

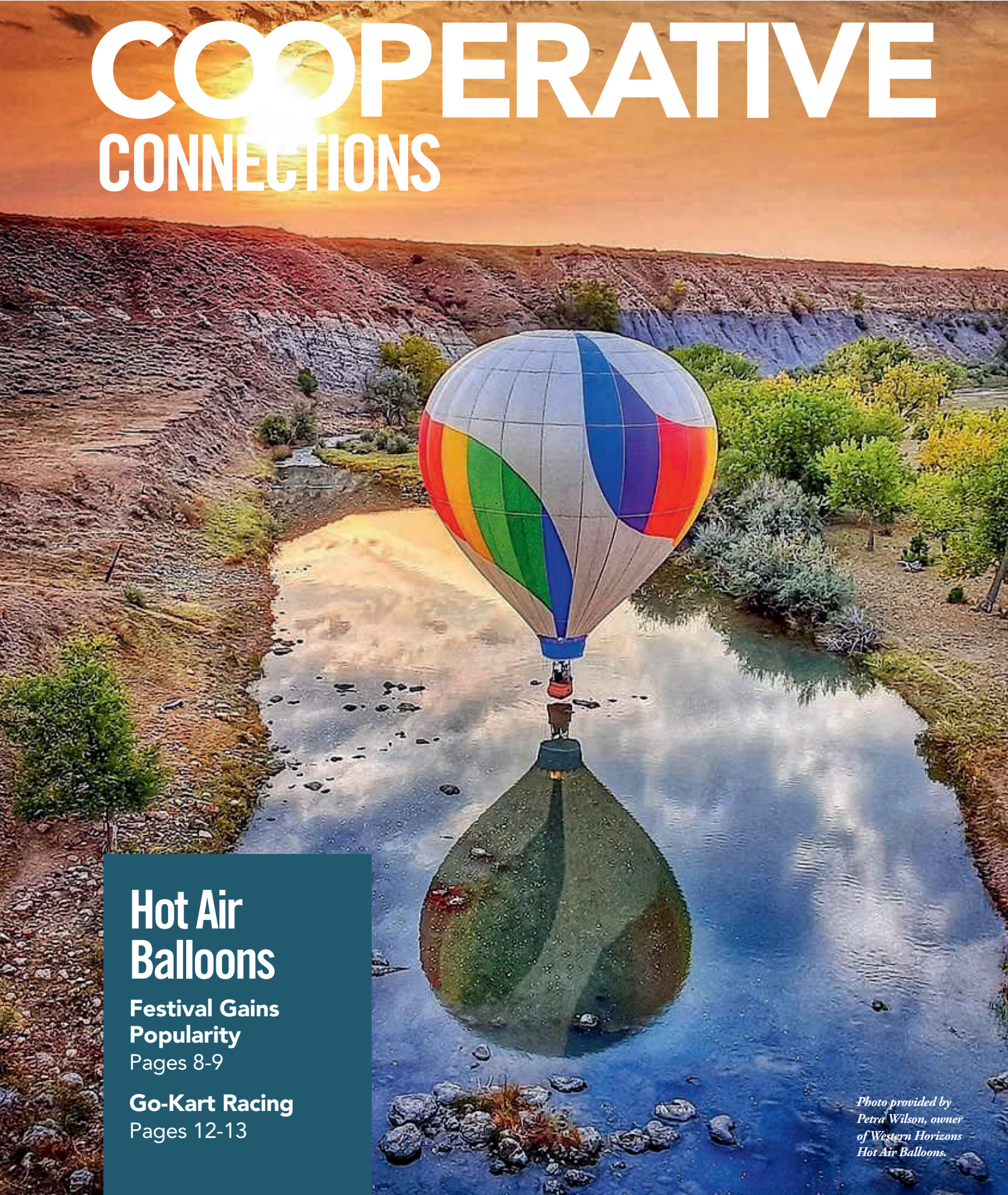
# COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

## Hot Air Balloons

**Festival Gains  
Popularity**  
Pages 8-9

**Go-Kart Racing**  
Pages 12-13

*Photo provided by  
Petra Wilson, owner  
of Western Horizons  
Hot Air Balloons.*



# Their Safety is in Your Hands



**Tim McCarthy**  
General Manager/  
Chief Executive  
Officer

Tim.McCarthy@  
siouxvalleyenergy.  
com

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, on average, 55 worker-pedestrians are killed per year after being struck by vehicles in work zones. That number should be zero. No person should ever be injured or lose their life in a roadside work zone accident caused by careless or distracted driving. Unfortunately, our line crews routinely see that type of driving while they are working on the side of the road. Their safety is in YOUR hands.

Recently, we had a roadside work zone set up in one lane of traffic. We had flaggers with signs, flashing lights, and safety cones. Basically, it would have been impossible to miss this work zone, yet a semitruck actually sped up through the work zone putting those who were there in danger. This type of carelessness is unacceptable. It only takes a moment to slow down and focus on driving past a work zone. Their safety is in YOUR hands.

