

Highline Hi-Lites

Season's Greetings



People's Cooperative Services

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Member Owned - Service Driven

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C. E. O. Message



Elaine J. Garry
President / CEO

By the time you receive this newsletter, the executive staff at People's and I will have presented the 2010 Work Plan and Budget to the Board of Directors for their approval. In my 23 years of experience in the rural electric cooperative business, this was the most difficult work plan and budget I have had to prepare. The current economic conditions are affecting all of us --- including People's and our power supplier, Dairyland Power Cooperative.

People's Cooperative Services' mission is "to provide reliable electricity to our members and communities with superior customer service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices". Our five strategic initiatives are to improve customer service, improve reliability and quality of electric service, enhance communications with our members, implement technology that will optimize operations and business processes, and improve our load factor. As we developed the work plan and budget, we let our mission and these strategic goals be our guide.

"Our mission is to provide reliable electricity to our members and communities with superior customer service and innovative energy solutions at fair and reasonable prices."

The challenges we will face in 2010 are significant, they include:

- A power cost increase of 7.1%. Dairyland is working hard to control costs, however higher cost renewable energy, investments made to meet stringent emissions requirements, employee benefit costs and low sales along with low prices for off-system energy sales are driving rates upward. Because sixty cents of every dollar you send to People's goes towards energy costs, it is virtually impossible to absorb a rate increase of this magnitude. We will likely find it necessary to increase rates beginning with April usage (the May bill).
- A loss of 1200 services to Rochester Public Utilities (RPU). State law allows municipals that own and operate an electric utility to acquire services that are within annexed areas of the city. RPU has notified us that their plans are to acquire approximately 1,200 People's customers in the coming year. Although we have a contract with RPU and receive some compensation for these services, the loss is still detrimental to our cooperative. We lose service areas that have a more dense population and we lose commercial load, which is extremely important to improving our load factor.
- A state mandate to reduce energy consumption by 1 1/2%. The state mandate passed in 2007 requires that we educate our members to conserve energy and to purchase more energy efficient equipment. While we believe this is an appropriate goal, we need to remember that based upon the rate structure of most utilities, this ultimately means less revenue. At People's, our actual cost to bring electric service to a residential home is \$44 per month. This is the cost to allow you to turn on a switch; it does not include any costs for the actual energy you use. We currently charge only \$26 per month to provide services, so we need to make up the difference

through our energy charge. As we sell less energy, we make up less of the difference. A 1 1/2% reduction in energy use is equal to approximately \$400,000 in revenue. The state mandate requires a 1 1/2% reduction every year, not just 2010. This means we face an additional challenge in determining how our rates should be structured. Should we increase the facility charge, the energy charge or a combination of both?

- A significant increase in labor costs. Although the actual salary increase most of our employees will receive is minimal, the economy this past year has greatly impacted the Cooperative's Retirement Security Plan. Federal laws require that these retirement programs be funded at a specific level. This means we will be required to fund the cooperative's retirement plan at a significantly higher level to make up for losses in the market. In addition, our medical premiums are increasing. Overall, we will see a 9% increase in labor costs.
- An important decision as to what to do about our headquarters facility. Our headquarters building is 38 years old. Although the outer shell of the building is very presentable, we are faced with other challenges. Our heating and cooling systems need to be replaced, our electric wiring needs upgrading and our storage yard is too small. We are surrounded by homes and businesses and have no site security so we face liability issues when children play near our equipment and unauthorized recreational vehicles use our site. By the end of 2010, RPU will likely be serving everyone around us; that means we will be maintaining electric line to serve only our facility. The City has plans to extend 40th Avenue north through our site. This will separate our storage yard from our headquarters building and create a serious safety concern for our employees. The City's assessments for this road, sidewalk, water and wastewater, as well as wetland mitigation add a considerable cost to our remodeling project. For this reason, our Board is considering a different location altogether. We expect that with the current economy we could get very competitive bids for this work. But that doesn't make this decision any easier.

Based upon these challenges, our team went to work to look at what we could do to reduce costs. We were successful in many respects. Our controllable costs are increasing by only 0.4% and we believe that we will still be able to meet our strategic initiatives.

We know we are not alone. Many of you, in your personal and business lives, are facing similar challenges. We need to remain optimistic that we can meet any challenge put before us and that the economy will improve.

This has been a very difficult year for us all; we hope that the year to come will be better as the economy rebounds. On behalf of the Board of Directors and employees of the Cooperative, we wish you a very blessed and happy holiday season.



2010 Nominating Committee

appointed for Board of Director Elections

At the 2010 Annual Meeting, Wednesday, April 14th, terms for the directors in Districts 1 and 6 will expire. The cooperative Board of Directors, at their November meeting, appointed members to serve on the 2010 Nominating Committee. The nominating committee consists of ten members geographically representing these two districts, as shown below.

The nominating committee (also known as the Election / Credentials Committee) is responsible for the selection of candidates to run in these elections. The committee shall elect its own Chair and Secretary prior to the member meeting. It shall be the responsibility of the committee to familiarize itself with the manner of conducting member registration and any ballot voting, to pass upon all questions that may arise with respect to the registration of Members, to oversee the count all ballots cast in any election or in any other ballot vote taken, to rule upon the effect of any ballots irregularly or indecisively marked, and to pass upon any protest or objection filed with respect to any election or conduct affecting the results of any election.

The following Nominating Committee Members were appointed to their respective districts:

District 1

Cascade, Haverhill, east half Kalmar Townships in Olmsted County.

