

Volts & Jolts

Published monthly for the members of Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.
SERVING THE FOUR-COUNTY AREA OF MARSHALL, PENNINGTON, RED LAKE AND POLK
and a portion of the lands of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa



2024 DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., is organized as a cooperative and is owned by its members. The membership elects a board of directors to represent them in the operation of the cooperative. Three directors will be elected at the 2024 Annual Meeting. The directors whose terms expire in 2024 are listed below.

2

DISTRICT 2
Stacy Blawat

★

NEW DIRECTOR NEEDED:
Blawat not seeking reelection

7

DISTRICT 7
Aaron Chervestad

★

NEW DIRECTOR NEEDED:
Chervestad not seeking reelection

8

DISTRICT 8
Cecil Anderson

Learn more about the director elections on page 5.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-------------------|--|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| | | | Huntly | Como | | | | |
| | West Valley | New Maine | Spruce Valley | Cedar | Whiteford | | | |
| Foldahl | Marsh Grove | New Folden | Holt | East Valley | Mud Lake | Eckvold | Valley | |
| | District 3 | | | District 2 | | | | |
| | Viking | New Solum | Excel | Agder | Grand Plain | Moylan | Espelle | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | Numedal | Norden | North | Silverton | Cloverleaf | Goodridge | Reiner | Red Lake Indian Res. |
| | Bray | Sanders | Rocksbury | Smiley | Kratka | Highlanding | Star | |
| | District 9 | | District 8 | | | District 7 | | |
| Belgium | Polk Centre | Black River | River Falls | Wyandotte | Mayfield | Deerpark | Hickory | |
| | Wylie | Browns Creek | River | | | | | |
| Parnell | Louisville | Red Lake Falls | Gervais | Emardville | Games | Equality | Johnson | |
| | | ★ RLF | | District 6 | | | District 4 | |
| Crookston | Gentilly | Lake Pleasant | Terrebonne | Poplar River | Lambert | Chester | | |
| Fairfax | Kertsonville | Tilden | Grove Park | Badger | Lessor | Hill River | | |
| | District 1 | | | | | | | |
| Russia | Onstad | Director Districts Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. | | | | | | |

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE RED LAKE ELECTRIC ANNUAL MEETING

March 27, 2024

Red Lake Electric Cooperative members are encouraged to mark their calendars for the Cooperative's annual meeting. The meeting will be called at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 27, at the Legacy Event Center, rural Thief River Falls.

Published 10 times a year, January through May, July and September through December, by Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., in the interest of its members and others. Periodical postage paid at the U.S. Post Office in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750. POSTMASTER, SEND ADDRESS CHANGES to Volts & Jolts, c/o Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., P.O. Box 430, Red Lake Falls, Minnesota 56750-0430. Email: info@redlakeelectric.com.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

President Stacy Blawat
Vice President Peter Mosbeck
Secretary-Treasurer Mark Hanson
Directors Cecil Anderson,
Aaron Chervestad, Bonnie Christians,
Colette Kujava, Jennifer Linder, Randy Versdahl
Stephanie Johnson General Manager
Steve Conely Manager of Electric System Operations
Kelli Brateng Manager of Member Services

OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Phone: (218) 253-2168
Toll-Free: 1-800-245-6068
Fax: (218) 253-2630

**AFTER HOURS/OUTAGE CALLS
(218) 253-2200**

Website: www.redlakeelectric.com
Email: info@redlakeelectric.com

**CALL BEFORE YOU DIG
1-800-252-1166 or 811**

**MINNESOTA STATE
ELECTRICAL INSPECTORS**

Pennington and Marshall Counties:

Ronald Ditsch: (218) 779-6758

Red Lake and Polk Counties:

Todd Knaack: (763) 516-0344

Any time you or an electrician does wiring or other electrical work at your home or farm, Minnesota state law requires a state wiring inspector to conduct a proper inspection of the work. A rough-in inspection must be made before any wiring is covered. A final inspection is also required. Please visit www.dli.mn.gov for more information. The inspectors can be reached weekday mornings between 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of Red Lake Electric Cooperative to enhance the quality of life for people of our service area by safely and consistently providing quality electric service and other valued services while holding our employees, our community and our environment in high regard.



