with local and state organizations to assist businesses planning to locate or expand in these areas. The site, served by SWCE, ended up not only suiting the plant's infrastructure requirements but is also centrally-located for all five companies invested in the project. 26333

"It was very important to have good electrical power, get a good rate and [find] a good provider that has good reliability," Peterson said. "We're working with Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric and Great River Energy. Thank you for being part of this."

reat River Energy is currently in Uthe process of seeking approval from city officials to build a new substation and install new overhead transmission lines to help SWCE deliver the robust electric power needed to serve the plant.



Published monthly by **Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric** 2411 W Bridge Street, PO Box 485 Owatonna MN 55060-0485 institution is an equal opportunity provider and employe

Website: <u>www.swce.coop</u> Email: <u>swce@swce.coop</u> Email: swce@swce.coop Fax: 507-446-4242

#### **Board of Directors**

PJ Duchene	District
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Duane Edwardson, Chaplain .	District 3
Dennis Ringhofer	. District 4
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Assistant Secretary/Treasur	rer
Renee Malecha	. District 9
Secretarv/Treasurer	

#### Management

Syd Briggs ..... General Manager

**Division Managers** 

David Lundberg ..... Finance Kim Huxford ..... Operations

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**Office Hours** 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

**Operations Office Hours** 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Monday-Friday

For Customer Service, Billing **Questions and Power Outages Phone:** 

507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514

- Before calling to report an outage
- 1. Check fuses and circuit breakers in your home and on meter pole.
- 2. Check with your neighbors to see if they have power.
- 3. Look for possible causes such as a tree branch on wires, a broken pole, twisted wires, etc.

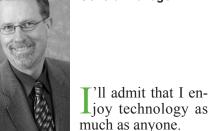
To leave a non-emergency message whenever SWCE's Office is closed:

Phone 507-451-7340 or 800-526-3514 and listen to the prompts. Please have your account number, phone number, and name on the account available

Call *Before* You Dig **Gopher State One Call** 811 or 800-252-1166 48-hour notice required for ALL underground cable locations



By Syd Briggs, General Manager



chat with my kids and grandchildren, I

enjoy having a wealth of capabilities in

At Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric,

we seek to implement technology that is

serving you, our member-owners, but to provide convenience for you in obtaining

information and/or doing business with

In this month's Sparks newsletter, I

would like to reflect on the options of

receiving your Steele-Waseca statement,

and paving your electric bill. For those of

you who attend the town hall meetings,

you will recognize some of the follow-

For those who prefer to receive their

statement in the mail, we're not planning

to change that any time soon. However,

for those who would like to go "green"

with using fewer natural resources,

or simply have a personal preference,

Steele-Waseca has options available to

obtain your statements electronically

and/or make those payments from your

You may download the apps on the

co-op's website, <u>swce.coop</u>, or register

your account from the website, and se-

lect options on notifications regarding

preferred smart device.

the palm of my hand.

vour electric cooperative.

ing options.

If time is of the essence and you don't have the time to reset your access, go to the website's home page under "MEM-BERS," and select "Quick Pay," (see photo below) where you only need three consecutive numbers of your account, and the last name on the account to gain With the capabiliaccess to make a payment. 32327 ties of today's smartphones to obtain If you are just not into technology information, socialize, and to see and

like many of our members, you may continue to use the envelope provided within your statement to mail your payment. If you're seeking to save money on postage, you may stop in our office, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 not only beneficial to our employees in p.m., to pay in person. If it is before or after hours, there is a dropbox by the flagpole that is checked daily and more often during the week. And yes, Steele-Waseca accepts payments over the phone (even after regular office hours). It can be through a checking or savings account, or through a debit or credit card that is either a Visa, Mastercard, or Discover.

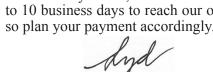
on your account. At times members will

contact our office to report not remem-

bering their username and/or password.

If you don't want to worry about being late on your payment, consider signing up for an auto pay program through your checking or savings account, or through a debit or credit card from one of those listed above.

C teele-Waseca has a number of members who prefer to make their pavments through their financial institution's Bill Pay. Please keep in mind while the money is taken out of your account electronically, payments to Steele-Waseca are issued by check, which takes seven to 10 business days to reach our office,





### ad connection

(For Sale ads continued from Page 6) S&S HORSE TRAILER, 16', newer oak floor, bumper pull, \$750/obo. 952-736-8278.

CYPRESS WOOD, various slabs cured for over 40 yrs, make clocks, end tables, etc. 446-8866/Joe.