Richard Badger 282-6644	Josh Noser 285-1059	James Favre 285-9663	Jeff Stevens 282-3794
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District 6

Marion, east half Pleasant Grove Townships in Olmsted County.

James Flury 288-4605	Orville Matzke 533-8386	Stacy Moore 206-0276
Shawn Peterson 259-3284	Richard Thompson 288-2289	Dean Volbrecht 289-5256

The committee will meet, prepare, and post a list of nominations for director positions at the cooperative office at least 35 days prior to April 14, 2010.



Are you interested in serving on the Board of Directors?

Do you live in one of the districts that are up for election?

If you answered YES to above questions - contact a member of the Nominating Committee.

People's Cooperative Services — Annual Meeting

April 2010						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1

Wednesday, April 14, 2010

- Doors open at 5:30 p.m.
- Business Meeting starts at 7 p.m.
- Director Election results
- Light refreshments



Rochester International Event Center

7333 Airport View Dr SW · Rochester, MN

Ground Breaking Ceremony

Congratulations and Welcome — Nationwide DI Water Solutions to the Elgin Industrial Park

A groundbreaking ceremony was held November 24th at the Elgin Industrial Park for a new 8,400 square foot facility for Nationwide DI Water Solutions, LLC.



Pictured above at the groundbreaking ceremony are representatives from the various groups that made this project a reality: Bruce Iverson, President of Nationwide DI Water Solutions; representing the City of Elgin were City Council members Dale Himmer and John Ernst; Elgin EDA Chairman, Norb Marx; Pine Island Bank, Chris Nelson and SBA 504, Duane Lee. Representing People's Cooperative Services were Directors Gene Miller and Leo Lentz; President and CEO, Elaine Garry and Manager of Economic Development, Tim Clawson.

Elaine Garry, President and CEO of People's Cooperative Services welcomed Nationwide DI Water Solutions president, Bruce Iverson to the Cooperative. *(Pictured to the right.)*



Nationwide DI Water Solutions, LLC is a new business with primary focus on Deionization Resin Regeneration (DRR) which is used to purify water, primarily for industrial uses.

People's Cooperative sold the land to Nationwide and assisted with technical and financial assistance including a low interest loan from our Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund.

For information about the Elgin Industrial Park or any of the cooperatives' Economic Development Programs please contact Tim Clawson CECD, Manager of Economic Development at 507-424-6278. Eight thousand nine hundred ninety-two.



Carbon Monoxide ... *The "Invisible" Killer*

Carbon Monoxide (CO) is the "invisible" killer. Carbon monoxide is a colorless and odorless gas. Every year more than 100 people in the United States die from unintentional exposure to carbon monoxide associated with consumer products.

What is carbon monoxide?

Carbon monoxide is produced by burning fuel. Therefore, any fuel-burning appliance in your home is a potential CO source. When cooking or heating appliances are kept in good working order, they produce little CO. Improperly operating appliances can produce fatal CO concentrations in your home. Running a car or generator in an attached garage can cause fatal CO poisoning in the home. So can running a generator or burning charcoal



in the basement, crawl space, or living area of the home.

Operate portable generators outdoors and away from open doors, windows, and vents that could allow CO to come indoors. In addition, install battery-operated

CO alarms or plug-in CO alarms with battery back-up in your home. Every home should have a CO alarm in the hallway near the bedrooms in each separate sleeping area. Test your CO alarms frequently and replace dead batteries. A CO alarm can provide added protection, but is no substitute for proper installation, use and upkeep of appliances that are potential CO sources. Six thousand four hundred twenty-six.

Symptoms of CO poisoning

The initial symptoms of CO poisoning are similar to the flu (but without the fever) They include:

- Headache
- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Nausea
- Dizziness

If you suspect that you are experiencing CO poisoning, get fresh air immediately. Leave the home and call for assistance from a neighbor's home. You could lose consciousness and die from CO poisoning if you stay in the home. Get medical attention immediately and inform medical staff that CO poisoning is suspected. Call the Fire Department to determine when it is safe to re-enter the home.

Personnel Updates



Congratulations to Bill Fillion following his promotion to Line Superintendent - Maintenance, effective November 16th. He brings with him over twenty years of line work experience.

Bill began employment with People's Cooperative in August 1988 as a temporary laborer. On January 25, 1989 Bill was hired full-time as a First Class Lineman Trainee. In November of 1992 Bill completed his training and advanced to First Class Lineman. Hard work and determination paid off, in 2007 Bill was promoted to Crew Leader. As Crew Leader, Bill occasionally was called upon to assist in the Operations Department during absences of a Line Superintendent. Thirteen thousand four hundred one.

In his new position, Bill will be responsible for the supervision of line and substation maintenance activities. This includes scheduled service calls for members, inspection and testing of line and substation equipment, maintenance repair and replacement programs, vegetation management, and coordination of outage restoration. Bill will also work with our power supplier, Dairyland Cooperative Power, and other utilities to coordinate efforts.

People's Cooperative Services would like to introduce to you, *Diana Hollihan*.



Diana started at the cooperative on November 16th as a Customer Service Representative. She will be responsible for maintaining accurate member account records, as well as providing members with thorough information regarding their accounts, rates, and billing procedures.

Diana comes to People's with extensive knowledge in accounts receivable, collections and payment applications, and has an A.A.S. degree in Business Administration. Diana previously worked for the University of Minnesota and Gold Cross Ambulance/Mayo Clinic Medical Transport in accounts receivable.

Diana and her husband, Ron, live in Rochester. During her free time she enjoys spending time with her nieces, nephews, and great nephew. When not attending activities with them, Diana is furthering her education, reading, and volunteering with the Salvation Army.

