

JOYCELN VOGEL RETIRES AFTER 41 YEARS

It is always bitter sweet when someone retires. Joyceln's last day with Elkhorn Rural Public Power District was May 3. Her years of dedicated service were celebrated with family, friends and current and past employees.

Joyceln started with ERPPD as a bookkeeper on May 8, 1978. She did the billing, answered phones and helped customers and, in that respect, her job hasn't changed much from when she started. What has changed is how that is done.

It takes a lot less time now as we have outsourced the mailing portion of the billing and other parts of the billing are computerized. When she started it was all done by hand. She does remember the first computer being installed - a main frame that took up a large room

and using punch cards to process the billing. Joyceln stated, "It was pretty scary at first. You felt like if you did anything it was going to mess it up." But it didn't and it got easier and easier.

More changes that occurred was where her desk/office was. Before the addition to the building, that added on her current office, the board room and several other offices, she was pretty much in the thick of things, right inside the front door where she greeted and helped customers.

Mostly, it was business as usual, although, she does remember having to ride in a tractor into work during a storm.

Joyceln plans on acclimating to not coming to **continued on page 2**



BILLING DUE DATE CHANGE

We have noticed that mail is taking longer to get to customers and to get back to us, shortening the time you have to pay your bill.

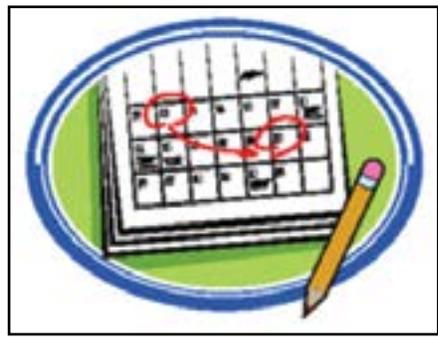
We have, therefore, decided to adjust the billing due date to the 20th of the month to make life a bit easier for you with the turn around times.

The monthly bills will go out the first of the month, but you will have 5 more days to pay your electric bill.

Also to assist customers, we offer many convenient ways to pay your bill, some that you don't even have to think about. Like automatic draft from

your checking or savings account or through a debit or credit card.

If you are signed up for ACH (Automatic payment) please note that your payment will be **continued on page 3**



SURVEY WINNERS

We want to thank everyone that participated in our customer satisfaction survey in late January/early February. We value you and appreciate your input.

Results from the survey will be reported in a future edition of the *Wire* newsletter, but we are already using the data gained to adjust our services and plan for future needs.

There were three randomly selected winners of \$100 gift cards from those that participated. The winners were Judy Gilmore of Woodland Park, Fred Planer of rural Pierce and Tracey Volquardsen of rural Madison.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY REBATES INCREASED

To help those impacted by the recent flooding, rebates are increasing by about 33% from April 1 to December 31, 2019 in three Energy-Wise programs; high efficiency heat pumps, cooling system tune-ups, and heat pump water heaters. The higher incentive amounts are available to all customers.

The rebate amounts are listed to the right. They are also available on our website: www.erppd.com

Please call the office at (800) 675-2185 and ask for Brian for any questions or to apply for the rebates.

Effective immediately the Nebraska Energy Office is offering 1% loans to assist those impacted by the flooding to repair their homes, provided the home has not been condemned. The decreased loan program runs until August 1, 2019. See <http://www.neo.ne.gov/loan/floodemergency> for more loan details.

Increased High Efficiency Heat Pump Rebates

Incentive Criteria*	Incentive Amounts from April 1 - Dec 31, 2019
Air Source HP: 15 - 15.9 SEER, 12.5 EER, 8.5 HSPF	\$400
Air Source HP: 16 - 17.9 SEER, 12.5 EER, 8.5 HSPF	\$800
Air Source HP: 3 or more states	\$800
Air Source HP: 18+ SEER, 12.5 EER, 8.5 HSPF	\$1,200
Air Source HP: Variable Capacity	\$1,200
Water/Ground Source HP: 1 or 2 stage	\$2,400
Water/Ground Source HP: Variable capacity	\$3,300

Increased Heat Pump Water Heater Rebates

Incentive Criteria*	Incentive Amounts from April 1 - Dec 31, 2019
Air Source HP Water Heater: EV>1.9	\$400
Water or Ground Source HP Water Heater: COP>2.8	\$650



Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Want to light up your outdoor space without increasing your energy use? Try outdoor solar lights! They're easy to install and virtually maintenance free. Remember, solar lights work best when the solar cells receive the manufacturer's recommended hours of sunlight.

Source: energy.gov

Seasonal Help at the Neligh Outpost



Grady Bellintier (left) and Chris Bentley (right) are helping out this summer at ERPPD at the Neligh Outpost.

Grady is a graduate of the Mitchell Technical Institute in South Dakota. He graduated from Clearwater/Orchard High School.

