

Disaster Assistance

The winter storm that hit Nebraska April 13 and 14th was a nuisance for some but devastating for others. Though Cedar-Knox PPD had a few minor outages, our neighbors to the west were hit hard. Niobrara Valley Electric who's headquarters is in O'Neill Nebraska put out

a call for Mutual Aid which most of the Nebraska utility companies are a part of. Cedar-Knox PPD responded by sending 5 linemen, 3 trucks and materials. They left on Sunday the 15th and didn't return until Friday afternoon. Niobrara Valley Electric had all their substations, thus all their customers, out at one time; that is around 6,000 customers. They had extensive damage and an estimate of over 600 poles down. Other districts responded as well and most all their customers were back on by Friday the 20th.

April 18th, was National Utility Lineworker Appreciation Day and we had planned to celebrate by serving breakfast to our crew. However, mother-nature had other plans. So, when all our guys are back home and back to



Cedar-Knox PPD linemen Eric Becker, Jeff Feilmeier, Matt Sudbeck, Forrest Dendinger and Nathan Rutar worked the winter storm.

work here, we will give them the recognition they so deserve. We are very grateful that our district was not affected so extensively, but glad that we could lend a helping hand to our neighbors.

Let's hope we are through with snow for this season; pretty sure no one disagrees with me on that one. Have a great spring and be safe.



Cedar-Knox PPD crew working near Butte, Nebraska.

Cultivating Safety in Agricultural Practices

One of the most dangerous jobs in the United States is farming. Among the hazards faced by farmers, farm workers, and family members is contact with electrical equipment. However, with proper planning and safety procedures, the risk of having an accident involving electricity can be greatly reduced:

- Keep a 10-foot minimum distance around power lines — above, below, and to the side.
- Use caution when handling long items such as irrigation pipe, ladders, and rods. Coming too close to a power line can cause electricity to arc, or "jump," to conducting material or objects.
- Be aware of increased height when loading and transporting tractors on trailer beds. Many tractors are now equipped with radios and communications sys-

tems that have very tall antennas extending from the cab that could make contact with power lines.

- Avoid raising the arms of planters, cultivators, or truck beds near power lines.
- Never attempt to raise or move a power line to clear a path.

Overhead electric wires are not the only source of electrical contact that can result in a serious incident. Pole guy wires, used to stabilize utility poles, are grounded. However, when one of the guy wires is broken it can cause an electric current disruption. This can make those neutral wires anything but harmless. If you hit a guy wire and break it, call Cedar-Knox PPD to fix it.

If your equipment does come into contact with power lines, stay in the cab and call for help; the electric utility needs to be notified. Even if a line has landed on the



ground, there is still potential for the area to be energized. Warn others who may be nearby to stay away and wait until the electric utility arrives.

If leaving the cab is necessary, as in the case of fire, the proper action is to jump—not step—with both feet hitting the ground at the same time. Do not allow any part of your body to touch the equipment and the ground at the same time. Hop to safety, keeping both feet together.

Have a safe planting season, and get more electrical safety information at SafeElectricity.org.



Recipe Corner

Breakfast Burritos

Ingredients:

- 1 lb bulk pork sausage
- 2 T taco seasoning
- ¼ cup green onions, chopped
- 12 eggs
- 2 T butter
- Flour tortillas 10, 8 inch
- 1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
- Salsa and Sour cream

STEPS:

In 10-inch skillet, cook pork sausage over medium-high heat until no longer pink; drain. Stir in green onions and taco seasoning. Remove from skillet; set aside.

In large bowl, beat eggs until well

blended. Wipe skillet clean with paper towels. In same skillet, melt butter. Add eggs; cook, stirring frequently, until scrambled and set. Add sausage mixture, stir gently.

Heat tortillas as directed on package. Spoon sausage evenly onto each tortilla. Sprinkle each with 2 tablespoons cheese. Fold in sides of each tortilla; roll up to make burritos. Place in freezer container with waxed paper between layers. Freeze 8 hours or overnight.

Night before use, place burritos in refrigerator to thaw. Next morning, heat oven to 350°F. Wrap each burrito in foil; place on cookie sheet. Bake 10 to 15 minutes or until hot. Serve with salsa and sour cream.

New Hire –



Jared Wieblhaus is the newest member of the Cedar-Knox PPD team. Jared is from Fordyce and his parents are Bob and JoAnn Wieblhaus. He is currently completing the 2 year Utility Lineman program at Northeast Community College. Jared was hired as an Apprentice Lineman and will start working for CKPPD in the very near future. Jared enjoys spending time with family and winter months he likes to hunt and trap.

Welcome Jared!

Stork Report Congratulations



Jordy Marjorie Feilmeier was born February 20, 2018 to proud parents Taylor and Jeff Feilmeier. Jeff is a Journeyman Lineman at Cedar-Knox PPD. Jordy weighed 7lbs 3 oz., 19 inches long and she is the couple's first child. Congratulations and Best Wishes Taylor and Jeff.



Martindale Memorial Scholarship Winner



Cole Heckenlaible graduate of Cedar Catholic High School has been awarded the Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is for \$1000 for each year in the Utility Line Program, which Cole has been accepted into.

Cole's parents are Todd and Lori Heckenlaible of Fordyce.

Pam Heikes Celebrates 5 years



Pam recently completed 5 years working at Cedar-Knox PPD. Pam is currently our Billing Specialist. Pam and her husband Jason have three children Dylan, Lilly and Laynee.

Thanks for the hard work and dedication to your job.



Congratulations Pam!

Summer Hours

Summers hours start Memorial Day and end Labor Day. Crew hours are 7:00 am to 3:30 and office hours are 7:30 to 4:30. If you have an emergency or an outage after hours be sure to call 402-254-6291 or 800-891-5196. You must dial one of these numbers to go through our after-hours phone notification. Thank you.

*Our Office will be closed May 28
in honor of Memorial Day.*

Get out and Vote in the
May 15th primary -
your vote is important.



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- Eric Becker..... Journeyman Lineman
- Nathan Rutar..... Journeyman Lineman
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- Dustin Neuhalfen..... Journeyman Lineman
- Brian Kruse..... Journeyman Lineman
- Jeff Feilmeier..... Journeyman Lineman
- Ed Kalin..... Mechanic

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