**Get Involved! Join us
at the Annual Meeting**

by Stephanie Johnson

One of my favorite events is coming up on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, when Red Lake Electric Cooperative will host our annual meeting for you, the members we proudly serve. I always look forward to this event because it's a great opportunity for me and our employees to talk with our members and hear what's on their minds. We hope you'll join us for the annual meeting, which will take place at the Legacy Event Center, located in Thief River Falls.

Spending time with you and hearing your take on our community's energy future is so important to us. In fact, it's essential because everything we do is shaped by the members of our community. As I'm sure you know, the energy industry is in the midst of massive change. Consumer needs and changing technology (20119 Dale Hanson) impact nearly every aspect of how we manage and deliver energy to local homes, schools and businesses.

As we navigate major changes in the coming years, we need to hear from you and your neighbors to inform our planning as we strive to meet the long-term needs of all Red Lake Electric members.

You have a say

You may be wondering if your opinion really makes a difference, and yes, it does! Gaining guidance and perspective from our members and board helps set priorities for the cooperative and guide future decisions. At our annual meeting, we raise issues for voting consideration by the general membership (that's everyone who pays for electric service from Red Lake Electric).

Annual meeting is also a time for members to vote on the cooperative's board of directors. Our board of directors is comprised of members who live and work right here in our local service area, so they are in the best position to know where community investments are most needed. And by the way, we hope you'll consider running for the board in the future – we're always looking for folks who care about our community who would be willing to serve.

NOTICE OF NAMES

Hidden within the text of the articles of this issue of *Volts & Jolts* are the names and account numbers of some Red Lake Electric Cooperative members. They will appear within the articles in parentheses as such (99999999.99 Willie Ray Member). If you find your name and account number, clip it out and send it with your next payment. You will be credited with \$5 on your electric bill.

**Your electric bill is an
investment in our community**

This local input means those closest to the community know its needs and priorities and help direct where co-op dollars are spent. Every year, we invest funds to make updates to our local system, which helps maintain reliability and grid resilience. Think of it this way: Every time you pay your electric bill, you're actually investing in your community because all the money we take in stays here in the local community. By making these investments in our local system, we can ensure you have reliable power for everyday life.

Most consumers likely don't equate active involvement (29949 Neil Jensen) with their electric company with helping their community. But Red Lake Electric is not an ordinary utility company. We're a cooperative, and our business model is meant to serve the members and the community in which it operates.

Our core purpose and mission are to provide safe, reliable and affordable power. But as a cooperative, we are also motivated by service to our community, rather than profits. We hope you'll exercise the benefits of your co-op membership and join us for the annual meeting on March 27. We look forward to seeing you!


New directors needed

Members of District 2 and District 7 will have new directors representing them on the board of directors at Red Lake Electric Cooperative. Stacy Blawat (District 2) and Aaron Chervestad (District 7) will complete their terms but will not seek reelection in 2024.

Members of District 2 or District 7 interested in being placed on the annual meeting ballot must have a nomination petition signed by at least 10 members of the respective district and returned to the RLEC office by Monday, February 26. Nomination petition forms are available by calling or visiting the RLEC office in Red Lake Falls.

Winter impacts on generation resources

Winter has a way of slowing us down. We have to set aside time to shovel the driveway, drive slowly on icy roads and bundle up the kids with extra warm layers. It's no different for electric generation resources. They all have an Achilles heel in the winter – some more detrimental than others. Minnkota Power Cooperative (Red Lake Electric's power supplier) uses a diverse mix of several resources to ensure a reliable power supply during the coldest, darkest months.



Coal*

Winter impacts:

- In extreme cases, blizzard-like conditions may halt coal extraction and delivery to the power plant.