Before you ignore signs that say “utility work ahead,” think about the individuals who are in that work zone, just trying to do their job. They are often fixing, updating, or building new electric infrastructure for YOU, your neighbors, and your community. These individuals are

someone’s parent, sibling, or friend. They work hard each and every day so they can support their families, just like you do. Please remember, their safety is in YOUR hands.

SafeElectricity.org offers some great reminders to drivers as they navigate through a lot of construction and utility work this summer on the roads:

- Slow down and keep a safe distance between your vehicle and traffic barriers, trucks, construction equipment, and workers.
- Be patient. Traffic delays are sometimes unavoidable, so try to allow time for unexpected occurrences in your schedule.
- Obey all signs and road crew flag instructions.
- Merge early and be courteous to other drivers.
- Use your headlights at dusk and during inclement weather.
- Minimize distractions. Avoid activities such as operating a phone, radio, or eating while driving.

Thanks for taking time to read this safety message. The welfare of our employees who are doing linework on the roadside is a priority for Sioux Valley Energy, and we hope it will become a priority for you too. Their safety is in YOUR hands.

## Move Over for Utility and Construction Crews

During the summer season both utility and construction crews can be seen setting up work zones on the side of the road. Their safety is in your hands when you are behind the wheel. Keep these safety guidelines in mind as you are traveling.

- Keep a safe distance and slow down
- Be patient
- Obey signs and road crew flag instructions
- Merge early and use headlights
- Minimize distractions



**COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS**

**SIoux VALLEY ENERGY**

(USPS No. 497-440)

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- (3) email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

**Sioux Valley Energy is an equal opportunity provider and employer.**

# AGRICULTURE APPRECIATION DAY – AUG. 9

Join Sioux Valley Energy and other Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives at the Sioux Empire Fair for Ag Appreciation Day on Wednesday, August 9!

Energy Cooperatives, will be held Wednesday, August 9, at the W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds. A complimentary lunch will be served from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## JOIN US AT THE FAIR!

The annual Ag Appreciation Day, hosted by the Greater Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce and sponsored by Touchstone

Admission to the Sioux Empire Fair is free until 1 p.m. courtesy of Sioux Valley Energy and other Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.



**Join us for Ag Appreciation Day**  
 Wednesday, August 9  
 W.H Lyon Fairgrounds in Sioux Falls  
 Lunch served 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Bring this ticket to receive a meal of pork smoked on-site, chips, & a drink. Free admission to the fairgrounds until 1 p.m. courtesy of Touchstone Energy Cooperatives.



**EV expo**

Tuesday, Sept. 19, 2023  
 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

W.H. Lyon Fairgrounds  
 Sioux Falls, South Dakota

# Working Out in the Heat

Exercising outdoors is a great way to enjoy the sunshine and warmer weather of summer. But you'll need to take some extra precautions to stay safe. Here are some do's and don'ts for working out when temperatures climb.

### **DO: Stay hydrated**

Drink plenty of water before, during and after your workout to prevent dehydration and help regulate body temperature. Nicole Thompson of the American Council on Exercise recommends slowly drinking water or sports drinks about four hours before exercising. Aim for 1 ounce for every 11 pounds of body weight – so 10 ounces for a 110-pound person or 20 ounces for a 220-pound person.

Weigh yourself before and after working out to determine how much fluid you need to replace. The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics recommends drinking 2-3 cups of water for every pound lost.

### **DON'T: Drink products containing alcohol**

Alcohol is a diuretic, so it contributes to dehydration.

### **DO: Wear lightweight and breathable clothing**

Choose light-colored and loose-fitting clothes made of moisture-wicking materials. This'll help keep you cool and dry.

### **DON'T: Wear dark colors or heavy fabrics**

Dark-colored clothing can absorb heat and trap it against your body.

### **DO: Wear sunscreen**

The key number to look for on your sunscreen is the sun protection factor. An SPF of 15 filters out about 93% of UVB rays, according to the Environmental Protection Agency, while an SPF of 30 will filter out around 97%. Look for "broad spectrum" on the label to protect against UVA and UVB rays.

Apply sunscreen 15 or 20 minutes before going out (check the instructions on the label). Reapply every two hours – or more frequently if you're sweating a lot. Don't forget about your ears, lips and any bald spots on your scalp – they need protection, too.

### **DON'T: Work out during the hottest times of the day**

The sun is at its strongest between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., so try to schedule workouts for earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon. Remember, you can always work out inside and in an air-conditioned area if needed.

### **DO: Know the signs of heat-related illness**

Symptoms of heat exhaustion include:

- Nausea and dizziness
- Headaches
- Feeling weak

A weak or rapid pulse

Cold, clammy skin

If you experience any sign of heat exhaustion, move to a cool place, loosen your clothing, put cool and wet cloths on your body or take a cool bath, and sip water, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says. Get medical help if your symptoms don't go away after an hour, if your symptoms worsen or if you're throwing up.

