

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

Small Town, Big Dreams

**Tucker Kraft's
Road to the NFL**
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Northern Electric offers two opportunities to learn about your electric co-op this summer



Ben Dunsmoor
Editor

By the time you read this column, there will only be a few more weeks left before the end of the school year. Summer can be a time for rest and rejuvenation for kids, but it does not mean that it is a time to stop learning. The same can be said for adults. Summer is a great time to hit the road and seek out new experiences. Northern Electric Cooperative has two different free opportunities for both adults and students to learn more about electric co-ops this summer and understand how electricity is generated.

Summer is not only a time to relax but it is also a time for learning something new. Northern Electric offers two learning opportunities this summer.

YOUTH EXCURSION

The first experience is the 2023 South Dakota Rural Electric Youth Excursion. This is an annual trip that gives high school students the opportunity to tour the power plants which generate the electricity they use every day. Youth Excursion is a tour that will take place from July 24-27 in Bismarck, North Dakota. The trip is open to all high school students who are children of Northern Electric members. Teens will not only tour electric generation facilities, but they will also participate in team-building and recreational activities during the four-day excursion.

The group of high school students who will represent electric cooperatives from across the state will stay at Bismarck State College during their time in North Dakota. Applications for the 2023 Youth Excursion can be found on *page 7* of this issue and are being accepted until June 1. High school students can also apply online at northernelectric.coop/youthexcursion

VIP TOUR

Northern Electric offers a similar tour for adults every summer. The VIP Tour is a two-day trip to Bismarck and Beulah, North Dakota. Northern Electric members who participate in the VIP Tour will ride on a motorcoach bus to North Dakota and tour Basin Electric Power Cooperative headquarters, as well as the Garrison Dam, Antelope Valley Station, and the Freedom Mine. Co-op members will learn how electricity is generated by wind, water, and coal during the tour. The dates for the 2023 VIP Tour are June 21-22. All expenses for the bus, hotel, and meals are covered by Northern Electric Cooperative. Applications are due by May 24 and can be found on *page 11* of this issue as well as online at northernelectric.coop/viptour

Spring may have been slow to arrive in our region this year, but summer is right around the corner. It is time to start making plans for your summer adventures and I hope you or a high school student you know can take advantage of one of the free learning opportunities sponsored by Northern Electric Cooperative. Summer is not only a time to relax but it is also a time for learning something new.

COOPERATIVE CONNECTIONS

NORTHERN ELECTRIC

(USPS 396-040)

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Northern Electric Cooperative Connections is the monthly publication for the members of Northern Electric Cooperative, PO Box 457, Bath, SD 57427. Families subscribe to Cooperative Connections as part of their electric cooperative membership. The purpose of Northern Electric Cooperative Connections is to provide reliable, helpful information to electric cooperative members on electric cooperative matters and better rural living.

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**Northern Electric
Cooperative**
A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Northern Electric Cooperative's regular board meeting was held March 23, 2023, at the headquarters in Bath with all directors present. Representatives from COOP Architecture and Sichmeller Engineering were guests for the meeting. As the first order of business, the board approved the February 20, 2023, minutes and February expenditures. The board then reviewed and accepted monthly reports by management. East River Director Kirk Schaunaman reported on actions taken by the East River Board at its March 2, 2023, meeting. The next South Dakota Rural Electric Association board meeting will be March 30-31, 2023. Director Ronald Kaaz reported on the South Dakota Wind Energy Association Meeting, March 21, 2023, via Zoom. Directors Nolan Wipf, Todd Hettich, Francis Esser, General Manager Char Hager and Operations Manager Jerry Weber reported on the 2023 NRECA PowerXchange/TechAdvantage Experience held March 3-8 in Nashville, TN.

MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Char Hager's report to the board included the following items:

- Update on Rural Electric Economic Development (REED) revolving loan fund activities.
- Hager and Manager of Member Services Russ Ulmer attended the Basin Winter Member Manager Meeting, February 24, 2023.
- Reported scholarship winners were Ethan Boekelheide, son of Scott & Heidi Boekelheide of Northville, \$1,000 Basin Electric Scholarship and Abbilyn Kaan, daughter of Jason & Elizabeth Kaan, \$500 Northern Electric Scholarship.