The good news:

- Many northern coal-fired power plants like Minnkota's Milton R. Young Station are mine-mouth, which means transportation to the plant is minimal (and a couple of weeks of coals is stored directly onsite in case of interruption). These plants are also fully winterized and prepared for subzero temperatures.




Natural Gas

Winter impacts:

- Gas supplies may be diverted to home and business heating during extended cold snaps.
- Natural gas generators, wellheads and pipelines face operating challenges during extreme cold.

The good news:

- Natural gas is often stored in underground reservoirs, which are less (26366 Robert E Sandberg) susceptible to extreme cold.



Hydro*

Winter impacts:

- Rivers and reservoirs can quickly ice up, and that ice buildup can slow water intake and affect turbine performance.
- In rare occasions, extreme cold may lead to reduced water flow due to frozen or reduced precipitation.

The good news:

- Hydropower is generally less affected by extreme cold compared to other forms of energy generation, as long as water flow is maintained.




Solar

Winter impacts:

- Shorter winter days mean fewer hours of sun hitting the solar panels.
- Snow and ice can accumulate on the solar panels, reducing overall generation.

The good news:

- Solar panels can still generate some power in freezing temperatures, but efficiency decreases significantly.




Wind*

Winter impacts:

- Wind turbines can go into shutdown mode when temps drop below -20 degrees.
- Blade icing can decrease a turbine's ability to catch wind efficiently.

The good news:

- Cold weather packages can be added to wind turbines, but they add cost and lower efficiency.



Nuclear

Winter impacts:

- Nuclear plants often use rivers or lakes for cooling purposes, and those water intake and discharge systems may freeze up if not weatherized.

The good news:

- Cold weather can enhance the efficiency of nuclear cooling systems by providing a cooler environment for heat exchange during fission.

*Found in Minnkota's power supply portfolio

What does it mean to be a part of a cooperative?


Did you know not all electric utilities are the same? Some utilities are investor-owned (IOUs) while Red Lake Electric Cooperative's members are partial owners of a cooperative. While both provide electrical services to the region, there are some key differences between the two types of utilities – and cooperatives have some impressive benefits!

Being a member-owner of Red Lake Electric Cooperative means you have a say in how we operate. All our decisions (24655 Kerry Wright) about maintaining reliable, affordable and safe electricity are made with our members – LIKE YOU – in mind.

Thank you for being a member of the cooperative!

Investor-Owned Utilities


OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE



Investor-owned utilities are **for-profit corporations** that are typically publicly traded in the stock market. Profits are distributed to shareholders.


Electric Cooperatives

OWNERSHIP STRUCTURE




Cooperatives are **not-for-profit organizations** that are member-owned and controlled. Profits made by co-ops are either reinvested in the co-op or returned to the members as capital credits or scholarships.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS




IOUs have a board of directors that is chosen by shareholders with a goal of maximizing shareholder value. The board is often comprised of **folks outside of the communities being served.**




As a cooperative, our board of directors is made up of members from around your region – **your friends and neighbors.** Representatives are voted in by the membership and serve a three-year term on the board.

PRIMARY BUSINESS OBJECTIVES




An investor-owned utility's primary business objectives include **investments that yield the highest return for shareholders.** Their goals (26785 Karen Good) are often guided by profit.




Cooperatives operate first and foremost for their membership. Our primary priority is **always to act in the best interest of our members.** A few of the guiding principles for all cooperatives include the prioritization of reliability and the well-being of the community.

WHO THEY SERVE



Investor-owned utilities typically serve more **urban areas** and have many more customers on a mile of power line than a cooperative.



Electric cooperatives were formed to meet the growing electrical needs of **rural communities** when larger utilities wouldn't. They were formed by rural people to serve their rural neighbors, and that service continues today.