Symptoms of heatstroke include:

A body temperature of 103° F or higher

Hot, dry, bright red or damp skin

Labored breathing

A fast, strong pulse

Headache, dizziness, nausea or confusion

Loss of consciousness

Heatstroke is an emergency. If you suspect it, call 911 immediately.

### **DON'T: Overdo it**

Adjust your workout intensity to account for the heat and listen to your body's cues. Shorter workouts are good when temperatures rise. Allow your body to get used to the heat. Then you can gradually increase your time outdoors and exercise intensity.



### **Don't pull the cord!**

#### **Gabrielle Clement, Age 10**

Gabrielle Clement advises people it's not safe to pull the cord when disconnecting appliances from an outlet. Gabrielle is the daughter of Dustin and Michelle Clement from Box Elder, S.D., members of West River Electric Association.

Kids, send your drawing with an electrical safety tip to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). If your poster is published, you'll receive a prize. All entries must include your name, age, mailing address and the names of your parents. Colored drawings are encouraged.

# Savory Summer SALADS

## GRAPE SALAD

Ingredients:

- 2 lbs. red seedless grapes
- 2 lbs. green seedless grapes
- 1 8 oz. cream cheese (softened)
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup chopped pecans

### METHOD

Wash and dry grapes. Mix cream cheese and sour cream. Add sugar and vanilla. Mix well. Fold in grapes. Place in 9x13 pan. Sprinkle with brown sugar and pecans.

**Angie Ruiters**  
Sioux Falls, S.D.

## CHICKEN SALAD

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup plain lowfat yogurt
- 2 tbsp. mayonnaise
- 1 tsp. parsley flakes
- 1/2 tsp. seasoned salt
- 1/4 tsp. pure ground black pepper
- 1/2 rotisserie chicken, cut into bite size chunks (about 2 cups)
- 1/2 cup thinly sliced celery
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion

### METHOD

Mix yogurt, mayonnaise, parsley, seasoned salt and pepper in large bowl. Add chicken, celery and onion; toss to coat well. Cover. Refrigerate at least 30 minutes or until ready to serve. Serve in sandwich or on salad greens.

[mccormick.com](http://mccormick.com)

## CORN CUCUMBER SALAD

Ingredients:

- 2 cans whole kernel corn (drained)
- 1 cup diced, unpeeled and seeded cucumbers
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tbsp. chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 tbsp. grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tbsp. lime juice
- 1 tsp. paprika
- 1/2 tsp. garlic salt
- 1/4 tsp. ground cumin

### METHOD

Mix corn, cucumber and onion in large bowl. Set aside. Mix remaining ingredients in small bowl until well blended. Add to corn mixture; toss lightly to coat. Cover. Refrigerate 2 hours or until ready to serve.

[mccormick.com](http://mccormick.com)

Please send your favorite recipes to your local electric cooperative (address found on Page 3). Each recipe printed will be entered into a drawing for a prize in December 2023. All entries must include your name, mailing address, phone number and cooperative name.

# Things to Consider if You're Thinking of Solar



**Sheila Gross**  
Energy Services  
Specialist

Contact Sheila Gross at [sheila.gross@siouxvalleyenergy.com](mailto:sheila.gross@siouxvalleyenergy.com) to learn more.

Check out our rebates and incentives here:



If you're thinking of installing a private solar system, there are a number of things to consider before investing.

First, the payback period can range from fewer than 10 years to more than 20 years, depending on the system cost, available rebates and incentives, the amount of electricity produced, and the price of electricity. Contact Sioux Valley Energy (SVE) to learn more about your past energy use to determine if solar makes sense for you.

Second, consider the system's life expectancy. Certified products and systems typically have a life expectancy of about 30 years. Manufacturers test solar panels for hail impact, high wind, and freeze-thaw cycles to represent real-life situations. Most manufacturers offer 20- to 25-year warranties for panels; extended warranties may be available at an extra cost. Other components like inverters may have a shorter life. Solar panels may outlast the roof they are attached to. Make sure your roof is in good shape or budget for replacement during the life of the system.

Grid-connected solar systems are connected to SVE's power lines. That means electricity can flow both ways (to your home from SVE and from your solar system back to the electrical grid). Particularly on sunny days when your energy use may be low, your system may produce excess energy that can flow back to the grid and may be purchased by SVE. Contact SVE for more information including requirements for interconnection, safety, metering, and applicable rates.



This spring, fifth graders at Brandon Valley Intermediate School built solar powered cars as they explored solar and renewable energy in their science class.

## FIVE STEPS TO TAKE BEFORE YOU INSTALL SOLAR

### 1. MAKE YOUR HOME MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT BEFORE INSTALLING SOLAR.

By adding insulation, sealing air leaks and completing other energy efficiency upgrades, you can cut your energy costs immediately. If you decide to install solar, these improvements may also reduce the size of solar system that you require.

### 2. RESEARCH YOUR OPTIONS BEFORE INVESTING IN A SOLAR SYSTEM.

Details to research before moving forward with solar include comparing contractors/installers, learning about the different types of solar panels that are available, comparing the costs of different systems, and more.