MOBILITY SCOOTER, new batteries. 527-2529.

BROWNING MAXUS, 12-ga., auto, 3", new w/(4) choke tubes; BROWNING GOLD, 10-ga., Field -3.5", 28" bbl, new - mossy oak. 451-9445.

1995 PALM BEACH PONTOON, 18' w/2002 60-hp 2-stroke & bunk-style trailer, \$7500; 1973 LUND FISHING BOAT, 15' w/20-hp tiller & roller trailer, \$2500. 412-0251/Fbo.

MINI STORAGE UNITS, Blmg Prairie. 456-2957.

Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric (SWCE) assumes no liability for the content of, or reply to, any item posted. The party posting any advertisemen assumes complete liability for the content of, and all replies to, any advertisement and for any claims against SWCE as a result thereof, and agrees to in demnify and hold SWCE harmless from all costs, expenses, liabilities and damages resulting from, or caused by, any advertisement or reply thereto

# Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric conducting auditions for national anthem singer at co-op's 84th annual meeting

Selected performer earns \$100

C teele-Waseca is conducting audi-Ditions for the singing of, "The Star-Spangled Banner," at this year's annual meeting, Tuesday, June 2, at the co-op's headquarters in Owatonna.

Interested Steele-Waseca members or their dependents will need to audition before a panel of judges at the co-op or at an agreed designated location.

For those auditioning (whether solo, duet, etc.), you will be judged on your vocal performance, stage presence, and personality. You may schedule an audition by contacting Executive Assistant Jenifer Shimpach at Steele-Waseca. Auditions must be completed by Friday, April 24. Last year's selected performer/group is not eligible to participate the

year after being selected. 17647 The performer(s) selected will need to be available to sing the national

### Former Steele-Waseca Administrative Assistant DeAnn Kaplan dies at age 81

Former Steele-WasecaCooperative Electric Administrative Assistant DeAnn Kaplan died Sunday, Jan. 12, at the age of 81. DeAnn started

her career at Steele-Waseca on May 26, 1984, as a customer



service representative. She spent many hours answering phone calls and handling nearly all new and final accounts. She became administrative assistant in July 1996.

In her retirement article published in the April 2001 Sparks newsletter, one of DeAnn's most vivid memories dur-

the early 2010s.

Quick Pay

STEELE-WASECA OOPERATIVE

ELECTRIC - YOU

OUCHSTONE

DeAnn Kaplan

SHIPPING CONTAINERS. 20' & 40', moisture- & rodent-proof, store your stuff on your property, 612-

418-4375

456-0753

2001 FORD RANGER, V6, 8T, 4WD, newer tires, new front & rear brakes, new rotors & right front wheel bearings at 169,580 mi., now w/194,000 mi., \$1800. 951-2644.

4X5 NET-WRAPPED GRASS HAY BALES, cut waterways & ditches, \$80. 451-5131.

1999 FORD F-350 SUPER DUTY XLT CREW CAB w/Hiniker quick tack snowplow; SCHEDULE 40 ELEC. CONDUITS, 3" & 2" by 10' long, 200+ pieces, half price of new. 612-910-0041

3# PACKAGES OF HONEYBEES. delivery in Owat.

DISPLAY CABINET: 48" high, 32" wide, 24" deep, 2-shelves, high quality oak & workmanship, \$50: '84 CUTLASS CIERA, rust-free, V6 diesel; .22 BROWN-ING BUCK MARK (all in vry gd cond.). 451-0996.

1988 IH TRUCK FOR PARTS, 466 engine, 18' box & hoist, tires, fiberglass front (all cheap). 330-3945.

CIRCLE LK LOT, 0.7 acres; (2) DOWNHILL ROS-SIGNOL SKIS. 470-262-7696

1997 GRAIN TRUCK, DT466 engine, auto transmission, 16' box & hoist, vry nice truck. 384-7553.

12 X 16 PORTABLE BLDG, 4x6 skids, plank floor, gable roof; GRASS HAY, sm. sq. hvy bales, no rain 334-6377

SILO STAVES. 465-3380



Christ the King Full and Handbell Choirs of Medford, under the direction of Melodie Morris, performed "The Star-Spangled Banner," during Steele-Waseca's 83rd annual meeting, June 4, 2019.

anthem "live" at the annual meeting. The selected recipient will also receive \$100 at this year's annual meeting.

ing her Steele-Waseca career was how all the employees cooperated during the 1991 ice storms while they worked long hours to get the members' power restored. When asked about leaving Steele-Waseca, DeAnn said, "It's been a great place to work. I'm going to miss the people, but I promise to come back and visit." DeAnn came occasionally to help in the Steele-Waseca office until

DeAnn was born Sept. 29, 1938, in Owatonna to John and Bonita (Hondl) Resler. She attended school in Owatonna and was married to Eugene Kaplan on June 16, 1955, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Litomysl. She worked alongside Eugene on the farm in rural Steele County before working at Jossparks • march 2020

tens. After that she started her career at Steele-Waseca.