Next time you stop by the cooperative, introduce yourself and **welcome Diana** to the cooperative.



Kathy Sveen, Operation Round Up® Board Chair



HAPPY HOLIDAYS

The causes of rising electricity costs

The cost of generating and transmitting electricity is rising across the country. Dairyland Power Cooperative, People's Cooperative power supplier, is no exception. Members have asked what some of the drivers are for increased wholesale power costs. Most of it stems from state and national energy policies. While the ultimate results of these policies have good intentions to improve the environment by driving our future power generation choices, they are changing how we operate our system today and significantly driving cost.

Here is a brief explanation of causes for wholesale power increases. Keep in mind Dairyland's wholesale rates continue to remain below average in comparison to other generation and transmission cooperatives (G&Ts).

Excess power

Over the last 20 years, while experiencing significant growth in the number of members and the amount of power consumed by them, Dairyland has continued to build new transmission and generating facilities to ensure its power supply meets members' needs. Dairyland's system serves mainly residential members, which means that its peak demand occurs primarily in the mornings, when people get ready to go to work and school, and in the evenings, when they return home. By building enough power supply and a load management system to cover the peaks, Dairyland could previously sell power produced during off-peak hours to other utilities. This significantly off-sets the fixed costs of power plants and transmission facilities and ensured our members would continue to receive reliable power. However, the economic downturn has reduced energy use and the need by other utilities for surplus power. Today, these fixed costs are split over fewer sales.

Energy generation choices

Most people would think G&Ts can pick and choose their resources for generating electricity, but when it comes down to it, there isn't really much choice. The majority of decisions are directed by state and federal energy policy. Dairyland currently has facilities to generate electricity by coal, natural gas, wind, hydro, landfill gas and animal waste. Biomass is planned for next year. Here is a breakdown of some issues that Dairyland has run into:

- **Coal:** Historically, utilities all across the nation and especially in the Midwest have used coal for a majority of their electric generation output. It's been an abundant, reliable and low-cost fuel. At this time, however, additional coal-fired generation is being removed as an option because of the uncertainty of the effects of climate change legislation, even though it is the lowest cost, most abundant



and an increasingly clean resource. Significant investment needs to be made into new technologies to sequester or further reduce carbon dioxide emissions in order to make future coal plants viable.

- **Natural gas:** Dairyland added a natural gas peaking station to its generation mix in 2001 to increase fuel diversity. However, during the past decade natural gas has continued its up-and-down volatility, in between swings of forecasted shortages and the need for imported LNG (liquefied natural gas) to meet our nation's demand. Current predictions forecast an abundant supply, but that can't last forever.
- **Nuclear:** Dairyland worked directly with the federal government and was a pioneer on one of the very first nuclear power plants in the nation, the La Crosse Boiling Water Reactor. However, following the Three-Mile Island incident, both Wisconsin and Minnesota legislation have prevented the construction of new nuclear facilities. The inability to finance or permit a new nuclear facility over the past 10 years has resulted in no facilities being constructed. Today, Dairyland is still plagued with significant costs due to the federal government's failure to fulfill its agreement to take ownership and storage of the spent fuel from the shut-down plant at a national nuclear storage facility such as Yucca Mountain.
- **Hydro:** Dairyland's existing Flambeau Hydro Station in Ladysmith, WI has been limited to generating at a "run of the river" rate, eliminating its maximum generation output during peak energy usage times. New dams



have been eliminated from consideration due to the disturbance of natural waterways.

- **Wind:** While today's wind turbines are proving to become a viable energy resource, their capacity and availability to generate electricity upon

demand remains a concern. It requires dual investments in generation facilities such as natural gas peaking plants to meet consumer energy needs when the wind isn't blowing. A lack of transmission lines to move wind power is also a detriment.

- **Solar:** For the last decade, solar has primarily been a demonstration technology with a high generation price and difficult on a large scale project in the Midwest. Smaller, distributed generation options may allow future opportunities for solar with continued advancements in technology. Advancements in storage would also benefit solar generation as a resource.

Legislation and environmental policy

Minnesota utilities are required to generate 25 percent of their electricity from renewable resources by 2025. Dairyland is well on its way to meeting this goal. The law is prompting Dairyland and others to sign long-term contracts to purchase wind energy from developers that are competitive, but considerably more expensive than the spot market cost of electricity today. Some may feel we are picking on wind energy, but the reality is that Dairyland must buy all the wind power these turbines generate, regardless of whether or not its members need it at the time. This excess power is sold on the market, and with more wind power generated during off-peak times (nights), the market for selling it is not profitable. The success of wind power still hinges on finding a cost-effective way to store it.

Energy efficiency regulations, low income assistance funding, along with other regulatory fees/requirements have also all added to the cost of operating our electric cooperative. Dairyland is also complying with the current Federal Clean Air Act. They are investing \$400 million in baghouses, scrubbers and environmental controls at their coal generating plants. The end result will be significant reduction of sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, mercury and particulate matter. The pending climate change discussion would add additional costs to electric generation from all fossil fuels such as coal and natural gas.

Others

The price of coal has also become more volatile due to limits on mining operations and demand from other countries such as China. Shipping costs for coal have also increased significantly due to the lack of regulations for railroads. We are however, making great strides in Congress to subject railroads to anti-trust regulations, like all other businesses. Nineteen thousand seven hundred eighty-one.

www.peoplesrec.com - Feature of the Month

“Questline” - this helpful online newsletter and resource guide provides:


- Energy conservation tips and recommendations.
- Non-promotional information and resources that can save you and your household energy and money.
- Access to an easy-to-search “Energy eLibrary” – filled with valuable resources, tips and more. Two thousand eighty-eight.