2024 DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

PETITION DEADLINE MONDAY, FEB. 26, 2024


Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., is organized as a cooperative and is owned by its members. The membership elects a board of directors to represent them in the operation of the cooperative. Three directors will be elected at the 2024 Annual Meeting scheduled for March 27 at the Legacy Event Center. The directors whose terms expire in 2024 are Stacy Blawat, District 2; Aaron Chervestad, District 7; and Cecil Anderson, District 8. **Stacy Blawat and Aaron Chervestad have decided not to run for reelection.**

NOMINATION BY PETITION
All nominations will be done by petition, including the incumbents. Any 10 or more members who reside in Districts 2, 7 or 8 may nominate an eligible member for a director position in that district. No member may be elected to a director position unless nominated in this manner. No write-in ballots shall be accepted.

PETITION FORMS ARE AVAILABLE
Director candidates must pick up a petition and a director packet

at Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc., in Red Lake Falls. The packet contains additional forms that must be signed and turned in before the deadline.

PETITION DEADLINE
The cooperative must receive the completed petition **no later than the close of business at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 26, 2024.**

**Red Lake Electric Cooperative**

Petition for Nomination

The following members wish to nominate (insert name) _____ for the three-year (insert "Districts 2, 7 or 8") _____ director position, and to place such name on the ballot for the March 27, 2024, election at the annual meeting of the Cooperative, in accordance with Article II, Section 10, of the bylaws.

| PRINTED NAME | SIGNATURE | CUSTOMER NO. |
|--------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 5. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 6. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 7. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 8. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 9. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 10. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 11. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 12. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 13. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 14. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 15. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 16. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 17. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 18. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 19. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 20. _____ | _____ | _____ |

The Cooperative must receive the completed petition no later than the close of business Monday, February 26, 2024. At the Annual Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 27, 2024, elections will be held for a three-year term for one director in District 2, one director in District 7, and one director in District 8.

The directors whose terms expire in 2024 are as follows:

| DISTRICT 2 3-year Term Stacy Blawat | DISTRICT 7 3-year Term Aaron Chervestad | DISTRICT 8 3-year Term Cecil Anderson |
|---|---|---|
|---|---|---|

Any 10 or more members who reside in District 2, 7 or 8 may nominate an eligible member for a director position in that district. No member may be elected to a director position unless nominated in this manner. In the event of joint membership, only the signature of one joint member shall be acceptable.

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------|
| | | | Huntly | Como | | | |
| | West Valley | New Maine | Spruce Valley | Cedar | Whiteford | | |
| Foldahl | Marsh Grove | New Folds | Holt | East Valley | Mud Lake | Eckvold | Valley |
| | Viking | New Solum | Excel | Agder | Grand Plain | Moylan | Espelle |
| | | | | | | | |
| | Numedal | Norden | North | Silverton | Cloverleaf | Goodridge | Reiner |
| | Bray | Sanders | Rocksburg | Smiley | Kratka | Highlanding | Star |
| | | | | | | | |
| Belgium | Polk Centre | Black River | River Falls | Wyandotte | Mayfield | Deerpark | Hickory |
| | Wylie | Browns Creek | River | | | | |
| Parnell | Louisville | Red Lake Falls | Gervais | Emardville | Games | Equality | Johnson |
| | | ★ RLF | | | | | |
| Crookston | Gentilly | Lake Pleasant | Terrebonne | Poplar River | Lambert | Chester | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Fairfax | Kertsonville | Tilden | Grove Park | Badger | Lessor | Hill River | |
| | | | | | | | |
| Russia | Onstad | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

Director Districts
Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc.

SO, YOU WANT TO BE A DIRECTOR

Three directors will be elected at the 2024 Annual Meeting scheduled for March 27 at the Legacy Event Center. The directors whose terms expire in 2024 are Stacy Blawat, District 2; Aaron Chervestad, District 7; and Cecil Anderson, District 8. **Stacy Blawat and Aaron Chervestad have decided not to run for reelection.**

MEETING ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Monthly board meetings:** Board meetings are held 12 times per year, usually the last Wednesday of the month, starting at 8 a.m.
- Other meetings:** Red Lake Electric annual meetings; Minnkota annual meetings; other meetings to learn policies and procedures of the electric industry. Expect 5 – 12 extra days per year.