- Reported that Colleen Wipf, parents Nathan & Jan Wipf, Frankfort, and Shaylee Peterson, parents Ben & Kristi Peterson, Groton, were chosen to go on the 2023 Rural Electric Youth Tour, June 18-23, Washington DC.
- Reminded the board of the 2023 CFC Forum, June 19-21, Seattle, WA.
- Informed board of notification from FEMA regarding funding for an underground project in Spink County.
- General Manager Char Hager attended meeting with RUS Administrator Andrew Berke.

BOARD REPORT

The board considered and/or acted upon the following:

1. Approved the date and time of the next regular board meeting for 8:30 A.M. on Monday, April 24, 2023.
2. Approved Work Order Inventories #23-02 for \$1,150,775.66 and #23-02MC, \$79,536.31 to be submitted to Rural Utilities Service (RUS) for reimbursement from loan funds for electric plant construction already completed.
3. Approved 17 estate requests for out of order capital credit retirements totaling \$12,273.09.
4. Appointed the Election & Credentials Committee for the 2023 Special Meeting of the Membership. Compensation was set at \$200 plus mileage.
5. Nominated Vice President Todd Hettich for the position of director on the RESCO Board of Directors.
6. Held Executive Session.
Talk to your director or co-op manager if you have questions on these matters.

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Feb-23	Feb-22
kWh Sales	28,368,984 kWh	33,049,715 kWh
Electric Revenues	\$2,402,046	\$2,733,389
Total Cost of Service	\$2,309,539	\$2,543,219
Operating Margins.....	\$92,507	\$190,170
Year to Date Margins	\$247,067	\$405,637

RESIDENTIAL AVERAGE MONTHLY USAGE AND BILL

FEB-2023	3,102 kWh.....	\$264.28	0.0852 per kWh
FEB-2022	3,369 kWh.....	\$281.00	0.0834 per kWh

Wholesale power cost, taxes, interest, and depreciation account for **85.1%** of NEC's total cost of service.

Workplace Safety: Avoid Common Electrical Hazards

Contact with or exposure to electricity is one of the leading causes of workplace fatalities. Follow these tips to avoid electrical injury:

Overhead Power Line Contact

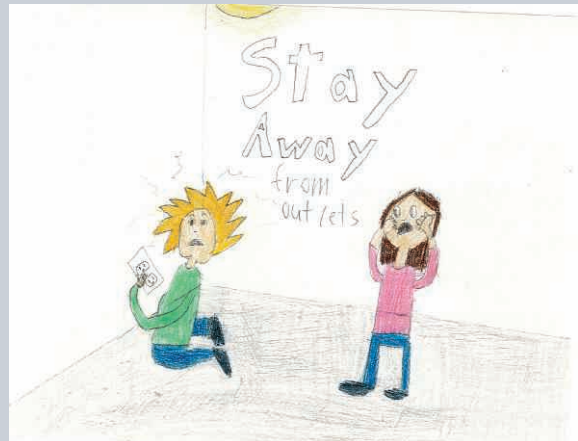
- 46% of all electrical fatalities are caused by contact with overhead power lines
- 57% of overhead power line fatalities were in non-electrical occupations
- Always assume all lines are live and dangerous
- Always look up; be aware of overhead power lines
- Keep yourself and equipment at least 10 feet away from overhead power lines
- Do not touch anything that is in contact with overhead power lines
- Carry equipment, including ladders, horizontally to avoid contact with power lines
- Stay at least 35 feet away from downed lines

Accidental Contact with Energized Conductors or Parts

- 45% of all electrical fatalities were caused by working on or near energized conductors or parts
- 74% of these fatalities were in electrical occupations
- Always test for voltage before you perform work. Be sure to also test the area around the equipment you are working on to avoid accidental contact with energized equipment
- Always perform a site and risk assessment before conducting work. Hazards exist on and near the equipment you are working on
- When possible, turn off power before conducting work
- Follow proper lockout / tagout procedures
- Avoid complacency. Every job is different, make sure you follow the hierarchy of controls and other electrical safety work practices on every job

