

## Dan Leise – Gone Too Soon

–Written by Carol McGregor

**O**n August 7th, 2017 our General Manager, Dan Leise, age 55, passed away after an accident. He was doing what he did; helping in the community. He was accidentally struck by a car while crossing the highway after helping mow the cemetery.

I had recently asked Dan to write an article for the newsletter, as he often did. He had not gotten around to it, so I am going to write **about him** instead. Dan's articles were always very good, and he would ask me to proof them. I very seldom found anything wrong with them, and I felt he was a better writer than I am. My challenge with this article is to find the right words to describe him. The words that come to mind are; honest, smart, caring, trustworthy and a friend.

Dan was involved in so many church and community organizations, always helping any way that he could, besides managing



Cedar-Knox PPD. Dan was very dedicated to his job and took his responsibilities very seriously. Having said that, he had a great sense of humor and fun-loving personality. But even with all these commitments, family came first. He always found time for his family and was so proud of them. Many times in previous newsletters I have referred

to us as the “Cedar-Knox PPD Family” and never has that been more true than now, and the bond that we feel for Dan's family. Dan's wife Deb, son Tyson and daughters Shanna and Kallie are in our prayers and thoughts. There is a big empty space here at Cedar-Knox PPD, but as Dan would want of us, we will do our best to live up to his standards.

*“...honest, smart, caring, trustworthy and a friend.”*

## CKPPD 80th Anniversary Open House

Join us September 26, 2017 at the Cedar-Knox PPD facilities to celebrate our 80th Anniversary. Come between 1:30 and 4:00 for a tour of our facilities, chance to win prizes, customer drawing and refreshments. We hope to see you then.



SEPTEMBER 2017						
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## Public Power – A Story Worth Telling

**N**ebraska has the distinction of being the only state in the U.S. that serves 100 percent of its people with public power. All the rest have a mix of public power and privately owned companies. These companies are known as investor owned utilities or IOUs and they sell electricity as a way to make money for their stockholders.

Nebraska actually started out like all those other states. When the generation of electricity first started in the early 1880s, businessmen formed electric companies that provided service to cities and towns for light-

*(continued...)*



# Recipe Corner

## Easy Peach Cobbler



### Ingredients

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 2 cups sugar, divided
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- Pinch of salt
- 1 cup milk
- 4 cups fresh peach slices
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- Ground cinnamon or nutmeg (optional)

Melt butter in a 13- x 9-inch baking dish.

Combine flour, 1 cup sugar, baking powder, and salt; add milk, stirring just until dry ingredients are moistened. Pour batter over butter (do not stir).

Bring remaining 1 cup sugar, peach slices, and lemon juice to a boil over high heat, stirring constantly; pour over batter (do not stir). Sprinkle with cinnamon, if desired.

Bake at 375° for 40 to 45 minutes or until golden brown. Serve cobbler warm or cool.

## Interim Manager Named

Cedar-Knox PPD Board of Directors conducted a special meeting on August 23, 2017 to announce an Interim Manager after the passing of Dan Leise. Mike Lammers has been chosen by the board and he accepted the position. More information will follow

## NOTICE

Summer Hours end Sept. 5th, the day after Labor Day.

## Public Power – A Story Worth Telling

*(Continued from front)*

ing. By 1902 there were 43 private electric companies operating in the state. These companies saw no profit in building power lines to serve sparsely populated areas. They even went so far as to oppose the creation of electric cooperatives that were willing to serve the rural areas.

People living in rural areas had limited access to electricity with less than five percent of farms having electricity by 1920. Not having electricity on the farm meant they could not use any of the new labor-saving equipment powered by electric motors. This didn't sit right with Nebraska Senator George Norris. He believed that all Nebraskans should have access to affordable electricity.

Norris worked with President Franklin D. Roosevelt and in 1936 saw the passage of

the Rural Electrification Act. This act stipulated that power generation and delivery systems were to be owned by the public for the public good.

With passage of the Rural Electrification Act, public power providers gained the upper hand in their battle against the private power companies. The founding members of Nebraska's public power districts and electric cooperatives went door to door to collect \$5 in order to raise a portion of the original investment the utility needed. Public power ownership rests in the hands of the people who use the utility's goods and the services, not investors.

By 1943, 16 public power districts and 35 rural electric districts were created in Nebraska. The U.S. Supreme Court broke up the private holding companies and gave

public power entities the opportunity to begin acquiring the generation and transmission facilities owned by the private power companies.

Still today, the decisions governing your not-for-profit rural electric system are made by locally elected consumer-owners. Unlike investor owned utilities, there are no majority shareholders making decisions to maximize profits; only locally elected individuals that receive the same service that you do.

The concept of delivering reliable, affordable electrical service to all Nebraskans at the lowest possible cost has remained the basis for public power and is why Nebraska's electric rates are 15 percent below the national average.

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### CURRENT FLASH EDITOR

**Carol McGregor**