The screenshot displays the Questline website interface. At the top, there are logos for People's Cooperative Services and Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative. A search bar is located in the top right. Below the navigation bar, there are sections for "I want to..." with links like "Pay my bill" and "Get rebate forms & info", and a "Newsletters" section featuring the Questline logo and the text "Your online information resource!". A red circle highlights the Questline logo in the newsletters section. On the left, a "Member Services" sidebar lists various services. The main content area is titled "Questline" and includes a description of the service, a list of benefits, and a sign-up section with "Residential" and "Business" options, each with "View Newsletter only" and "Subscribe to Newsletter" links. A red box highlights these sign-up options. At the bottom, the URL <http://www.peoplesrec.com/questline/> is provided.

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People's Cooperative Services

Your Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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*Best wishes for a
Happy Holiday Season
and our sincere thanks
for your
loyalty and goodwill
throughout the year.*

PLEASE RUN THIS AD IN THE NEXT HIGHLINE HI-LITES

Member Name: _____

Account Number: _____

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____

9. _____ 10. _____ 11. _____ 12. _____

13. _____ 14. _____ Phone Number: _____

ADS SUBMITTED WITHOUT MEMBER'S FIRST & LAST NAME, WILL NOT BE PRINTED

Clip & Send to:

People's Cooperative
PO Box 339
Rochester, MN 55903
Attn: Kristi

Ad limit is 14 words!
No phones calls.

Please check ad category

For Sale Free
 Services Wanted
 For Rent

Highline Hi-Lites Classifieds

Free want ad service - members only.

- Clip & use the coupon to the left.
- Submit online @ www.peoplesrec.com, click Highline Hi-Lites, and click want ad.
- Ads will be printed for one month only.
- Include your name, phone number and account number printed neatly, which will be used for identification purposes only.

Ads must be received by the last day of the month to go in the next months issue. One ad per month per member, no exceptions. No phone calls accepted. PCS reserves the right to edit or reject ad. Thank you.

All area codes 507
unless noted.

MISC. ITEMS

LOCAL Oronoco raw honey & bees wax, honey is filtered only. All sizes & volumes. 367-4248.

COMFORTER, shams, bedskirt, valances, excellent, \$30; X-mas tree, decorations, lights, excellent, cheap. 288-7327.

2005 SNOWBABIES figurine, new in box, \$15. 356-8061.

2x4s- Used. Lengths 10'-\$1, 13'-\$2, 15'-\$3, 18'-\$4. 932-4291.

UPHOLSTERY sewing machine, T206RB Consew HD, like new, 48" table, variable speed, \$750. 867-3143.

BASEBALL caps; Running boards for 2008 Dodge truck; Super A tractor Farmall, old. 288-6363.

LUMBER- Farm & grade. Blocking, plank. Custom lumber sawing; WANTED: Logs, timber. 273-6751.

100' STEEL fence posts, \$1 each. Lake City area. 285-1082.

HAMMOND organ L100, nice condition, \$200/obo. 261-2905.

1.2 Ghz computer system, Win XP Pro, Win 7 Beta, Office 2003, wired & wireless internet, CRT monitor, \$75 cash only. 281-9122.

TWO piece snowmobile suit, GMAX, worn very little, black/silver, 2XL, \$75. 282-7950.

ANTIQUE player piano, needs tuning/strings?, \$60/obo. 208-4073.

ARCTIC Cat snowmobile jacket, mens XL, black/purple/neon green, excellent condition, \$25. 534-2866.

HJC full-face helmet, XL, black w/electric shield, snowmobile or motorcycle, good shape, \$110. 533-8025.

HORSE-DRAWN bobsled, wide track, new condition. 365-8064 evenings.

COMPLETE photographic darkroom equipment. Everything you need to do black & white photography, \$150. 533-6910.

LIKE new Carhart insulated jacket & bib overalls, size 44 long. 477-3596.

MEDELA Pump-in-style breast pump, \$40. 533-6000.

Bird cage, 18x18x23, clean, accessories included. 289-4808.

120,000 BTU Dayton kerosene heater, like new, runs great, \$125. 867-3450.

LARK 3000 scooter, \$100; 3-Wheeled walker, \$20/obo. 289-5242.

OAK firewood, \$150 load; WANTED: Riding mower, will pick up. 273-7960.

DRY firewood- Oak or mixed. By the cord or 1/2 cord. Delivery available. 208-2163.

DRY oak firewood, delivered; Sawmill boards, white, red oak, cherry. Mike Logan 288-8287.

DRY oak firewood, \$60 face cord, you haul. Delivery available. 251-7455.

PREMIUM oak firewood, \$80 face cord. Cut, split, seasoned, close-in, easy access, you haul. 288-1311.

FIREWOOD, blocked but not split, \$50 load; Set of (4) 275R70-18 tires. 272-2829.

FREE box elder firewood, you cut. Theilman area; Buildable lot in Pepin, WI, \$24,900. 651-565-0275.

SPLIT firewood; Snowplowing; Tree trim/removal; Walnut/tree buying; Logging; Bulldozing. Insured & licensed, free estimates. 259-4367.

HOUSEHOLD

SIX beautiful dining room chairs w/ cane seats, excellent condition, \$400/set. 365-8776.

VINTAGE claw foot tub made in the mid 1920's, 30"Wx22.5"Hx54"L, \$190. 282-5957.

2005 HEATSOURCE1 woodburner, plus 80' insulated pipe, concrete foundation, water heater, H-coil, \$6,000/obo. 273-6670.

OIL furnace, 120,000 BTU, "Williamson", good condition, \$100/obo; 40 gallon water heater, good condition, \$25/obo. 285-9939.