Electrical Safety in the Workplace

- 69% of all electrical fatalities involved non-electrical occupations
- Know when to say when. If you feel unsafe performing a job, say something
- Be aware of potential electrical hazards in the workplace. Avoid electrical rooms and other potentially hazardous areas
- All electrical work should be completed by qualified workers with proper training
- GFCI protection should be installed where electricity and water may come in contact
- Five sources accounted for 92% of all electrical fatalities
 - Overhead power lines
 - Unexpected contact with electricity
 - Working on energized parts
 - Ground faults
 - Damaged wiring



Power Line Safety

Serena Dekrey, age 9

Serena Dekrey, age 9, gives wise advice to readers on electrical safety. She cautions us to be careful around power outlets. Serena is the daughter of Don and Cassandra Dekrey, members of Sioux Valley Energy based in Colman, S.D.

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.

COMFORTING CASSEROLES

PHEASANT CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

1 pheasant
1/2 cup melted butter
Bacon grease
1/2 cup flour
4 cups milk
1 tsp. salt
1/2 tsp. pepper

METHOD

Mix flour, salt, pepper, and roll pieces of pheasant in the mixture. Brown in bacon grease. In separate pan, mix butter, milk, and 6 T flour. Stir and bring to a boil. Pour over the pheasant that had been put in a baking dish with bacon laid over it. Bake until tender.

Gail Klipfel
Ellendale, N.D.

TACO CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

1 1/2 pounds ground beef
1 package taco seasoning mix
1 can (16 ounces) pinto beans, drained and rinsed
1 can (15 ounces) tomato sauce
1 can (11 ounces) whole kernel corn, drained
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese
1 cup crushed tortilla chips

METHOD

Preheat oven to 400°F. Brown meat in large skillet on medium-high heat. Drain fat. Stir in seasoning mix, beans, tomato sauce and corn. Bring to boil. Reduce heat to low; simmer 5 minutes. Spoon into 2-quart baking dish. Sprinkle with cheese and tortilla chips. Bake 5 to 10 minutes or until cheese is melted. Serve with assorted toppings, if desired.

mccormick.com

CHICKEN, BROCCOLI, AND RICE CASSEROLE

Ingredients:

1 lb. chicken tenders
1 cup long grain rice
1 1/2 cups chicken stock
1 cup milk
2 tsps. garlic powder
2 tsps. onion powder
1 1/2 tsps. whole rosemary leaves, crushed
1/2 tsp. ground black pepper
1/2 tsp salt
2 cups broccoli florets
1 cup shredded Cheddar cheese

METHOD

Preheat oven to 400°F. Spread chicken and rice in greased 2-quart baking dish. Mix stock, milk and seasonings in medium bowl with wire whisk until well blended. Slow pour over chicken and rice. Cover with foil. Bake 45 minutes. Remove foil. Stir in broccoli. Sprinkle with cheese. Bake, uncovered, 15 minutes longer or until rice has absorbed all the liquid and broccoli is tender.

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.



Shaylee Peterson Peterson is a senior at Groton Area High School. (submitted photo)



Colleen Wipf Wipf is a senior at James Valley Christian School. (submitted photo)



Association in 2021. She is excited to learn more about cooperatives and our nation's capital during Youth Tour.

"I am looking forward to seeing a new side of Washington D.C. that I haven't been to before," Wipf said.

Peterson shares Wipf's excitement to visit Washington D.C. in June and learn about cooperatives and meet teens from across the country.

"What a fantastic opportunity to visit our nation's capital with the electric cooperative Youth Tour," Peterson said. "I applied thinking it would be a wonderful opportunity to travel and learn at the same time."

Peterson plans to attend the University of South Dakota next fall and pursue a degree in dental hygiene. Wipf has enrolled at Augustana University in Sioux Falls and will be majoring in nursing with a minor in American Sign Language.

South Dakota's rural electric cooperatives have been sending teens to Washington D.C. for the Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour since 1963.

HEADED TO D.C.

Shaylee Peterson and Colleen Wipf will participate in the 2023 Youth Tour

Ben Dunsmoor

bdunsmoor@northernelectric.coop

Two area high school seniors have been selected to represent Northern Electric Cooperative during the 2023 Rural Electric Cooperative Youth Tour. James Valley Christian Senior Colleen Wipf of Frankfort and Groton High School Senior Shaylee Peterson will be attending the week-long trip to Washington D.C. from June 17-23.