She was a member of Holy Trinity Catholic Church of Litomysl, and the rural Homemakers Club. DeAnn taught religion class for many years, and enjoyed reading, traveling, and time with her family.

DeAnn is survived by her children: Shelbie (Ed) O'Brien of Lakeville, Sherrie (Steve) Meixner of Moorhead, Jerry (Barb) Kaplan of Blooming Prairie, Gary (Linda) Kaplan of LaGrange, Ga.; and Grant (Cathy) Kaplan of Medford; 10 grandchildren and 16 greatgrandchildren.

▲ Mass of Christian Burial was con-Aducted Friday, Jan. 17, at Holy Trinity Catholic Church.

#### ad connection

#### give away

HARD FIREWOOD, down, take (1) cord & leave (1) cord, use my log splitter. 334-6829.

SLEEPER SOFA, great for basement or cabin, you pick up. 451-2053

KITTENS, exc. mousers, use litter boxes, multiple colors, healthy, dewormed & vaccinated, 456-1400,

271-6592

GENERAC GP2200i PORT. GENERATOR, 1700

running watts, 2200 starting watts, run only 24 hr,

TREE TRIMMING. REMOVAL. & STUMP GRIND..

pro climber & aerial lift to U of M guidelines; FRONT

TREK 7000, men's, 700x35c, \$100; TREK 220,

boy's, 21-spd, 24x175, \$50; DIAMONDBACK, 6

BROWN EGGS, free range, \$2/dozen; REISPORT

GYMNASTICS GRIPS w/dowel, \$15; BEGINNER

GYMNASTICS GRIPS, \$3; PRACTICE LEOS, XL

MINI STORAGE AVAIL. IN FBO: 6'x8', \$49/mth;

10'x24', \$125/mth; MINI STORAGE AVAIL. IN MOR-

GOODYEAR TIRES & TUBES, 18.4-38. 330-1849.

BLK ANGUS BEEF: qtrs, halves, or whole avail.

ENGINES & TRANSMISSIONS, TRUCK & AUTO

FORTUNE CREEK TRL LOTS, covenant allows for

24"x112" & (18) FRINGED BURLAP TABLE RUN-

NERS, 16"x76", all for \$75; (90) BANDANAS, navy

2002 HONDA GOLDWING TRIKE MOTORCYCLE,

1800cc, vry nice cond., 39,575 mi., has trailer hitch

WEIDER SKI MASTER CROSS COUNTRY SKIER

VARIETY OF MEN'S & WOMEN'S OLD WEST/

FRONTIER CLOTHING incl. hats, skirts, vests

frocks, shirts, trousers & accessories 952-451-4821

2009 HONDA ACCORD, 4-door, 2.4L, gd cond.

FRINGED BURLAP TABLE RUNNERS,

a pole shed, starting at \$75,000. 838-5033/John.

semi-organically & locally raised. 330-2452/Matt.

CHROME BUMPER for an F-650, new. 456-1609.

1-yr warranty, \$450. 685-4126.

spd, girl's, 20x175, \$40. 330-3178.

RISTWN: 10'x20', \$99/mth. 333-0319.

PARTS, 30-day warranty. 332-2300.

blue, \$45/obo. 456-2048

light connection. 213-6427/txt.

EXERCISE MACHINE, 838-8792

204,000 mi., \$3600/obo. 383-3923.

adult, \$3/each, 676-5582

FREE ONLINE CLASSIFIEDS, you place & remove your own ad on SWCE's website, swce.coop, these are separate from Sparks & will not appear in Sparks unless mailed delivered faxd or emailed to SWCF

#### wanted

UNWANTED BIKES & LAWN MOWERS, \$ pd on delivered. 330-3178.

SOMEONE TO TEAR DOWN 24X36 POLE SHED that tornado tore roof off in 2018, will pay to do it. 332-7590

FORD SKID STEER, diesel. 330-1849.

