

## **Manager's Report**

*By Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM*



*Chet McWhorter, CCPPD GM*

I've heard the analogy describing a career as a marathon and not a sprint. Probably accurate unless you're terrible at what you do and have a very short career in which case you'd probably better run like Usain Bolt. But, I digress, a career is a lot of small decisions on the minute details that make up a body of work and a timeframe. Small things like taking an extra few moments to visit with someone on the street, allowing for an interruption during a very hectic day, listening to someone who very much disagrees with you even when you've made up your mind and you're a little upset, going out of your way to check on a co-worker; these things can make anyone great at what they do. Not doing these things makes one mediocre at best or at least stagnant which is just as bad, in my opinion.

The move to Nebraska four years ago was a sentinel moment in my marathon. A lot of folks still think I'm crazy for moving from Western Montana and the mountains to Eastern Nebraska's rolling plain. A lot of folks thought I was crazy before I moved which establishes a theme I think. Each place has its beauty; if you haven't seen Dean Lauritzen's sunrise and sunset photos then you're missing out. Also, if you watch the news and see what is happening right now in the mountains of Montana you know that they are on a clip to burn another million acres this summer. Forest fires aren't pretty at all or in any way. And, it's important to remember that beauty is in the eye of the beholder and familiarity breeds contempt. When you grow up with something, you take it for granted is what I know for sure.

All that to say, it has been wonderful to be a Nebraskan in general and specifically it has been wonderful to have been entrusted with the management of CCPPD. I truly love my job! It has been a fast-paced year with plenty to be excited about. We have discussed the possibility of a merger with Burt County PPD which has been an education. We have fought over rates with our power supplier. Hired a new manager for our G&T as the former manager plans retirement. We hired two safety instruc-

tors for our statewide organization. We have fought to rework some tough federal regulations. And most importantly, we have worked to hold the line on costs and maintain valuable service for our customer-owners. It has been a fascinating and turbulent time; my favorite!

When I started at CCPPD, the employees and I agreed that it takes far too long for someone to earn trust or earn respect. I told them, and meant it, that I already respected them and that I chose to trust them. They could lose either, but they had both. I asked them to reciprocate the trust and respect and we would be just fine. Guess what?? They did, and we are still doing it. Ernest Hemingway said, "The best way to find out if you can trust somebody is to trust them." He was right. How can someone be worthy of trust if they are never trusted? It's a dichotomy and I can't wrap my head around it. I digress again so, suffice to say that I love it here and I've also learned two very valuable lessons that have nothing to do with public power but are too important not to share. First, don't plant a cantaloupe and a cucumber close together as they will overtake your tomato plants. Second, it's cheaper to fly from Omaha to Reykjavik, Iceland over Thanksgiving than it is to fly from Omaha to Kalispell, Montana. Go figure!!



# It's Fair Time!

*We had so much fun at the local parades!*



**Beemer Play Daze Parade Crew:**  
Sarah McGill, Nicki White, Colten Haber & Scott Haber.



The all-electric Chevy Bolt was a popular sight at the Cuming County Fair Parade.



**Dodge County Fair Parade Crew:**  
Gene & Linda Cihacek, Nicki White & Kinzey Doggett.



**Cuming County Fair Parade Crew:**  
Willy, Meg, Colby & Gage Anderson, Kinzey Doggett, Brooke Haase, Sheila & Chet McWhorter, Jaxon Fisher & Nicki White.



## Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Turn off kitchen, bath and other exhaust fans within 20 minutes after you're done cooking or bathing. When replacing exhaust fans, consider installing high-efficiency, low-noise models.

Source: [energy.gov](http://energy.gov)





# Pole-Top Rescue Training

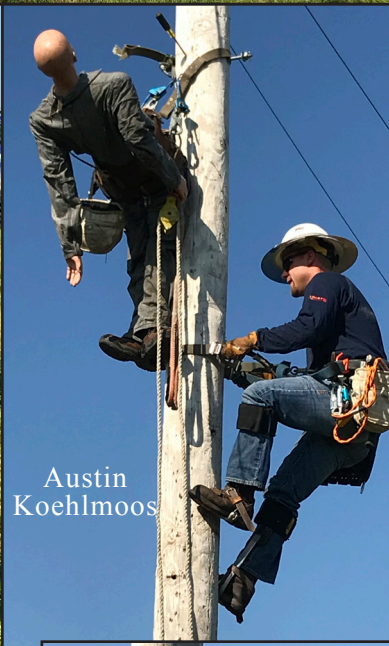
An important part of any job is safety. Here at Cuming County Public Power District, it's extremely important that everyone keeps safety in mind at all times. To do that, CCPPD lineman practice pole-top rescue each year with NREA Job Training & Safety Instructor, Greg Nelson.