### 3. UNDERSTAND HOW A SOLAR SYSTEM WORKS WITH YOUR COOPERATIVE'S SYSTEM.

Contact the energy experts at SVE to obtain more information about rate structures, solar grid interconnection, safety precautions, and other connection related details.

### 4. REVIEW YOUR ENERGY USE TO DETERMINE WHAT SIZE SOLAR SYSTEM TO INSTALL.

Contact SVE to learn more about your past energy use so that you can best determine which size solar system to install and to learn why choosing the right size system is so important.

### 5. SEARCH FOR INCENTIVES, REBATES, AND TAX CREDITS.

Any financial incentives available will help reduce your solar investment costs. Be aware that incentives and their associated details can vary from year to year.

# SHINING BRIGHT

## Sioux Valley Energy Community Solar Project Takes Shape Along SD Hwy 34

Sioux Valley Energy held a commissioning event for its newly constructed Community Solar Array on Friday, June 23. The solar project is located at the Cooperative's headquarters near Colman, SD.

The Community Solar Array provided an opportunity for interested Sioux Valley Energy members to experience solar energy without having to worry about the maintenance or land availability issues that can be barriers for some when installing solar on homes or businesses.

Another benefit of this project was that it offered economies of scale, making it less expensive to build a larger system than what would otherwise be installed on a single residence. Additionally, Sioux Valley Energy was also able to take advantage of a federal direct pay incentive for 30 percent of the array, which was provided upfront, reducing the cost for members.

The array has 140 panels with a total capacity of 60 kW

and a maximum output of 50 kW. Members of SVE had the opportunity to purchase the output of one or more panels with a 20-year subscription. The output is credited to the participating member's bill every month.

Cooperative employees built the array, which also provided valuable experience as more and more members inquire about home solar arrays. If you are interested in solar or other electric technologies, call SVE's Beneficial Electrification Department at 800-234-1960.





## TAKING TO THE SKY

Balloons light up the night during the night glow event of the festival.

### Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival Gains Popularity

**Jocelyn Johnson**

[jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop](mailto:jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop)

It's a picturesque and dramatic spectacle that's awed most people for several hundred years. Yet, spectators and pilots alike have not tired of the image. Hot air balloons have that quality of enchantment. And what better way to be enchanted than to see dozens of these balloons floating up into the sunrise of a South Dakota sky?

The annual Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival is attracting nearly 30 balloons and thousands of spectators on Aug. 25-27, 2023. The event is taking place at the airport outside of Hot Springs, S.D., where it will celebrate its 8th year of growing popularity. Festival sightseers can pack all-day-fun into their festivities by visiting the vendors, obstacle courses,

bouncy houses, and performances in Hot Springs by Magician Jared Furnau and the Wild Blue Band.

Petra Wilson, a local commercial pilot, founded the festival in 2016 before opening her own flying business – Western Horizons Hot Air Balloons.

“The way I got introduced to ballooning is a tale of serendipity,” said Wilson. “Almost 20 years ago, my husband and I attended a hot air balloon festival in Peoria, Ill., where we are asked to become crew members for a weekend. On the last flight of the weekend, he asked us if we wanted to go for a ride. The ride was absolutely stunning and from that point on we were hooked.”

Wilson became a private pilot in 2014 and a commercial pilot in 2017. In 2015, Wilson and her husband moved to Hot Springs, where she discovered she was the

only hot air balloon pilot flying in the area.

I introduced many different people to ballooning by inviting them out to watch and even crew,” Wilson said. “Some of those people became my students and eventually became hot air balloon pilots in the Hot Springs area.”

When asked how she started the festival, Wilson replied, “I decided this area was such a beautiful place to fly that I wanted to share it with all my ballooning friends and their friends, as well as locals who might appreciate the beauty of the balloons in the sky, so what better way to do this than having a balloon festival.”

The festival started with the partnership between Wilson and Olivia Mears, Executive Director for the Chamber of Commerce in Hot Springs.

Mears said, “Folks from South Dakota, California, Nebraska, Colorado, and more attend this festival. We attract private pilots who fly for their own enjoyment and commercial pilots who are licensed to carry passengers.”



Tamie Shrum, current balloon-meister for Fall River Hot Air Balloon Festival, is a commercial pilot overseeing the safety and regulation of the participating balloons. She travels the world to fly, including six countries and 37 states. Shrum owns three of her own balloons and earns her living flying passengers and training students how to fly.

“I like to do long jump flying, which is long distance flying,” said Shrum. “My longest distance is 137 miles in a three-hour flight with a top speed of 78 mph.”

Shrum explained that a considerable amount of studying goes into the preparation for a long jump flight. Everything matters – the time of year, time of day, location, and weather patterns.

“We work off of a microscopic level,” Shrum said. “A regular person might say, ‘It’s not that windy today,’ but a balloon pilot might say, ‘It’s too windy to fly today.’”