STORM door, 36" full-length window & screen, brown color, complete, good condition, \$40. 421-5598.

AMISH made solid oak entertainment center w/retractable doors, large drawer, beautiful, 44x49x23, \$525. 635-5745.

CRAIN 1.5 gallon toilet, bone color; American Standard sink, 8" gold Kohler faucet (new). All for \$200. 289-4876.

TABLE; 4 chairs; Maytag washer/dryer; Antique dresser/mirror; FOR RENT: Inside storage RVs, boats, cars. 288-5302.

PINE headboard bunkbeds/new mattresses; Rabbit cages, feeders, trays; Hamster cage; Bathroom glass/metal shelving unit. 651-345-4647.

SET of (4) solid wood swiveling bar stools, 42.25"x22"w with 17"x17" seats, \$150. 282-9691.

VEHICLES

1988 OLDS Cierra wagon, 3.8 engine, auto, trans slips from second, 3rd reliable, \$500. 282-6676.

1990 HONDA Accord, 4-door, runs great, \$700; 1999 FORD Taurus, 3.0 auto, new trans, runs great, excellent condition, \$1,950/obo. 767-2248.

1994 LINCOLN Continental Deluxe, mint condition, red. 775-6853.

2002 NISSAN Sentra GXE, white, 112k miles, \$3,900/obo. 271-8399.

1981 GMC Caballero PK cab w/topper & rollout bed. Nice project car, but rusty, \$500/obo. 536-2514.

1989 FORD Ranger XLT, 4WD, 5-speed, topper, some rust, winter wood hauler, 2.9L, \$950. 753-2583.

SNOW plow ready- 1996 Dodge 1500, 7.5', plow kit, \$4,299. 208-2778.

1998 CHEVY stepvan, 40 series body w/Grumman. 281-4111.

FIBERGLASS car top carrier, lightweight, water tight w/locks, 40"x50", \$50/obo. 545-2548.

FARM

IH 656 gas tractor w/2250 loader, low hours, 3-point, NF, excellent condition, \$7,500/obo. 534-3406.

HESSTON #60, 16' stak mover, 5-chains, \$575; New 16' flat hay rack w/8 ton gear, \$550. 754-5437.

1991 14' CHAMP stock trailer, gooseneck, \$1,000. 365-2197.

LARGE round bales of grass hay, \$20; Several 8.25 & 10x20 truck tires. 269-0876.

STRAW round bales, great bedding. 289-0505.

ALFALFA grass hay, big squares & rounds. 534-2071/273-7310.

SMALL square bales alfalfa grass mix horse hay, \$3 each; Small square bales of oat straw, \$3 each. 754-5437.

SHOP/YARD

(4) PATIO chairs & (1) chaise lounge. We don't use anymore, make offer. 282-5542 evenings.

RECONDITIONED snowblowers, \$75-\$325; (2) Chainsaws- Homelite 240, 16" & McCulloch Mac 160-S, 16", \$55-\$65. 282-5921.

SNOWBLOWER- Murray Ultra, 8/27" Tucumseh 4-cycle, electric start, operators manual, barely used, \$350/obo. 876-2160.

PORTABLE building- 12x40 insulated, lined w/glassboard, exhaust system, easy to move, good condition. 534-3715.

SNAPPER rear-engine rider, 16HP, V-twin, OV, 42" mower deck, \$450. 421-3841.

1999 ARCTIC Cat portable generator, 4,000 watt, electric start, never used, \$1,200. 285-9453.

GARAGE heater, 75,000 BTU, \$400; Craftsman 5HP, 24" snowblower, needs minor work, \$200; Craftsman 8" tablesaw, \$50. 273-3502.

LAWNMOWER repair & used lawnmowers & snowblowers; Will buy snowblowers & lawnmowers. 533-4359.

7HP SNOWBLOWER, 3-speed w/ reverse, electric start, \$150; John Deere tiller, \$100. 288-7437.

CUB Cadet 42" snowblower, fits 50 & 82 series tractors, \$350. 867-4936.

SCROLL saw on stand & band saw, both for \$150; Shopsmith, \$595; Router & stand, \$95. 282-6753.

ROCKWELL 8" Power miter box w/ stand, \$100; Kero-Jet SVC-2230 portable kerosene heater, \$90. 288-9451.

HOMES

1993 WALK-OUT ranch, 2.25 wooded acres, 4 miles SE of Rochester, 4 bdrm, 3 bath, 3 car attached garage. 281-2918.

10 ACRE approved building site, mature windbreak, 9 miles SE of Rochester, abstracted, \$190,000/obo. 876-2208/545-2662.

VALKYRIE condo, beautiful, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, wooded view, indoor/outdoor pool, \$115,000. 533-9370.

3,200 SQ ft. commercial bldg, CA, 3-phase electric, 11/3 acre lot, currently cabinet shop. Kasson 634-6775.

FOR sale or rent- Beautiful 4 bdrm, 4 bath home on 5 acres, heated shop, barns, 6 miles E of Century H.S. 269-9987.

10 PRIVATE acres, 4 bdrm home, barn, sheds, \$369,900. See forsalebyowner.com Kasson; Add'l 1.25 acre available. 259-0742.



Happy Holidays!



Our office will be closed Thursday and Friday, December 24 & 25, 2009 and Friday, Jan. 1, 2010 to allow our employees to spend the holidays with their families.

BUCKY Beeman can assist you with buying or selling property. 251-3892 for questions on how to save \$6,500-\$8,000.