The Rural Electric Youth Tour is an annual event where around 2,000 students from electric co-ops across

the country gather in Washington D.C. to learn about government, leadership, and cooperatives. Students have the opportunity to visit historic monuments and museums and meet with their local congressional delegations during the week.

"I heard from past participants that this trip was an amazing experience to gain knowledge about cooperatives and their roles on a national level," Wipf said.

Wipf previously attended the 'Connect-Con' event in western South Dakota sponsored by the South Dakota Rural Electric

2023 YOUTH EXCURSION

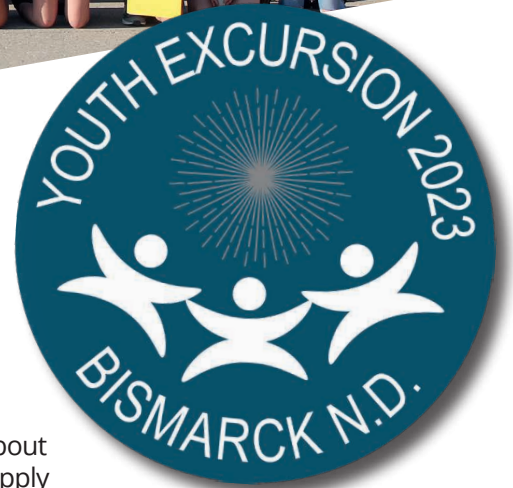
July 24-27

APPLY ONLINE AT:

northernelectric.coop/youthexcursion

2023 YOUTH EXCURSION

The 2023 Youth Excursion is a FREE four-day experience for high school students of Northern Electric members. Students will learn about the energy industry, cooperatives, and tour the power plants that supply their electricity.



TRIP DETAILS:

Students will stay at Bismarck State College in North Dakota. A commercial bus will pick up students at Northern Electric on July 24 and drop them off at the co-op office in Bath on July 27. Students will also participate in fun evening activities like visiting a Bismarck-area waterpark and cruising down the Missouri River on the Lewis and Clark Riverboat.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: JUNE 1

Please mail applications to:

Northern Electric Cooperative
Attention: Kay Albrecht
PO Box 457
Bath, SD 57427

or apply online at:

northernelectric.coop/youthexcursion

YOUTH EXCURSION APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

School: _____

Year in School
(2023-2024): _____

T-Shirt Size: _____

Gender: _____

TUCKER KRAFT



Kraft refuses to go down amongst a group of Redbird defenders.

Tucker Kraft's Road to the NFL

Frank Turner

frank.turner@sirea.coop

With a population of 500 residents, Timber Lake, S.D., may seem similar to many small-town communities across the state. The town is known for its scenic beauty, outdoor recreational opportunities, and rich history. However, what really sets Timber Lake apart from the rest is a homegrown NFL prospect: Tucker Kraft.

At an impressive 6-foot-5 and weighing 254 pounds, Kraft has proven himself to be South Dakota's latest up-and-coming football star. Ask any fan of college football and they will tell you that Kraft has the size and skill set to make waves on a professional level.

Luckily, Kraft's talents haven't gone unnoticed. During his latest breakout season as SDSU's All-American tight end, Kraft left an impression on NFL

scouts with his ability to outrun opponents, snatch incredible catches and charge through multiple tackles. A top contributor in nearly every game, Kraft led the Jackrabbits to their first-ever FCS National Championship. The historic season quickly cemented Kraft's place as a top tight end in the NFL Draft.

Kraft recalls the moment everything fell into place: "I just realized that when I had the ball, no one could touch me," he said. "I knew after that season that I was completely capable of playing with the pros."

Timber Lake High School head football coach Ryan Gimbel says he is not surprised to see his former stu-



Tucker Kraft

dent and player on the doorstep of the NFL. Countless hours in the weight room and gym, he said, revealed Kraft to be a student-athlete with incredible drive.

“Seeing the raw natural talent of Tucker spoke for itself and what he could accomplish, but he also had the dedication to take it to that next level,” said Gimbel. “To me, it wasn’t a surprise, and that was our running joke when he left high school – ‘I’ll see you playing on Sundays.’”