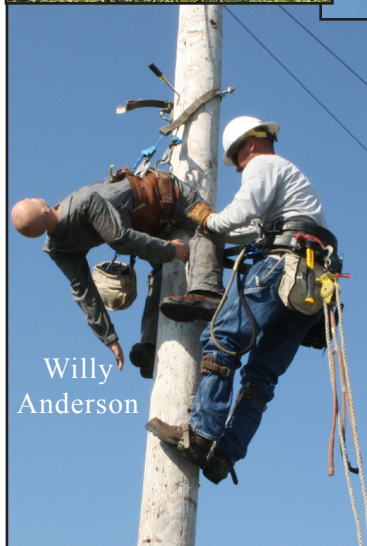
Tailgating before they begin pole-top rescue training



Jess Hunke  
in all  
of his  
climbing  
gear



Austin  
Koehlmoos



Willy  
Anderson



Brian  
Throener

## Sign Up Now!



## 5K Run/Walk or 1Mile Run/Walk

### Saturday September 22, 2018

Races begin at the CCPPD office at:

500 S Main Street  
West Point, Nebraska

### 8 a.m.

Day-of-Race Registration is at  
7:30 a.m.

© NRECA

Registration forms available at the  
CCPPD office or online at:

[https://www.raceentry.com/races/  
ccppdoperation-round-up-fun-run](https://www.raceentry.com/races/ccppdoperation-round-up-fun-run)

You can also contact: Nicki White [nwhite@ccppd.com](mailto:nwhite@ccppd.com)  
or  
Sheena Kampschneider [skampschneider@ccppd.com](mailto:skampschneider@ccppd.com)

(Last day to register to receive a t-shirt: September 1, 2018)

### Registration is \$15

## Hope to see you there!



# Featured CCPPD Employee

## *Sheena Kampschneider*



Sheena Kampschneider started at Cuming County Public Power District on July 9, 2012. She started as the part-time billing clerk and moved into a full time position in 2014. She currently handles Billing

and Human Resources. She is also a member of the safety and wellness committees at CCPPD.

Sheena graduated from Bellevue University with a bachelor's degree in Human Resource Management and has worked in other office settings. She is a member of Supportive Parents Association with GACC.

Sheena grew up in Spencer, Nebraska. She and her husband, Adam, live in West Point with their two children: Karter and Roewen.



Sheena enjoys watching sports, movies, playing golf, spending time with friends and working out. Her favorite activity is spending time with her family.

Please help us thank Sheena for her dedicated service to CCPPD!

## Delinquent Procedures Have Changed at CCPPD

Collection trips to your location in attempt to collect past due bills have been eliminated.

Service will be disconnected on the first business day following the 15th of each month if payment or approved payment arrangements are not received. An approved payment arrangement cannot be scheduled past the 22nd of that current month. For those customers making a payment arrangement, if the arrangement is not fulfilled, your services will be disconnected immediately. It will also be the customers responsibility to verify that payment has been received prior to the disconnect date or the date your payment arrangement was due by contacting our office or using the smart hub app or online.

CCPPD offers several methods to prevent disconnection of electrical/water service:

- ◆ If an account is delinquent, a message in red will show up on the customer's bill showing they have a past due balance and that it needs to be paid by the 15th to avoid disconnect of services.
- ◆ One collection phone call will be provided to the phone number provided on the customer file. A deadline will be given of 8am the next business day for the customer to contact CCPPD back to make a satisfactory payment on their delinquent bill or to schedule an arrangement. CCPPD has an after-hours service that can be reached outside of the 7:30am-4:00pm business day at (402) 372-2463. If a customer's phone number changes, they need to contact our office to update their account information.
- ◆ Enroll in our Auto-Pay program through our website at [www.ccppd.com](http://www.ccppd.com) or by contacting our office at (402) 372-2463.
- ◆ Utilize the drop-box located in front of our office after hours.

**Please visit our website at [www.ccppd.com](http://www.ccppd.com)**

**Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/CCPPD](https://facebook.com/CCPPD)**

**Twitter: [@CumingCountyPPD](https://twitter.com/CumingCountyPPD)**

**Blog: [ccppd.blogspot.com](http://ccppd.blogspot.com)**

**Online billpay, tips to save on your electric bill, newsletters, and so much more on our website**

**Regular meetings of the CCPPD Board are normally held on the second Wednesday of each month at the CCPPD office**

**Board Members: Greg Strehle 402-380-3659,**

**Leroy Mostek 402-528-3872, Ed Kaup 402-372-2966,**

**Dennis Weiler 402-372-2713, Danny Kluthe 402-693-2833**

**& Fred Schneider 402-528-3683**