DIRECTOR QUALIFICATIONS REQUIREMENTS

- No member shall be eligible to become or remain a director who:
- Is not a member of the Cooperative, receiving electric service at the member's primary residence in the district from which the director is elected.
 - Within three years preceding a director candidate's nomination was an employee of the Cooperative.
 - Is or becomes, or at any time during the three (3) years preceding a director candidate's nomination shall have been employed by a labor union, which represents or has represented, or has endeavored to represent any employees of the Cooperative.
 - Is a parent, spouse or cohabitant of any employee of the Cooperative.
 - Is a person who is a parent, spouse, or cohabitant of an incumbent director who is not up for re-election at that time.
 - Is in any way employed by or substantially financially interested in an enterprise competing with the Cooperative or any Cooperative-affiliated business.
 - Is or becomes the full-time employee or agent of, or who is or becomes the full-time employer or principal of, another director.

Director nomination and election procedure

The procedure for which directors can be nominated and elected for Red Lake Electric Cooperative is outlined in Article II, Section 10, of the Cooperative's Bylaws. That section reads as follows:

Section 10. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

(a) Nomination of Directors by Petition or Nominating Committee. Members seeking to run for the Board of Directors shall, not less than thirty (30) days prior to the annual meeting, submit to the cooperative office a completed candidate packet and petition, as provided by the Cooperative upon request, by which the Cooperative will verify said member's qualifications to be an eligible candidate for the director position. Nomination for director must be made by petition. Any Ten (10) or more members who reside in any one district may make a nomination in writing to the Secretary over their signatures. This petition nomination must be in the format prescribed by the Secretary. Blank nomination petitions shall be available to all members at the Cooperative office. All petition nominees shall be listed in the notice of annual meeting and their names shall be printed on the election ballot.

If the members in any district shall have failed to nominate a nominee(s) in writing as provided above, then a Nominating Committee of this Cooperative shall nominate one (1) or more members who reside in said district for said director position(s). Said Nominating Committee shall be appointed by the Board of Directors on an annual basis, said appointment to be made not less than ninety (90) days before each annual meeting. Said Nominating Committee shall be selected from the resident Members of the districts of the Cooperative, so that each such district shall have one (1) Member on said Nominating Committee.

A Nominating Committee Member may not be a Director of the Cooperative; or a parent, spouse or co-habitant of an existing Cooperative director, officer, employee, representative, or agent; or a known Director candidate.

Further, a Nominating Committee Member should recognize that he or she functions as a person occupying a place of trust and should not accept an appointment to the Nominating Committee if he or she has a conflict of interest, or can reasonably foresee any conflict of interest, with any duty the Nominating Committee Member owes to the Cooperative. In the event that a Nominating Committee Member is appointed and subsequently becomes aware of a conflict of interest, or a potential conflict of interest, then that Nominating Committee Member has a continuing obligation to disclose the same to the Chair of the Nominating Committee or to legal counsel for the Nominating Committee for a determination by the latter as to whether such conflict of interest, or potential conflict of interest, should necessitate the resignation of the Nominating Committee Member from the Nominating Committee, or abstention from voting on a particular issue or such

other appropriate action(s) as is necessary to protect the best interests of the Cooperative.

It shall be the duty of the Nominating Committee to nominate one or more nominees for each district that is scheduled for an election but for which no candidates have been nominated by the petition process twenty (20) days prior to said annual meeting.

The Nominating Committee shall submit their nomination or nominations to the Secretary, in writing and signed by at least two (2) members of said Committee, and the nomination(s) shall be listed in the notice of annual meeting and their names shall be printed on the election ballot.

No Member may be elected to a Director position unless nominated in the manner provided by this subsection. No write-in ballots shall be accepted.

(b) Election of Directors. At the annual meeting, the Secretary of the Cooperative shall place in nomination the names of the official candidates of each district. Election of directors shall be by printed ballot, separate ballots to be provided for each district, listing the candidates in alphabetical order. Only members of a district shall be entitled to vote for the director to be elected from that district, and each member or member's spouse shall be entitled to vote for one candidate from the district in which he is a member. The candidate from each district receiving the highest number of votes at this meeting shall be declared elected as director. In the case of a tie vote, the winner shall be determined by the flip of a coin. Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, failure to comply with any of the provisions of this section shall not affect in any manner whatsoever the validity of any election of directors.