HOUSE FOR RENT w/acreage for (2) horses & (6) cows between Byron & Owat. 715-651-0143.

JUNKERS & REPAIRABLES, top \$ pd for cars & trucks. 332-2300

SM. GRAVITY BX & RUNNING GEAR. 456-0259.

PAINTING JOBS, outer bldg incl. barns, homes, garages, sheds, etc. 302-8225

BARN OR OUTBUILDINGS, I re-purpose the lumber; OLD TIN; SIGNS. 330-0258/Tim.

.410-GA, LEVER ACTION SHOTGUN, 340-6407

3-PT HITCH SPRAYER TANK OR WATER TANK, 100-300 gal. 651-214-2357/leave message

2-SPD REAR DIFFERENTIAL for a 1980 IH truck, must be an 1800 series. 330-3945.

BEE EQUIP .: frames, boxes, extractor foundation, everything to go at a gd price. 339-0603.

FLARE BOX, exc. shape, \$675. 455-3881.

MN VIKINGS WINTER COAT, new w/tags, size XL \$75; ELEC. GUITAR w/amp, like new, \$150; DOG-HOUSE, homemade, \$50, 332-8826

All area codes are 507 unless otherwise noted

BEACHFRONT VACATION CONDOS FOR RENT RESERVE YOUR MARCH-APRIL BORN KATAHin Fort Myers Beach. South Padre Island & Mexico. DIN HAIR SHEEP RAM & EWE LAMBS. 451-2722. visit www.sandysbeachfrontcondo.com for details & photos. 612-865-9604/Sandy.

BOSS V-PLOW 9'2" 3-4 vrs old \$5500: 1994 FE-HLING SKID LOADER, 10,000 lb. trailer, \$1700. WOOD SPLITTER w/hvy duty log lift & 4-way wedge. 334-7177

> RENTAL, Izaak Walton League Bldg., 4 mi. south of Owat., seats 100, full kitchen, grill, Wi-Fi, \$125. 451-7946

> COCKER SPANIEL PUPS. America's Pet Registry. parti buff/white, ready March 20, \$450; RAG RUGS, handwoven, \$25. 455-0043.

> PUREBRED GERMAN SHEP. PUPS, 1st shots & wormed, 391-3783.

MINI STORAGE UNITS in Ellendale. 456-1460.

**RED & WHITE WOODEN TOY BARN W/GRAY RE-**MOVABLE ROOF. MATCHING CATTLE BARN. & WHITE WOODEN FENCE, \$100. 334-5913

KITCHEN TABLE in great cond. w/leaf, comes w/(4) chairs in OK cond., haul yourself, \$25. 213-6286.

CLIMATE CONTROLLED UNITS FOR RENT, 11'x9' to 16'x10'. 332-4623.

(4) BEVELED GLASS OCCASIONAL TABLES w/ wicker bottom shelves, beautiful, \$250; ASSORTED ELEC. MOTORS. 465-8566.

(18) POCKET T-SHIRTS, size L, new in plastic, \$30/ obo; (4) SAILUN TERRAMAX A/T TIRES, 265/70R-17, 8-ply, 70% thread, \$160/obo. 612-290-2704.

105-ACRES PRIME IRRIGATED FARMLAND, 1/2 mile to Shieldsville, 3/4 mile along #271, beautiful, great land, retiring, \$7500/acre. 301-9694.

25' SUNFLOWER 6333 SOIL FINISHER, like new, exc. cond.; 1995 CADILLAC DEVILLE, rust free, very ad cond. 684-3136.

(For Sale ads continued on Page 7)

#### travel

SAVANNAH & CHARLESTON, April 18-26. By mo or coach, 8 nights, 14 meals, guided tours of Sa annah. St. Simons. & Jekvll Islands. visit Charles on, harbor cruise. \$1,699 pp w/2 per room

NATIONAL PARKS ARIZONA & UTAH, May 8-18 By motor coach, 10 nights, 15 meals, Durango/Sil erton train ride, Badlands, Grand Canvon, Petr fied Forest, & more! \$1,699 pp w/2 per room.

MONUMENTS OF WASHINGTON, D.C., May 15 Delta flight, 4 nights, 8 meals, guided Monu nents. Memorials & D.C. tours, tram ride throug Arlington Nat'l Cemetery. \$1,599 pp w/2 per room

ARK ENCOUNTER & CREATION MUSEUM. June 14-19. By motor coach. 5 nights. 9 meals. incl Judge Davis Mansion Lincoln's boyhood home museum & tomb. & more! \$999 pp w/2 per room.