Describing how balloons fly, Shrum said, “In layman’s terms, hot air rises and cold air sinks. You put heat in the

envelope, making it hotter than ambient temperatures which allows it to lift the massive weight it’s carrying.”

“We use a burner with regular propane,” Shrum continued. “The amount of propane needed changes based upon ambient temperature, altitude of flight, and how much passenger weight is being carried.”

Balloons are simplistic in design but can be challenging to fly.

“You don’t steer a balloon... while airplanes fly against the wind, balloons fly with the wind, which can be unpredictable,” Shrum explained. “Sometimes you land in a park and sometimes you land in main street.”

“I’ve flown over Pikes Peak in Colorado



Commercial Pilot Tamie Shrum looks below on other balloons while flying.

and in Japan along with many other places,” Shrum said. “I’ve been fortunate to sightsee all over the world from 1,000 feet in the air while others are sightseeing from the surface...but South Dakota is one of the most gorgeous places to fly in.”



Commercial Pilot Petra Wilson inspects her balloon.

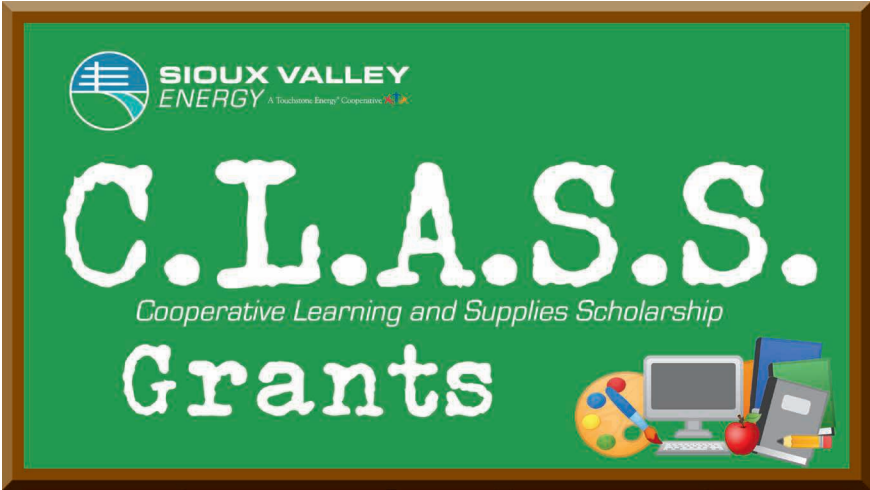


## SVE's Operation Round Up Program Helping Area Non-Profits & Schools

More than \$2.15 million has been donated to area non-profits, schools and communities since the year 2000 when Sioux Valley Energy started its Operation Round Up® (ORU) program. The program is simple – participating members “round up” their electric bill to the next high dollar and those “rounded up” funds are placed into a trust. Each quarter the Operation Round Up Board of Trustees meets to review applications and consider grant requests. So far this year, more than \$80,000 in Operation Round Up grants has been provided.



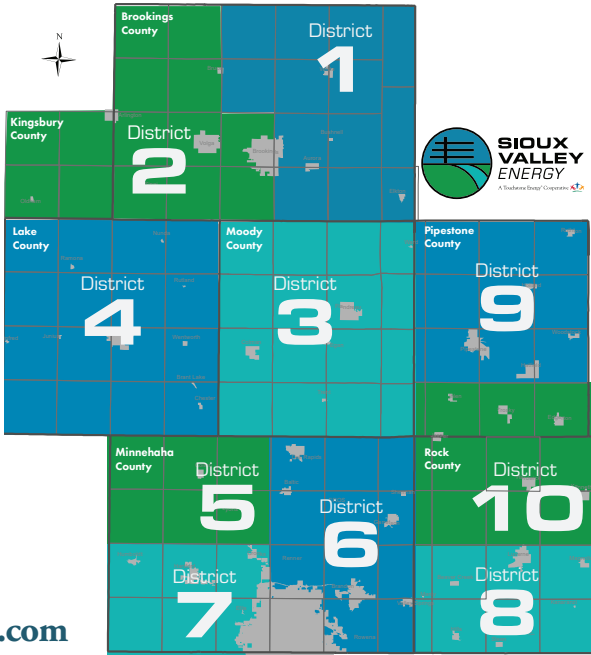
**Above:** ORU funding helped purchase a music subscription for the Sioux Valley Music Department in Volga. **Right:** Rock Ranch, located at Hills, Minnesota, purchased an AED with ORU funding. **Top:** The 13th Annual Ag Women's Day was held in Brookings and received funding from ORU to help with the event. **Above Right:** Kids Chess, Inc. was able to purchase chess equipment for students with an ORU grant.



# C.L.A.S.S. GRANTS PROGRAM STARTS

## Program established for area teachers

Teachers from across the region are starting to gear up for the school year! Many of them purchase classroom supplies on their own. To help, **Sioux Valley Energy will provide 10 area teachers a \$500 grant** to purchase supplies for their classroom. Teachers (or friends and family on their behalf) can submit an online entry to the Cooperative. All entries must be submitted by **10 a.m. on Monday, August 14**. The grant recipients will be selected through a drawing which will be held at noon on August 14 via Facebook. One teacher from each of the Cooperative's 10 districts will be selected from the drawing. District boundaries are pictured at right.