NEWER home on 12 acres, concrete walls, high maple ceilings, new 36x48 shed, \$450,000. Kasson 634-6293.

Looking to buy or sell a home? Call Bob Matthews at Coldwell Banker Burnet. 251-4422.

200 **WOODED** acres in SE Mill Lacs, small hunting cabin, excellent deer hunting, legal recorded easement, \$250,000. 273-7953.

RECREATIONAL

VACATION Week available- Cancun, Acapulco, PV, Mexico for 2010. 5-Star resort, sleeps 4, full kitchen, \$900/obo. 288-6047.

1989 **PHAZER**, not running, good track, seat susp, tuner, extra motors & parts. \$400/obo. 281-4459.

37' 5th-wheel camper, Fleetwood Terry, 3-slideouts, couples camper, \$8,500. 990-3289.

2000 **ELECTRIC** EZ-GO golf cart, roof, rumble seat, (2) sets of tires, new battery in 2007. 259-5345.

2000 **BEAVER** Class A motorhome, 3126 Cat diesel w/Allison 6-speed trans, 36' w/slideout, 49k miles, super clean, below blue book. 281-1834.

SALT shield ski rails for double trailer, \$100; (2) Snowmobile carts, \$50 each. 202-6514.

1994 **POLARIS** XLT580, \$900/obo; 1992 Indy 500, \$600/obo. Both run great. 202-2406.

1999 **ARCTIC** Cat ZL 500, great condition, license current, 3k miles, riding gear if needed, \$1,250. 261-3904.

FOR RENT

INDOOR storage- Pontoons, boats, cars, etc. 1 mile from Lake Zumbro, gravel floor or cement. 288-1433.

OFFICE Space- 962 sq ft warehouse, heated, 48x56x16, 16x14 overhead door; Warehouse 48x48x16, 16x14 overhead door, office 1,042 sq ft. 288-6505.

OUTDOOR storage- fenced area at business site for trailers, RVs, boats, \$25 month. 285-0921.

LARGE country home on 14+ acres, 4 bdrm, 2 bath, outbuildings, horse barn, many updates, long/short term available, Oronoco. 202-2896.

500-9,000 **SQ** ft warehouse for sale or rent, overhead door, loading dock, offices, 1 mile off I-90, Dover. 319-2886.

DUMPSTER, dump trailer. Perfect for house cleaning or construction project. Great rates. 251-3756.

STORAGE space available- Large cement pole shed for boats, cars, campers. Douglas area. 281-8246.

EASTSIDE Storage- New buildings, fenced, well-lit, paved, inside/outside storage. 6584 Hwy 14 E. 288-4793.

WANTED

RELIABLE barn help, 4-5 hours a week. Must know tractors & mowers, no animal handling. 289-4296.

RECYCLING- Compressors, gas grills, snowblowers, dryers, stoves, furnaces, vans, mowers, alum toppers, doors, windows. 269-6402.

250 **GALLON** fuel oil tank in good condition. 534-4219.

14 **HP** vertical shaft Kawasaki engine to fit John Deere LX172 rider, long block or short. 259-2940.

YOUNG farm dog, prefer white German Shepherd or Border Collie, likes cats. 356-4184.

TREKKING pole, fold-up. Rent or buy. 289-1344.

JOHN Deere lawn tractors & attachments, running or need work; Mens & womens 3-wheeled bikes. 529-8850.

331/3 **RECORDS**; Magnavox or Zenith console stereos. 867-4868.

GOLDEN Retriever puppy, barn cat and/or kittens. Good home on farm w/2 little girls. 634-3409.

SCRAP cars & iron for recycling or repair. Will haul. 272-9149.

FOR recycling- old cars, old tractors, farm machinery, scrap iron. Will haul, fair prices. 254-2468/867-4441.

TRUNDLE bed in good condition, need not have mattress. 252-8666.

DONATED bunkbed for family in need. Willing to pick up. Call with any questions. 328-7587.

CARS, iron, copper, batteries, inner tubes, farm machinery, lawnmowers, alum cans for recycling. 378-4332.

MISC. SERVICES

SEWING, alterations, bridal included. 30 years experience. 533-4627/533-8470.

PRAIRIE Walls- Indoor rock climbing gym. Birthday parties, lessons & group events. 292-0511/www.prairiewalls.com.

CHILDCARE openings available in SE area, reasonable rates. Mon-Fri, 6:30 am - 5:30 pm. Eyota, Rochester, Riverside school district. 288-8521.

MAX Ferguson Building- Remodeling, additions, kitchens, finish lower level, decks. Licensed/insured, top quality. 867-1690.

MASTER Builders- Specializing in major remodeling, additions, kitchens. High quality, exceptional service. 280-8856/www.masterbuilders.com.

MICK'S Backhoe & Blacktop Service- Residential/commercial blacktop-repairs. Any backhoe service; Snowplowing. 282-4378.

SNOWPLOWING- Need your driveway or sidewalks plowed this winter? Call MC Outdoor. Free estimates, insured. 285-5255.

ENGEL Painting- Residential/commercial. Interior, exterior, painting, staining, faux finish, powerwash decks. Insured since 1958. 258-1962.

SEPTIC tank pumping, design, installation, backhoe. Bruce Bucknell Construction. 533-8830.

SCHOENMANN Boat Works- Fiberglass & alum repair, floor, carpet, transom replacement, prop skeg repair, parts. 281-0110.

COMPUTER repair- Quality work, reasonable rates. 280-0081.

HOME Improvement Coaches. Professional help for do-it-yourself projects. 361-1346/www.homeimprovementcoaches.com.