(c) Voting by Mail for Directors. The members shall be entitled to vote by mail for directors at annual and special meetings as provided in this section. Each member shall be mailed a director election ballot in the form prescribed by the Board of Directors with the notice of the annual or special meeting. A member who will be absent from the meeting may vote by mail for directors by marking the ballot for the candidate of the member's choice. The member shall return the ballot personally or by mail to the Cooperative in a sealed plain envelope inside another envelope bearing the member's name. If the ballot of the member is received by the Cooperative on or before the date of the annual or special meeting, the ballot shall be accepted and counted as the vote of the absent member.

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Red Lake Electric Cooperative, Inc. is an equal opportunity provider and employer. If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.



Submit your recipes to be published in *Volts & Jolts*. Email to info@redlakeelectric.com or mail to: Red Lake Electric Cooperative, PO Box 430, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750-0430.

Butterscotch Delight

INGREDIENTS

CRUST:

- 2 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 3/4 cup butter, melted

CHEESECAKE LAYER:

- 2 (8-ounce) blocks cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 1 (8-ounce) tub Cool Whip, thawed overnight in the fridge
- 1 cup confectioners' sugar
- 2 teaspoons vanilla extract

BUTTERSCOTCH PUDDING LAYER:

- 3 (3.4 ounces) boxes instant butterscotch pudding
- 3 1/2 cups cold whole milk

GARNISH:

- Butterscotch or caramel sauce
- 1/4 cup butterscotch chips

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F. Spray a 13x 9-inch baking dish with nonstick cooking spray.
2. In the bowl of a food processor, pulse graham crackers until they're fine crumbs (2 1/2 cups). Add melted butter (3/4 cup) and sugar (1/4 cup) and pulse until combined. Press the crumb mixture (25297 Dean Koskela) in an even layer into the prepared baking dish. Bake in the preheated oven for 15 minutes. Cool completely on the wire rack, for about 30 minutes.
3. Place cream cheese (16 ounces) in a large mixing bowl and beat with an electric mixer, on medium speed, until light and creamy, about 2 minutes. Add sour cream (1/4 cup) and mix until combined. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar (1 cup), mixing until evenly combined, about 1 minute. Stir in vanilla (2 teaspoons). Gently fold in 1 cup of the thawed whipped topping. Spread the mixture evenly over the cooled crust. Refrigerate, if possible, for the cheesecake layer to firm up.
4. Mix the cold milk (3 1/2 cups) and all boxes of instant butterscotch pudding (3) in a medium mixing bowl until the pudding begins to thicken for about 2 to 3 minutes. Let stand until slightly set, about 10 minutes. Carefully spread the pudding (30115 Melody Conway) mixture over the cream cheese layer, trying not to mix the layers.
5. Spread the remaining Cool Whip evenly over top. Cover, and chill for at least 4 hours or better, overnight. Drizzle top decoratively with butterscotch sauce and sprinkle butterscotch chips (1/4 cup) on top.

Over the past five years, your electricity prices have remained stable while average U.S. bread prices have increased about **50%**.

ELECTRICITY – DELIVERING A POWERFUL VALUE EACH AND EVERY DAY.



Cogeneration Notification to Members:

In compliance with Red Lake Electric Cooperative adopted rules relating to cogeneration and small power production, Red Lake Electric Cooperative is obligated to interconnect with and purchase electricity from co-generators and small power producers who satisfy the conditions as a qualifying facility. Red Lake Electric Cooperative is obligated to provide information free of charge to all interested members upon request regarding rates and interconnection requirements. All interconnections require an application and approval to become a qualifying facility. Any dispute over interconnections, sales, and purchases are subject to resolution by Red Lake Electric Cooperative Board. Interested members should contact Red Lake Electric Cooperative, 412 International Drive, Red Lake Falls, MN 56750 or call 1-800-245-6068.

HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS...
WIN A WEEK IN WASHINGTON, D.C.!

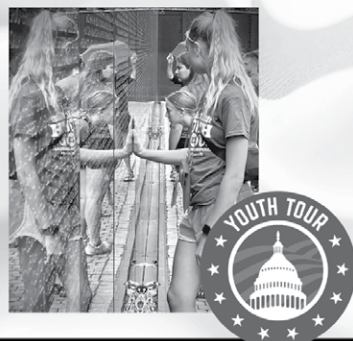
JUNE 18-23, 2024

Application
deadline:

Feb. 23, 2024

THE ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE YOUTH TOUR

- ★ Visit historic monuments and museums
- ★ Build lifelong friendships
- ★ Boost your community service and engagement
- ★ Meet with your U.S. Representatives and Senators



Applicant's parent or guardian must be a member of Red Lake Electric Cooperative.
Learn more at redlakeelectric.com/member-services/youth-tour

VOICES FOR GRID RELIABILITY

America's electric grid is beginning to face significant reliability risks. As more baseload and dispatchable power plants are retired without adequate replacement, the margin for error is becoming razor thin.

Minnkota Power Cooperative, Red Lake Electric Cooperative's wholesale power provider, maintains a diverse resource mix that includes coal, wind and hydro power that contribute to a reliable grid. However, the Minnkota system is connected with other utilities across the central United States – from North Dakota and Minnesota down through Louisiana. Challenges in other parts (25583 Wayne Vetteson) of the country can contribute to reliability issues in our region.

Regulators, policymakers, utilities and others are voicing their concerns about transitioning too quickly toward intermittent resources – like wind and solar – without retaining the stability provided by coal, nuclear and natural gas power plants. Here's what some of the major entities responsible for reliability are saying.

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)

WHAT THEY'RE
SAYING:

"We are heading for potentially very dire consequences, potentially catastrophic consequences in the United States in terms of the reliability of our grid." – MARK CHRISTIE, FERC COMMISSIONER, AT A HOUSE ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE, ENERGY SUBCOMMITTEE HEARING ON JUNE 13, 2023.

North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC)

WHAT THEY'RE
SAYING:

"... one of the important things that these plants provide is the ability for the grid to maintain voltage and maintain frequency and to resist disturbances. Other resources can't do that nearly as well as large spinning mass generation. And that's why the loss of coal plants and natural gas plants and nuclear plants is so concerning from a grid reliability perspective." – JIM ROBB, NERC PRESIDENT AND CEO, AT A SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES HEARING ON JUNE 1, 2023.

Midcontinent Independent System Operator (MISO)

WHAT THEY'RE
SAYING:

"The recent acceleration in the pace of fleet change is increasing risks to system reliability for MISO. Dispatchable generators that we need to ensure reliability are being removed from the system before new resources with the needed reliability attributes are being brought online." – TODD RAMEY, MISO SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF MARKETS AND DIGITAL STRATEGY, AT A HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY, CLIMATE AND GRID SECURITY HEARING ON SEPT. 28, 2023.

Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (MNPUC)

WHAT THEY'RE
SAYING:

"A major reliability event will set us backwards. The public will absolutely revolt." – JOE SULLIVAN, VICE CHAIRMAN OF MNPUC, AT A CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE MINNESOTA SOLAR ENERGY INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION, ON OCT. 9, 2023 (COURTESY MINNPOST).

Minnkota Power Cooperative (MPC)

WHAT THEY'RE
SAYING:

"Despite all the regulatory uncertainty, our board and staff have committed to the view that we are going to live in a carbon-managed world and we'll need to develop technologies and strategies to help us navigate this challenge. We want to be part of the solution, but there needs to be an understanding that America's electric grid can't be completely transformed overnight." – MAC MCLENNAN, MINNKOTA PRESIDENT AND CEO, IN AN OCT. 9, 2023, ARTICLE ON PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY RULES.