Call 4-Seasons at 800-328-4298 and reserve space today! Be sure to tell us you are Steele Waseca members!



#### member connection

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Did you know the average

home spends about

earned the ENERGY

STAR<sup>®</sup> rating, you can

save an average of \$75

a year in energy costs

environment.

whilehelpingtosavethe

\$2,000 on energy bills

When you consider your next appliance purchase, you are encouraged to purchase an ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> gualified appliance. Your cooperative offers rebates for members who purchase an ENERGY STAR-qualified refrigerator or freezer as long as the replaced unit is properly recycled. Members can also receive a rebate for purchasing ENERGY STAR electric clothes dryers and dehumidifiers.

#### **Dehumidifiers**

- every year? If you change to appliances that have

#### **Electric Clothes Dryers**

- ENERGY STAR certified dryers use about 20% less energy than conventional models without sacrificing features or performance.
- You can save about \$20 a year in electricity compared to the dryers that only meet the minimum efficiency standard.

#### Freezers

- approximately \$35 a year.

### **Refrigerators**



A

all SWCE Members
ensure being printed in the April
words or less on this form. We
1 4 1 . 1 6 41

Sparks Free Classified Ad Form for Ads need to be received in our office by March 5 to e Sparks. Please print neatly or type your ad of 20 v

reserve the right to edit ad copy to allow space for more ads. Ads received after the 5th will be printed in the May issue. 1008751

**T T T T T** 

For Sale	Wanted	Give Away
Phone #	Account #	۱ <u> </u>
Name		
	CE, PO Box 485, Owatonna 242 or email your ad to: <u>sp</u>	
6	s s	parks • march 2020

#### for sale

# **YOUR GUIDE TO ENERGY EFFICIENT APPLIANCES**

ENERGY STAR-certified dehumidifiers have more efficient refrigeration coils, compressors, and fans than conventional models, which means they remove the same amount of moisture but use nearly 30% less energy.

In fact, the annual energy saved by an ENERGY STAR certified dehumidifier could power your ENERGY STAR certified refrigerator for four months!



Freezers that have earned the ENERGY STAR are at least 10% more energy efficient than the minimum federal standard.

Replacing your old freezer with one that has earned the ENERGY STAR could save you

• ENERGY STAR certified refrigerators are about 9% more energy efficient than models that meet the federal minimum energy efficiency standard.

By properly recycling your old refrigerator and replacing it with a new ENERGY STAR certified refrigerator, you can save approximately \$50 a year.

# cookin' connection

### **Garlic Seasoned Baked Pork Chops**

#### **Christy Strobel**

2 Tbsp butter; melted	2 Tbsp milk
1 egg; beaten	pork chops
1 pinch garlic powder (or to taste)	

1 pinch seasoned salt (Lawry's; or to taste)

Preheat oven to 425°. Pour butter into a 9x13" baking dish, tilting to cover entire bottom of dish. Whisk egg and milk together in shallow bowl; dip pork chops into egg mixture. Transfer pork chops to the baking dish. Sprinkle pork chops with garlic powder and seasoned salt. Bake pork chops in preheated oven for 10 minutes, then flip chops and season the other side with garlic powder and seasoned salt. Cook until chops are no longer pink in the center, about 10 more minutes. An instant read thermometer should read at least 145°.

Please use a 3 x 5 card when submitting your recipe. The member whose recipe is published will receive a \$7 energy credit.



Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric's solar subscribers will see a 10 kWh credit per panel on this month's statement for energy generated during January 2020. Learn more about community solar and The Sunna Project by visiting Steele-Waseca's website, swce.coop.

### Was your account number in Sparks?

Each month five account numbers are printed in *Sparks* and a total of \$35 in energy credits is divided among however many of those numbers are found. For example, if all numbers are found, a credit of \$7 will be applied to the members' following month's electric bills; or, if only one number is found, that member receives the full \$35 credit. Members finding their numbers who have a load management receiver on their dual fuel, electric water heater, air conditioner, or genset will receive an additional \$7 credit. When you find your number, phone our office no later than the 7th of the month following receipt of the Sparks, or the amount will be forfeited. 1021676

# February issue of Sparks



Numbers found: None by those members Numbers not found: **Daniel Thofson** Allan/Doreen Nelson Michael/Belinda Isaacson Joshua Abbe Melissa/Adriaan Erasmus



sparks · march 2020

### Sparks in brief . . .

Kilkenny

• Want easy energy payments? Sign up for EnergyPay Plus, our automatic payment plan, or Energy Prepay, our discounted advance payment plan. Contact our office for details. You may also pay your bill online at www.swce.coop. By entering your Steele-Waseca username and password you can also view a 13month history of your account.