PICNIC table rental & more. Tents, tables, chairs. We rent for your event. 273-9996/www.picnictablerental.com.

NEED in home cleaning help? Limited openings available. Phantom Runner 696-4660 Liz. References.

DOUG & Linda's DJ/Karaoke-Weddings, graduations. Indoor/outdoor parties. Great prices. 281-3580.

HANGMAN- Custom blinds & drapes. Sales, installation, repair, cleaning. Set up in home consultation. 696-0902.

RIVER Ridge Custom Canoes. Now doing misc fiberglass repairs. For information/appointment 288-2750.

JAY-BEE'S Tile- Installation, restoration, floors, walls, showers, countertops and more. Regrouting & caulking available. 273-0118.

STUMP Grinding Plus-ANDSTAR has the answer to your stump grinding needs. Free estimates. 259-6214.

SCHOTT'S Hardwood Floors- Quality, honest work, fair prices. Sanding, refinishing, new installation. Free estimates. 261-6755.

WOLF Farrier Service- Trimming and shoeing horses, ponies, mules, minis. Reliable, professional work, gentle. Reference. Ethan 696-6227.

SEXTON Drywall- We finish jobs you've started. Hanging, taping, sprayed ceiling, basement, additions, houses. 533-4150.

WOODSHED Recording Studio- 24-track digital recording at an affordable price. Demos, mixing, duplication. 288-8361.

DECKS, additions, finished basements, remodeling, and general contracting. Licensed & insured contractor. Cory 358-7084.

APPLIANCES- washers, dryers, refrigerators, ranges, coin-op washers/dryers. All come with warranty. 421-1366.

JUNK-B-Gone- Your junk removal experts. Single item or multiple truck loads. We recycle. 280-0404.

RONNINGEN Roofing- Free estimates. Schedule your spring roof job now and receive 5% off. Top quality work. 281-8899.

ACCOUNTING Services- Small business, payroll, income tax. Quickbooks assistance. Personalized service. Loren 282-5600.

MAIL LED LIGHTING REBATE BY DEC. 31ST

People's Cooperative Services members are eligible to receive a \$2 per string, with a limit of 12 strings per member, of LED holiday lights purchased between Aug. 1, 2009 and November 30, 2009.

Complete the incentive form, send the form in with a copy of your sales receipt and the original UPC from each package (no photo copies accepted). Must be postmarked no later than December 31, 2009.



GOPHER STATE ONE CALL

Call 48 Hours Before You Dig

IT'S THE LAW...AND IT'S FREE!

1-800-252-1166

MICHAEL'S Custom Cabinets- Design & builds. Kitchen, vanity, bars, laundry rooms. 533-9880/www.michaelscustomcabinets.com.

CRESCENT Covers in Rochester- Unicover toppers/lids, new/used, installation, parts, accessories. Dave 536-9057.

CAMPION Antenna Service- Antenna installation/HDTV. Free estimates, 25 years experience. Dan 254-0724.

TREES transplanted up to 12" diameter. Purchase ours or will move yours. Monnier 754-5900.

THEEL Sandblasting- Painting, body shop repair, steel/alum welding. 282-2887.

WEDDING Photography- High quality, low cost. Award winning photographer. Call for brochure 282-3177.

Book your vacation on website allanchihak.rovia.com. Become a preferred customer & receive free travel perks. 533-6484.

HOUSE Shopping? Always use an exclusive buyer broker agency. Protect your interests. 261-2223/www.ohlyrealestate.com.

PAIN relieving deep tissue massage, Plainview, \$45/hr, seniors, \$30/hr. Evenings/weekends. 534-2668.

CLARK'S Seamless Gutters- Wet basements, buckling cement, landscape damage protection. Free estimates. 281-2770.

JEAN'S Housecleaning- No job to big or small. References, hard worker, free estimates. 356-8712/421-9372.

MACHINE Quilting- Custom quilts, wall hangings, baby quilts, banners. 287-6885/Quiltsfromthehill.com.

DOUG'S Handyman Services. 271-3917.

WALK On Wood Flooring, Inc. Install refinish, dust-control, professional, fair, and friendly. Erik Flicek 398-5004.

ANIMALS

LOST! Siberian husky, male, blue eyes. He is big & kind-of grumpy, 8 yrs old. Was not wearing collar. 319-3268.

2 YR old Welsh Corgie mix. Loving, good with kids, loves to play. Up to date on shots, neutered, \$50. 252-5066.

REGISTERED Norwegian Elkhound puppies; (2) 1-yr old Welsh fillies; Solid oak dining table. 876-2695.

AKC registered liver & white Springer Spaniel pups, available now. Tails docked, dew claws removed, & shots. 651-345-3644.

1.5 YR old male, pure bred Chocolate Lab w/Pedigree. Pro-hunting trained. Great with kids, \$800/obo. 259-8226.

DOG kennel- 3-sides w/gate included, 2-sides 6x6, 1-side 6x12, \$75/obo. 727-271-6818.

USED 6x12' chainlink dog kennel, 2-sides 6x12, 2-sides 6x6 w/gate, fair condition, \$40. 754-6757.

16" SIMCO saddle w/green seat, great shape. Good old time leather, better than new cheap, \$290. 545-2048.

HORSE Boarding- Indoor/outdoor arenas, box stalls, tack room, pastures, shelters, round pen. Nice facility. 273-9699.

***** IMPORTANT Billing NOTICE *****

People's Cooperative Services is changing the due date for electric bills. Beginning February 2010 the electric bills will be due on or before the 20th of the month. Bills will be run and mailed out around the 5th of each month. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

Eligible for a 2009 Incentive???