Kraft’s journey to the NFL, however, was not without its fair share of adversity. Growing up in Timber Lake, Kraft lost his father to a plane crash when he was only 12 years old. Kraft overcame the childhood tragedy with his two brothers and mother by working tirelessly on and off the field. Honoring his father’s legacy, Kraft followed in his father’s footsteps to become an All-American college star like his father had done before him.

“My brothers took a big part in raising me after my dad died,” said Kraft. “My mom, my aunts and uncles all played a role, but I pride myself on getting a lot of things done independently.”

Steely determination has carried Kraft to the highest level of football, and not even dramatic injury has been able to slow him down. In November Kraft officially declared his name in the NFL draft. Kraft’s friends and family cheered him on as he showed off his incredible strength and skill on national television at the NFL Combine. There, Kraft proved his ability to play alongside the likes of Dallas Goedert, Riley Reiff and South Dakota’s other pro footballers.

“I was kind of star-struck walking in,” said Kraft. “Sitting down with the head coaches of the NFL franchise, you realize that you are at this level now. This is a job interview.”

The NFL Combine, however, will

not be the last of Kraft’s time on national television. Ranked as the sixth top tight end, Kraft’s eyes are set on the draft in April. And, although he hails from somewhere small, Kraft plans to loom large on the field as a starting player with great potential.

“I want to go to a team that’s going to use me, whether I’m on the line of scrimmage in the trenches with the big guys or catching balls and getting yards after the catch. I want to make an impact on a team, day one.”

Whatever happens in April, Kraft’s hometown is ready to cheer him on. According to Gimbel, most of Timber Lake is ready to don colors and jerseys that they are not used to wearing to support their hometown kid.

“The buzz in our town has just erupted,” said Gimbel. “Our community, school, and family friends – they all want to see him be successful in the opportunity that he has worked for.”



NFL prospect Tucker Kraft evades a tackler, leading SDSU to a 31-7 win last November against the Illinois State Redbirds.



BE ALERT. BE PREPARED. BE AROUND TO FARM AGAIN NEXT YEAR.

Fieldwork can feel like second nature. But, complacency when operating around power lines can be deadly.

Staying alert and being prepared can help prevent catastrophic accidents. Knowing what to do if an accident does occur can be the difference between life and death.

RE-ENERGIZING SAFETY

Contact your local Touchstone Energy® Cooperative or visit **YourCoopPower.com** to find safety tips and make a plan.



VIP TOUR

June 21-22 | Bismarck, ND | Beulah, ND



2023 NORTHERN ELECTRIC VIP TOUR

Northern Electric Cooperative is taking members to North Dakota for a behind-the-scenes tour of the electric-generation resources that power your lives. The tour will take place on June 21-22, 2023.

TRIP DETAILS:

Tour the Basin Electric Power Cooperative facilities, mines, and generating units which produce the electricity you receive from Northern Electric. A commercial bus will be used for transportation.

COST: FREE

The trip is funded by Northern Electric Cooperative. Funding for the trip covers each participant's transportation, lodging (double occupancy), and meals. Members are required to supply their own personal/shopping money.

TOUR RULES:

- All Northern Electric members, **even those who have gone on the tour in the past**, are eligible to attend. Preference will be given to members who have never gone before.
- Registrants must be current members of Northern Electric.
- Attendees may bring an accompanying partner of their choice on the trip.
- In the event an attendee cannot go on the trip, Northern Electric staff will select another participant.

TOUR APPLICATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

APPLICATION DEADLINE: MAY 24

Please mail applications to:

Northern Electric Cooperative
Attention: Kay Albrecht
PO Box 457
Bath, SD 57427

OR APPLY ONLINE AT:

northernelectric.coop/viptour



ELECTRIC SAFETY IN ACTION

In a controlled demonstration, Journeyman Lineman Brady Gaer uses life-size equipment on the high voltage demonstration trailer to educate students about electricity.

Empowering the Public to Stay Safe

Frank Turner

frank.turner@sarea.coop

Electric safety is a topic that South Dakota students are excited to engage with. They often ask questions like, “What should you do if your tractor equipment touches a power line?” or “How can birds sit safely on a power line?” or even “What does it look like when something comes in contact with high voltage?”