Enter online:  
[www.sveclassgrants.com](http://www.sveclassgrants.com)

### Sioux Valley Energy on Parade

Sioux Valley Energy has been making the rounds of local parades this summer. We've been at parades in Volga, Hartford, Dell Rapids, Pipestone, and Valley Springs with plans to be at more parades in July and August.



Melissa hands out candy at the Pipestone parade as Matt D. drives on.



Holly tosses Skittles out in Pipestone.



Jake D. rolls along at the Dell Rapids Quarry Day parade.



Tanner D. and Matt B. drive in the Volga Old Timers parade.



# RACING FAMILY FUN

Go-kart racers in Aberdeen are placed in divisions by age and skill to keep the races competitive. The track usually hosts races twice a month during the summer months. *Photo by Scott Waltman*

## Go-kart Racing at Aberdeen Track is a Family Affair

**Scott Waltman**

Kevin Horn didn't set out to drive to Aberdeen several times a summer so he could race.

Instead, after seeing races on TV, the Waubay mechanic bought a go-kart for his then-9-year-old daughter. But while she was driving, the kart skidded on some wet grass and she hit the kart trailer. After that, she turned the keys over to Dad.

That was about 11 years ago. Horn took his daughter's number 9 and flipped it to make a 6, and he's been racing ever since.

Like others who race at the Aberdeen Karting Club track at the Brown County Fairgrounds, his story has a tie to family, even if it didn't work out exactly as he thought it would.

Karting, racers and organizers say, is a family affair.

Brody Griffin of Watertown is 10 and started karting three years ago.

He makes the rounds, mostly to the closest tracks in Aberdeen, Brookings and Miller. He races just about every weekend during summer, and the allure is simple. Griffin said he just likes driving.

He was named rookie of the year his first season and finished second in his division his second season in Aberdeen.

But it's not all zipping around the track and trying to pass other drivers. Griffin said he helps work on his kart with his father.

That makes sense to Landon Schott, a 24-year-old racer from Aberdeen who is one of the track's most successful drivers. Now that he's a little older, helps with public relations and social media for the track.

When Schott started racing, he said his father made it clear to him that he would be helping work on the kart and had to keep it clean. Karting can be a big financial investment, and his dad wasn't going to spend heaps of money if his son wasn't going to pitch in and be engaged.

Schott, too, said he appreciates the friendly and family atmosphere of karting.

Sponsorships are critical to both the Aberdeen track and its racers, he said. He wouldn't have been able to travel across the country racing without



Josiah Combellick serves as the event's flagman. *Photo by Scott Waltman*

having sponsors since he started driving in 2006, he said.

The Aberdeen track doesn't have any employees, and the Aberdeen Karting Club is a nonprofit group, so contributions are important, Schott said.

Rick Cartney is the vice president of the Aberdeen Karting Club and has been involved with the track since it was founded in 1996. His first race was in Aberdeen that first year, and now he gets to the track to start prep work around 9 a.m. on race days. Races usually start around 4 p.m. and last into the night.

For Cartney, the payback comes from the smiles on the faces of young racers.

"Mainly, it's for the kids," he said.

They do their best racing when they don't win, but they learn, grow and mature, Cartney said.

The Aberdeen track is between an eighth and a 10th of a mile long and is great for young racers who are just

starting out, he said.

There are races in Aberdeen a couple of times a month during summer, with the schedules of other tracks in the region taken into consideration so drivers can make it to as many races as possible. Generally, there are 30 or 40 drivers in Aberdeen, most of them young people, Cartney said.

Starting at the Aberdeen track has served Schott well. He has advanced to grand national events with both the International Karting Federation and Maxxis Kart Racing, finishing as in the top five, but never quite nabbing a championship. Last December, Schott said, he traveled to Daytona, Fla., and raced with about 70 other drivers, never finishing outside of the top 14.

"I guess maybe I'm just an adrenaline junkie," Schott said.

In 2013, as a junior driver, he won a Maxxis regional championship. The event drew drivers from across the nation and is called the Maxx Daddy, he said.

Schott said that and winning an end-of-season state championship in 2021 on his home track in Aberdeen are, at least to date, two of the highlights of his career.

He also won the state championship in 2015 in Brookings.

The state karting championships used to be in Brookings, but have been in Aberdeen in recent years. They return again this year on Aug. 12.

That event will likely draw about 200 drivers from South Dakota and surrounding states, Cartney said. A heavy bronze trophy in the shape of Mount Rushmore goes to the winner.

It will be yet another chance for the karting community to gather. Both Schott and Horn said they have made friends traveling the karting circuit. It's one of the most enjoyable parts of racing, they said, and Cartney agrees.

"These people are like a second family," he said.



