



## CEDAR-KNOX PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT

P.O. Box 947, HARTINGTON, NEBRASKA 68739

cedarknoxppd.com

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## Leise awarded Martindale Scholarship

HARTINGTON — The Harold Martindale Scholarship has been awarded to Justin Leise, son of Alan and Laurie Leise of Hartington. Justin attends Cedar Catholic High School, and after graduation will be attending Northeast Community College and begin the two year Lineman Course. The scholarship is \$1,000.00 per year, for the two year program.

Justin has been involved in high school football, basketball and baseball all four years. Justin has been very involved in many other volunteer groups to better his community as well.

Cedar-Knox PPD congratulates Justin and wishes him well in school and his future plans.



JUSTIN LEISE

## Winter Ending - None too Soon

Even the people who like snow, have got to be glad to see this winter end. Spring cannot come too soon, after we experienced the record snow fall and ice related outages this season. We had quite a large spread outage the third week of January due to ice build-up. Even though we had outages, we only had 4 broken poles. Most of the damage was what we call "burn downs"; that is when the weight of the ice on the lines in combination with winds cause the lines to get together and burn. Downed power lines became submerged in the deep snow, making them hard to spot. Treat all downed lines as if they are energized. Stay away, warn others to stay away and immediately contact Cedar-Knox PPD. Remember that downed lines DO NOT have to be arcing, sparking or moving to be "live" and deadly.

Our crew, and all our employees worked diligently to get your power back on. The scope of the outage was widespread so outage times were more than a couple of hours for some. We appreciate your patience in these situations and always glad to hear from you. You never know if it is an isolated outage of just your service or it is a whole area.

# Be a part of the 2010 Youth Energy Camp

Cedar-Knox PPD will be hosting campers again this year to the Youth Energy Camp in Halsey Nebraska, July 19-23. If your parents are residential rate payers to Cedar-Knox PPD and you are currently a Freshman, Sophomore or Junior in high school you qualify. Cedar-Knox Board will make their selection at the June 8, 2010 meeting. Flyers and the application forms are available at your local high school and at the CKPPD office.

Please consider this camp, it includes tours of Gerald Gentleman Power Station near North Platte and the Kingsley Hydro-Electric Power Plant near Ogallala, not to mention fun activities, including sports tournaments, canoeing, dancing, a get-acquainted party and some free time to socialize and make lots of new friends. One other great opportunity is a chance to win a trip the Washington DC the following summer.

Cedar-Knox PPD provides all travel arrangements to and from camp. If you have any question, please contact us at 1-800-891-5196. To enter, complete the form below and mail to Cedar-Knox PPD, PO Box 947, Hartington, NE, 68739 no later than May 15, 2010.

Hope to see you at camp!

### 2010 Youth Energy Camp Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_ Current  
Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parents of guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring rural electric system \_\_\_\_\_



Nanette Heimes attended the Energy Camp in 2009. Heimes also won the DC trip.

## "Blinks" can signal a properly working electrical system

We often hear the question from members "What causes my lights to blink?" The utility network is subject to certain short-term losses of power, and Cedar-Knox PPD takes all possible measures to prevent these occurrences and minimize the effects to our members. Blinking lights are a result of momentary outages that occur when some type of disturbance exists on the line. This could be a lightning strike, an automobile striking a pole, or when a squirrel or tree branch comes into contact with an energized power line.

When lights blink, it is an indication that the cooperative's equipment is operating properly. If a fault or short circuit happens on a power line, a device called an "oil circuit recloser" (OCR) opens to stop it, then quickly closes back in. Although the process is quick – and usually temporary – it may cause your lights to blink, making it necessary to reset digital clocks and appliances with digital displays.

The OCR is essentially a breaker, functioning much like a breaker in the electrical panel in your home. It permits power to continue flowing through the line with only a brief interruption of service – rather than causing an extended power outage. If the short circuit continues, the OCR will operate or 'trip' three times before eventually stopping the flow of electricity and causing a power outage. This process protects the lines from damage, cutting off power to the affected section of the line and isolating the problem until it can be repaired.

Although the weather and nature's creatures are beyond our control, customers can lessen the effects and inconvenience of "blinks" when they occur. When purchasing small appliances and digital clocks, consider a model with battery backup. You may also want to install meter-base surge protection for the major appliances in your home and surge protection with built-in uninterrupted power supply (UPS) for your computer or other electronic devices whose "memory" would be lost with a power interruption.

## Phone System Upgrade

HARTINGTON — We have recently updated our phone system. You, the customer, should notice few changes other than you now have the ability to leave many of our employees a voice mail if they are unavailable at the time of your call during regular hours or even after hours.

If you are calling after regular office hours, you will be greeted by an automated message with three options to choose from. Option one you press 1 for an outage or emergency, which will connect you to the servicemen who are on duty at the time. Option 2 will allow you to leave a meter reading or message for our billing department, which will be checked the next working day.

Option 3 will take you to our voice mail directory, where you will be able to choose the Cedar-Knox employee that you would like to leave a message for.



## GET OUT AND VOTE

The Primary election is Tuesday May 11, 2010. Mark it on your calendar and let your voice be heard.

## CKPPD welcomes Landon Rutar

HARTINGTON — Landon Rutar son of Nathan and Kaly Rutar.

He was born 1/14/2010 and weighed 8lbs 6 oz and 21 ¼ inches long. He joins a brother, Jared, at home.

Nathan is a journeyman lineman for Cedar-Knox PPD and Kaly works at North-east Equipment of Hartington. Congratulations to the proud parents.



Visit [cedarknoxppd.com](http://cedarknoxppd.com) and check out the Home Energy Suite, for lots of useful information.

## — Reminder for Budget Billing Customers —

Budget settle-up is just a few months away. With your June billing statement, the total of your monthly electric charges will be compared to your total budget payments that you have made throughout the year. If you have overpaid, the credit will be applied to your account for the next month's budget billing.

If you have underpaid, you will be billed the difference and that balance due will need to be cleared up at that time. In order to avoid a big budget settle up billing,

please be aware of what your actual account balance is on your billing statement. If you feel it is going to be too much to settle up at one time, give us a call and we can spread it out over the next two billings to help with your budgeting needs.

We do try to assess your budget accounts a couple times a year, but with the long, cold winter we have had, some accounts have gotten pretty far behind. If you have any questions regarding your budget settle-up, please contact us at (402)254-6291 or (800)891-5196.

## Notice

Please keep in mind that Cedar-Knox employees need to have access to all our equipment for maintaining, upgrading, servicing and meter reading. If you have a dog that is a threat to our personnel, please restrain them. We should have unobstructed access to our equipment. Our equipment consists of poles, meters, transformers, overhead and underground wires, load switches on pivots, etc. We do appreciate your cooperation in this matter.