These are some of the most popular questions Oahe Electric’s Chief Financial Officer Valerie Marso has not only been answering but also demonstrating for more than 20 years.

“They always just have tons of questions,” said Marso. “It’s always fun to hear what they come up with next.”

It’s not just for entertainment, however. Oahe Electric and its employees are committed to realizing their goal of zero accidents at home and at work. Part of preventing tragedy starts with educating the public, especially youth, on how to stay safe around electricity.

In the last year alone, Oahe Electric traveled to nine different schools and led demonstrations for more than 900 students. For Marso, verbal communication is only half the battle when it comes to educating students

about electric safety. The real impact, she said, comes from showing them.

“The visuals and the noise that the high voltage makes really lands in a way that you just can’t convey with words,” said Marso. “It can scare the students a little bit, but I think it gives them a healthy respect for electricity.

Co-op across the state, including Oahe Electric, use three different interactive safety demonstrations to hone their message about safety: Power Town, Co-ops in the Classroom and the high voltage demonstration trailer.

One of the most popular, Power Town, is a small-scale, tabletop model of a few quaint houses attached to a small power grid. The miniature electrical system shows students how electrical current moves through

various items they may encounter in their daily lives, presented in a fun and easy-to-learn format. Line-workers, who work on the real equipment every day, lead the demonstration and teach students about personal protective equipment worn by co-op employees to complete their jobs safely.

Co-op in the Classroom is yet another powerful initiative South Dakota co-ops engage in to promote safety across the state. Working in conjunction with East River's Education and Outreach Program, co-ops meet the students where they are in the classroom to teach local youth the importance of respecting electricity through hand-on lessons that engage and excite the audience.

Lastly, the high voltage demonstration trailer is a portable unit that carries life-size equipment from events to local schools. It's a demonstration that always leaves an impression. Within a safe environment, students get to see actual equipment, such as utility poles, electrical conductors and distribution transformers, in action. Each hour-long demonstration shows what can happen when objects such as animals, trees, ladders and even fruit come into contact with power lines.

"This is equipment that our linemen work on every day, so they are comfortable showing these students how energy works," said Marso.

These demonstrations not only

entertain, but also promote a healthy and safe environment for co-op members and the public. During one of Oahe Electric's latest outreach events, Marso recalled listening to a small group of kids talk about how they sometimes sit on "the green boxes." They were referring to underground transformers. It became a teachable moment that left an impact on both the students and teachers.

"We told them to never touch them," she said. "You never know what going on in there, and it's always better to be safe than sorry. It was at least one person who took something home and actually used it. Moments like that show we are really making an impact with these students."



Oahe Electric Power Supply Specialist Steve Long teaches electric safety using Power Town, a miniature model used in safety demonstrations.



SEWING MEMORIES

The Farmers' Daughters' Sewing Museum is located in Vermillion, S.D.

Take a Stitch Back in Time

Jocelyn Johnson

jocelyn.johnson@sdrea.coop

A stitch in time saves family memories and sews history together at The Farmers' Daughters' Sewing Museum just outside of Vermillion, S.D. A mom and five daughters hold a passion for sewing and for the history of household sewing machines.

Collecting domestic vintage sewing machines began more than 20 years ago for Sally Abild who visited

auctions with her mom, Evelyn Hanson. There, they found various vintage sewing machines and began collecting them.

"I would see these vintage machines that were being sold for little or nothing," Sally said. "I hurt, in a way, for the families because I thought, 'These are a part of their history.' If I had my grandmother's or my mother's sewing machine, I would be extremely happy to have it."

She purchased 20 machines, not

knowing what to do with them, but wanting to preserve them. They were first stored in an old farmhouse before eventually moving to a milking barn, which was homesteaded by Sally's husband – Dick Abild's great grandfather. The barn was renovated and opened as a museum in 2017.

The museum's collection of sewing machines grew with contributions from her sisters.

"They would come across machines I had never seen in the Midwest," Sally said. "In the bigger cities, there was more money in the mid-1800s when sewing machines started to pop up. You would find a bigger selection in those areas that you didn't find in rural areas."