Landon Schott helps prepare a go-kart before the races begin in Aberdeen on Saturday, June 17. Schott is one of the most successful racers from the Aberdeen Karting Klub. *Photo by Scott Waltman*

# GOING TO MARKET

## Brookings Area Group Plants Seeds to Grow Local Food Cooperative;

A group of volunteers in the Brookings, South Dakota, area is on the road to establishing a new type of grocery in the community: a food co-op.

Organizers with the Dakota Community Market have been working with the Food Co-op Initiative, a nonprofit that works to establish food co-ops. Utilizing the Food Co-op Initiative's model, Dakota Community Market is in the midst of a three-stage plan with the intent of one day opening a food co-op in the community.

The first stage of the process has been organizing. The group has been selling \$150 memberships and, since their start in 2019, has more than 200 members signed up. When the co-op reached 100 members, they were able to elect a board of directors and hold their first annual meeting in October 2022. The next stage of the process begins once they reach 300 members where feasibility and planning activities begin. Ultimately, the implementation stage starts at 800 members with actual construction beginning at 1,000 members.

When it opens, organizers say that Dakota Community Market will prioritize local products to keep the food system close and local producers in business, which further strengthens the local economy. The store will also source high-quality, sustainable products from national and international producers and suppliers. Not everything in the store will be organic, though many organic options will be offered.

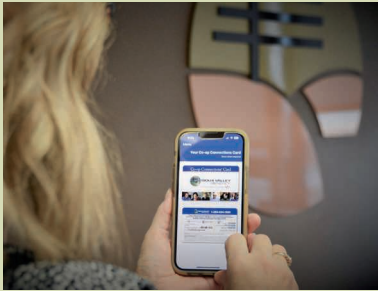
Past and current board members include Kalley Besler, Kirsten Gjesdal, Denise Hall, Justin McLaughlin, Rachel Meyer, Greg Olson, Bess Pallares, Kalli Reisetter, Jason Soren, Wayne Soren, Vicky Ching, Allen Jones, and Jess Murano.

For more information on Dakota Community Market, visit their web page at [www.dakotacommunitymarket.com](http://www.dakotacommunitymarket.com) or check them out on Facebook.



**Above:** Board members meet with potential co-op members during a mixer in June 2023 in Brookings. **Top:** A sign welcomed members to the Dakota Community Market 2022 Annual Meeting. **Bottom:** Board members discuss the co-op's next steps at its monthly board meeting.





**CO-OP CONNECTIONS® CARD CORNER**

The Co-op Connections Card is a partnership between Sioux Valley Energy and local businesses! Each member received the Co-op Connections Card free in their January magazine. You get your Co-op Connections Card simply because you're a member of Sioux Valley Energy. Each month, we'll include a listing of businesses participating in the program. Below are businesses located in area towns:

**Pipestone**

- Bole-More Lanes Bar & Grill
- Douglas J. Vermeer O.D.
- Dynamic Health Chiropractic, Ltd.
- Geyermans Clothing Co.
- Keepers Gift Shop
- Luann's Gas and More
- Rustad's Design Center

**Ramona**

- Mown-Town Steak House Cafe

**Renner**

- Monarch Steak House and Lounge

**Tea**

- Neighborhood Dental
- Service Master of Sioux Falls
- Tea Ace Hardware

**Valley Springs**

- Hello Gorgeous, Inc

**Wentworth**

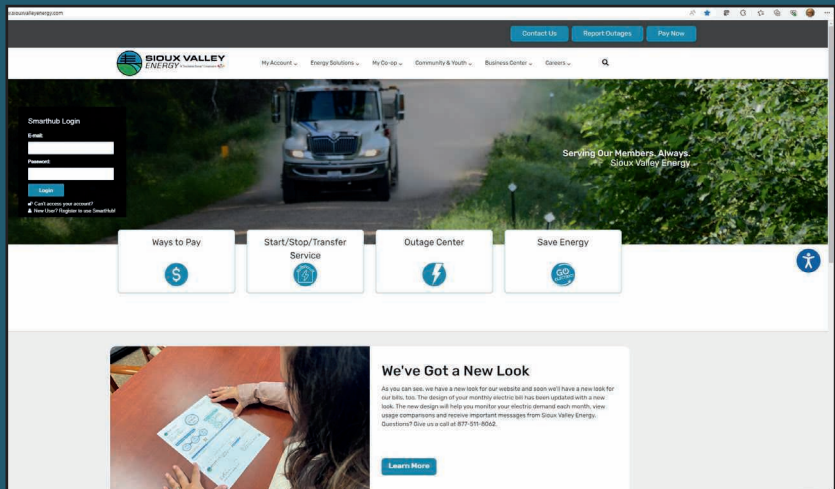
- Ladditude Pleasure Cruise LLC

Scan this code to access the Sioux Valley Energy website where you can download the Cooperative Connections Card app for mobile devices.