Have you purchased equipment this year that qualifies for an incentive from People's Cooperative Services? We would like to remind members that if you have installed equipment that qualifies for a 2009 incentive, you must file your application no later than March 15, 2010.

Some of the incentives for our members include the following: geothermal heating and cooling, central air conditioning, ENERGY STAR® appliances, CFL bulbs, and refrigerator/freezer recycling.

For a complete list of incentives, criteria, terms and conditions or to download incentive forms, visit www.peoplesrec.com or call the office at (507) 288-4004 and speak to Member Services.



PROBLEMS PAYING YOUR ELECTRIC BILL? ENERGY ASSISTANCE MAY BE AVAILABLE!

Contact the energy assistance in your area to make an appointment. You will need documentation of your income and a copy of your heating and electric bill.

Dodge County Human Services
(507) 374-6401

Fillmore County Social Services - Preston
(507) 765-2761

Mower County Social Services - Austin
(507) 433-5889



Olmsted County Energy Assistance
Community Services/Income Maintenance (507) 328-6500.
Application Request Line: (507) 328-6508
On Line: www.co.olmsted.mn.us and search for Energy Assistance.

Rochester Salvation Army
(507) 288-3663

Three Rivers Community Action, Inc.
Zumbrota (507) 732-7391
Toll Free (800) 277-8418

Winona County Human Services (507) 452-8396
SEMCAC (507) 864-7741
Toll Free (800) 944-3281



IS YOUR ACCOUNT NUMBER WORTH \$30?

Each month we hide five account numbers within the pages of the Highline Hi-Lites. If you find your account number, call the office at (507) 288-4004 by the 5th of the month after receiving your newsletter and you will receive a \$30 credit on your electric bill.

Ronald Dickie found his account in the November issue. Account numbers not found: Andy Krogstad, David Christensen, Edward Urhammer, and Peter Post.

Minnesota law offers shut-off protection for military personnel

When a household member has been ordered into active duty, for deployment, or for a change of duty station, some members may find it hard to pay their electric bills. Minnesota Law protects military personnel from shut-off if they cannot pay utilities bills in full.

If you have any questions about the "Military Personnel Disconnection Law" or energy assistance programs, contact the cooperative office at 288-4004.



1-888-264-6380

www.heartlandss.com

GIVE THE GIFT OF SAFETY TO YOUR FAMILY THIS SEASON!



People's Cooperative Services (PCS) offers security systems to its members and residents of southeastern Minnesota through Heartland Security Services. Security systems fit with special sensors can help detect smoke, water, and temperature changes within your home. As a People's Cooperative member you can receive a 10% discount on Heartland Security systems and

monthly monitoring fee. Each Heartland Security system is sold as a package.

Protect your home from a multitude of threats, without being there! Heartland Security Systems automatically notify the authorities in the event of emergencies, such as burglaries, fire, burst pipes, frozen pipes and more.

Security System Components

By: Tom Vega, Heartland Security

When you are considering protecting either your home or business with a Security System, you will want to educate yourself on the system and its components. Here are the basic components of a security system, and their function(s):

- “The Brains” ~ Security System Central Processing Unit
- “The Heart of the System” ~ Security System Keypad
- “The Eyes and Ears of the System” ~ Security System Detection Devices
- “The Attention Getter” ~ Security System Siren

“The Brains” ~ The Central Processing Unit :

This is where all the information for your security system and it's operation is stored. This equipment is typically “hidden” and is normally installed in close proximity to the telephone and internet system components.

As the business owner and/or home owner, you will have no need to access this control equipment. Your Heartland Security technician will need to access this should service be required on your system.

“The Heart of the System” ~ The Security System Keypad :

The keypad is where you will turn the security system on (arm) and off, check system status, etc. You will need a minimum of one (1) keypad to operate your system and it is typically located in close proximity to your normal point of entry/exit.

For homeowners, an additional keypad installed in the master bedroom allows you to arm or disarm your security system when you retire for the evening. It also will tell you what is going on should your alarm go off in the middle of the night.

“The Eyes and Ears of the System” ~ Security System Detection Devices:

There are basic components found in a majority of security systems such as motion detectors, door sensors, window sensors, glass break sensors, and smoke/heat detectors.

Motion detectors typically mount on a wall, corner of a room, or on the ceiling. These are triggered by motion in the field of coverage and trigger an alarm. Pet immune motion detectors are a solution for homeowners with pets in their home.

Door/Window Sensors are magnetic sensitive switches that will trigger an alarm when their field is broken. These sensors can be extremely beneficial. They can alert you when leaving that either a door or window is open, surface mounted contacts can have a second magnet installed allowing a window/door to be partially open for ventilation, and (one that teenagers dislike) it will notify you if a window is opened to let friends in or out.

Glass Break Sensors listen for the unique frequency of breaking glass. They listen for when a burglar smashes a window and will trigger your security system before the intruder can enter your home or business.

Smoke/Heat Detectors will notify you in the event of fire or heat allowing your family time to escape. It also will notify the Heartland Security Monitoring Station which will dispatch authorities to your home or place of business.

“The Attention Getter” ~ Security System Siren:

The siren will deter burglars from entering your home or business by blaring at a high decibel level until the system has been reset. It will notify neighbors that something is wrong and get the attention you want.

As a member of People's Cooperative Services you are entitled to the best protection available for your family, your belongings, and your peace of mind. Do not hesitate to contact Thomas Vega, Heartland Security Regional Sales Manager, by calling People's Cooperative Services or email him at t.vega@heartlandss.com.