• If you have changed or added phone numbers, please contact SWCE to update your contact information.

• Need a new water heater? For information about our Westinghouse Electric Water Heater Program, phone Cindy Butterfield at our office between 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m., 446-4204 / 800-526-3514.

• January temps – The average high temperature for January was 25° F, while the average low was 12° F. This resulted in 1,428.5 Heating Degree Days (HDDs), and 0 Cooling Degree Days (CDDs). They compare to last year's average high of 21° F and average low of 5°F. This resulted in 1,616.5 HDDs and 0 CDDs.

• ENERGY STAR<sup>®</sup> Rebates – In 2020, all ENERGY STAR refrigerators/freezers (with recycling), electric clothes dryers, dehumidifiers, central air conditioners, air and ground source heat pumps, light emitting diode (LED) bulbs purchased (limit 5) are eligible to receive rebates (may not be combined with special promotions). Rebate request forms must be submitted within 90 days of purchase. Rebate forms are available at www.swce.coop. For more information or to receive a rebate request form, phone Cindy Butterfield at 446-4204 or 800-526-3514.

• Steele-Waseca's tree service contractor - Carr's Tree Service, Inc., is contracted to do SWCE's tree trimming. To report a tree concern, phone:

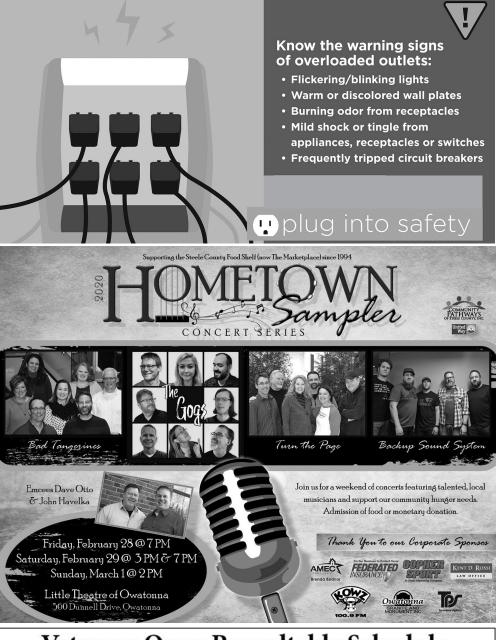
#### 507-451-7340 / 800-526-3514



COVERS ALL OF STEELE COUNTY INCLUDING THE CITIES OF:

OWATONNA ELLENDALE **BLOOMING PRAIRIE MEDFORD** 

#### health & safety connection



# Veterans Open Roundtable Schedule

### March 10, 2020.....George Lundstrom

George's Navy Pilot basic training started in Pensacola, Fl in August 1967 and commissioned as Ensign in the US Navy, joined the Naval and Marine Officers from the Naval Academy, Officer Candidate School, and Naval ROTC, sent to Saufley Field for basic flight training in a T-34 mentor etc. Next Pensacola for air-to-air gunnery and carrier qualification training, then to Beeville, TX for advanced jet training, received wings, Miramar NAS, San Diego train to fly the F-8 Crusader. National Guard July 2009 - June 2013

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church-Second Tuesday of the month February 2020 - June 2020 at 7:00pm

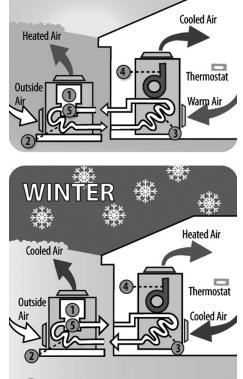
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Programs can be viewed at owatonnalive.com

# How Do **Air-Source Heat Pumps Work?**

By transferring heat between a house and outside air, these devices trim electricity use by as much as 30 percent to 40 percent in moderate climates.

# **SUMMER**



### (1) Compressor

Increases refrigerant pressure to accept the maximum heat from the air.

#### (2) Condenser

Coils move refrigerant (and with it, hot or cold air) to or from outside air.

#### 3 Evaporator

Coils move refrigerant (and with it, hot or cold air) to or from outside air.

### (4) Air Handler

Fan blows air into a home's ducts.

#### (5) Reversing Valve

Switches the direction of refrigerant flow, changing the heat pump's output to hot or cold air (controlled by thermostat).

Source: NRECA