Sally and her sisters, Gloria, Marie, Linda and Geri, carefully researched the history of each machine they owned, putting them in order and fixing them up. Today, visitors to The Farmers' Daughters' Sewing Museum are able to view more than 120 vintage machines along with treasured family mementos. Sally's family has a legacy of sewing their own clothes. She remembers her great grandmother making dresses from feed sacks and her mother, Evelyn, would sew clothes for the family on her treadle machine, since electricity wasn't available on the farm until the 1950s.

"I had to learn how to sew growing up," Sally said. "If I wanted something new, I had to learn how to make it for myself."

The Farmers' Daughters' Sewing Museum is one of three vintage sewing museums in the United States. "We collect domestic vintage machines – meaning our machines were the first to be used by families in the home and were made of all metal," Sally said. "A machine that has



Sally Abild and her family pose outside of the Farmers' Daughters' Sewing Museum.

plastic in it is not a vintage machine."

One of the oldest domestic, vintage machines on display at the museum is one by Elias Howe, who made the first official patented and manufactured sewing machine in 1846.

"We also have a Singer Model 12, which came out after the Civil War," she said. "Isaac Singer sold them door-to-door to families and was credited with coming up with the first payment plan – allowing up to 10 years to pay for this machine. It's said that Singer's Model 12 was the machine that clothed a nation."

The most unique machine that Sally favors, however, is a Wilcox and Gibbs that came about it the mid-1800s.

"It's a small, chain-stitch machine that was loved by many women back then," Sally said. "They could easily take it

from house to house, and it was easy to use. It's also the symbol we use for our museum."

Most vintage sewing machines tended to be family heirlooms, which were passed down from generation to generation.

"Many women who visit the museum have a machine that was passed down to them by their mothers or grandmothers and want to find out more information on them," Sally said. "Men love to visit too to learn more about the mechanics of these machines."

Sally revealed the transition from vintage sewing machines, made with metal, to newer sewing machines, made with plastic, began when America gave Japan two Singer patents after World War II. Japan capitalized on this and managed to perfect a design that they sold in America for a third of the cost. To compete with this, Singer began to put plastic parts into their machines and before eventually going out of business in 1988. Consequently, the age of vintage sewing machines ended when the convenience and affordability of plastic was introduced.



Evelyn Hanson instilled the love of sewing and vintage machines in her five daughters.



May 28, 2023
Back When They Bucked
 Days of '76 Arena
 Deadwood, SD
 800-344-8826

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.

MAY 6
Lion's Club Spring Citywide Rummage Sale
 8 a.m.
 Groton, SD

MAY 6
Cinco de Mayo Fiesta
 Lake Farley Park
 Milbank, SD
 605-432-6656

MAY 20
Buggy Museum Open House
 10 a.m.
 Stockholm, SD
 605-938-4192

MAY 20
Booth Day
 10 a.m.
 Booth Fish Hatchery
 Spearfish, SD
 605-642-7730

MAY 20
Frühlingsfest and Spring Market
 1 p.m.
 Main Street Square
 Rapid City, SD
 605-716-7979

MAY 25
Wine Walk
 5 p.m.
 Downtown Businesses
 Aberdeen, SD
 605-226-3441

MAY 26-28
Hidden Treasure Heritage Festival
 Lead, SD
 307-259-4484

MAY 27
Back When They Bucked All-Day Rodeo
 9 a.m.
 Days of '76 Event Complex
 Deadwood, SD
 605-717-7642

MAY 27
Norwegian Constitution Day
 11 a.m.
 Lake Norden, SD
 605-874-2171

MAY 29
Memorial Day Services
 12 p.m.
 Groton Union Cemetery
 Groton, SD

JUNE 3
Health Connect of South Dakota: The Human Race 5K
 9 a.m.
 Sertoma Park
 Sioux Falls, SD

JUNE 11
River Honoring Community Potluck
 5 p.m.
 Clay County Park River Shelter
 Vermillion, SD
 605-670-0540

JUNE 16-18
Fine Arts In The Hills Show & Sale
 Main Street
 Hill City, SD
 605-574-2810

JUNE 16
SDSU Alumni & Friends Tourney
 12 p.m.
 Olive Grove Golf Course
 Groton, SD

JULY 22
20th Annual Make-A-Wish Poker Run
 C&S Motorsports
 Aberdeen, SD
 605-216-6638

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