# SVE WEBSITE GETS FRESH NEW LOOK

Check it out at [www.siouxvalleyenergy.com](http://www.siouxvalleyenergy.com)



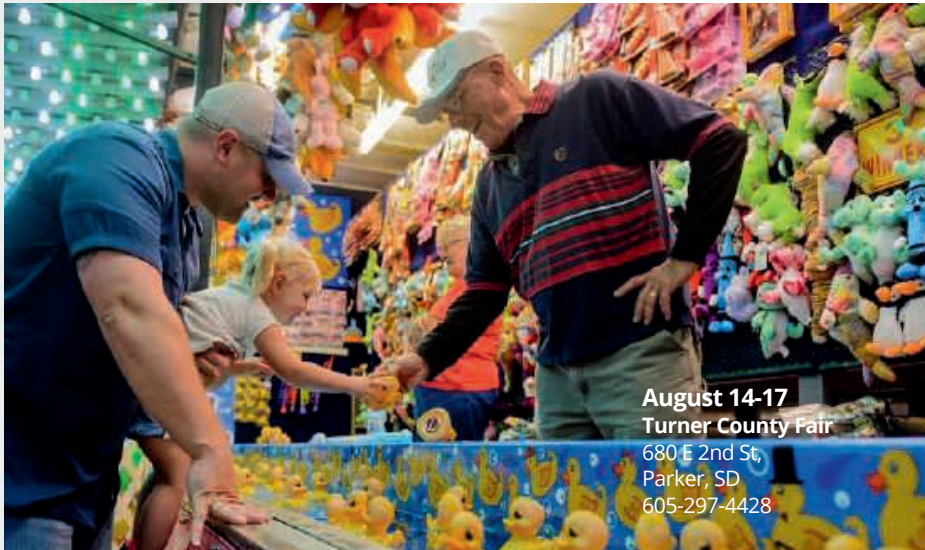
During a visit to Sioux Valley Energy's Colman office in late June, Rep. Dusty Johnson, left, listens as Sioux Valley Energy Vice President of Engineering and Operations Ted Smith, right, explains how the Co op's dispatch center works. Dispatcher Eliza B. is seated at one of the center's work stations.

## REGISTER TO WIN!

Bring this coupon and mailing label to the Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives booth at Dakotafest or the South Dakota State Fair to win a prize!

Your Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Your E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**August 14-17**  
**Turner County Fair**  
680 E 2nd St,  
Parker, SD  
605-297-4428

To have your event listed on this page, send complete information, including date, event, place and contact to your local electric cooperative. Include your name, address and daytime telephone number. Information must be submitted at least eight weeks prior to your event. Please call ahead to confirm date, time and location of event.

**JULY 22**  
**Prairie Village Opera House**  
**Concert Series: Highway 96**  
Sioux Falls, SD

**JULY 28-30**  
**Arlington Days**  
Arlington, SD

**AUG 3**  
**Hartford Farmer's Market**  
5 p.m.  
Hartford, SD

**AUG 5**  
**George Daniels Documentary**  
**Showing**  
7 p.m.  
McKnight Hall  
White, SD

**AUG 6**  
**White Area Historical**  
**Museum and Society 40th**  
**Anniversary with music by**  
**Fiddlers of SD**  
White, SD

**AUG 12**  
**Arlington Community**  
**Rummage Sales**  
Arlington, SD

**AUG 12**  
**Perseid Meteor Shower**  
9:30 p.m.  
Palisades State Park  
Sioux Falls, SD

**AUG 19**  
**Yankton Extreme Bull Riding**  
7:30 a.m.  
Yankton Rodeo Arena  
Yankton, SD  
605-760-2153

**AUG 20**  
**22nd Arlington Car Show**  
Arlington, SD

**AUG 21**  
**30th Annual Bishop's Cup**  
**Golf Tournament**  
Minnehaha Country Club and  
The Country Club of Sioux Falls  
Sioux Falls, SD  
605-988-3765

**AUG 26**  
**McCrossan Boys Ranch**  
**Xtreme Event Challenge**  
4 p.m.  
Sioux Falls, SD

**AUG 26**  
**Hartford Area Fire & Rescue's**  
**5th Annual Public Safety Day**  
10:30 a.m.  
Hartford Fire Station  
Hartford, SD

**SEPT 7**  
**Hartford Farmer's Market**  
5 p.m.  
Hartford, SD

**SEPT 8-10**  
**James Valley Threshing &**  
**Tractor Show**  
World's Largest Steam Traction  
Engine  
Andover, SD  
605-868-3242

**SEPT 10**  
**Homesteader Day**  
1 p.m.  
Beaver Creek Nature Area  
Sioux Falls, SD

**SEPT 22-24**  
**Coal Springs Threshing Bee**  
Meadow, SD

**SEPT 23**  
**Springfield Dakota Senior**  
**Meals Fall Festival**  
9 a.m.  
Springfield Community Building  
Springfield, SD

**SEPT 29-30**  
**Junkin' Market Days**  
Ramkota Exhibit Hall  
Sioux Falls, SD  
605-941-4958

**Note: Please make sure to call ahead to verify the event is still being held.**