Chris is a recent graduate of the NECC Utility Line Program. He did his internship with ERPPD last year.

Retirement - Continued from Front Page work for a bit and doing projects around home. But then, she would like to travel and spend time with family. She is also looking forward to doing some volunteering, if she gets bored!

We will certainly miss Joyceln, but wish her the very best in this next chapter of her journey!



Pictured above left to right: Teresa Schwarting; Joyceln; Stacie Young and Konnie Beutler. Pictured to the right in 1985, left to right Rosemary Real, Lois Brockman, Jocyeln and Al Stuckwisch, behind

OPERATION ROUND UP MAKING A DIFFERENCE

“Words cannot even begin to express how grateful we are to be the recipients of the Elkhorn Rural Public Power District Community Development Fund grant!

Through this grant and the generosity of the Briggs and Barrett Foundation we were able to obtain eight Owllet monitors for our infant room.

Since using the monitors, we noticed a problem in one of our infants and made the parents aware of it which spurred a visit to the doctor. Without the monitors telling us oxygen levels and heart rate, this child's illness may have been overlooked.

The added security that we and the parents get from these is such

a blessing!
Again, thank you for your generosity and giving back to the community!”

In HIS Name,
Lisa & Katey
In His Arms Community Child-care Infant Room Teachers
(February 2019 Community Fund Recipients)

Community Development Fund Requests and Awards (May 2019)

Organization	Project	Location	Amount Awarded
Battle Creek Schools	Growth Mindset Presentation	Battle Creek	\$500.00
Lied Battle Creek Public Library	Lighting upgrades	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Battle Creek Fun Days	Community days in the park includes a market place inflatables, kids games and activities	Battle Creek	\$1,000.00
Neligh Senior Center	Carpet cleaning	Neligh	\$500.00
TOTAL			\$3,000.00

Third Quarter

Application Deadline
July 22, 2019

Board Meeting Date:
August 5, 2019



Pictured above left to right: Eldon Peters, Fund Trustee; Jeff Heimes, Battle Creek Principal; Kory Lingenfelter, Fund Trustee; Mae Toelle, Battle Creek Library Foundation Treasurer; Heather Whitney, BreAnn Schulz, Jessica Fouts, and Steven Whitney - Battle Creek Fun Days. Pictured to the right - left to right Neligh Senior Center: Ruth Ann Rodgers, Manager; Janet Francis, Board Treasurer; Tedd Adams, Board President; and Sarah Ahlers, Fund Trustee



Due Date: continued from front deducted from your account on the 20th of the month.

If you would like an alternative to the mail, you can have your statement emailed to you and pay online or through our app. You can also call the office during business hours to make payment with one of our friendly customer service reps.

Please call the office at (800) 675-2185 with questions.

SPREAD THE WORD AND WIN!

Help us spread the word on being safe around electrical lines and be entered for a chance to win a \$100 gift card.

Get the decal to the right, put it in the cab of your tractor, combine, sprayer etc., take a selfie post to the ERPPD Facebook page and you will be entered to win a \$100 gift card!

For an extra bonus, the post with the most likes and shares will win another \$100 gift card.

The removable decal is available at local implement dealers and ag supply coops as well as ERPPD headquarters in Battle Creek. You can call the office (800) 675-2185 to request the decals and we will mail them to you.

If you or someone you know would be willing to distribute or have the decals available, please contact us and we will get them to you.

**ALERT TODAY, ALIVE TOMORROW:
HEADS UP FOR FARM SAFETY**

Stay safe around downed power lines. Consider all lines, equipment and conductors to be live and dangerous.

ELKHORN RURAL PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT
BATTLE CREEK, WY
(800) 675-2185

If you must exit the machinery...

If you can safely drive away...

If you are inside farm machinery that makes contact with a downed power line, know what to do!

If you can drive safely away from the power source without bringing down the utility pole and lines, travel at least 40 ft. before exiting.

If you are unable to drive the machinery due to injury, obstacles or it is inoperable, do NOT exit. Call for help and warn anyone nearby NOT to approach.

40 ft. radius safe distance

If the vehicle is on fire, or you must exit for other safety reasons, follow these steps:

1. Jump clear of the vehicle. Do not let any part of your body or clothes touch the ground and the machinery at the same time.
2. Land with feet together and hop away in small steps to minimize the path of electric current and avoid electric shock.
3. Keep going until you are at least 40 ft. away.
4. Call for help. Make sure no one gets within 40 ft. of the downed line.
5. Do not re-enter the area or vehicle until emergency responders and your electric crew determine it is safe.

HVAC EFFICIENCY

3-Step HVAC Test

As summer temperatures rise, so do electric bills. Follow these steps to test the efficiency of your HVAC unit.

The outdoor temperature should be above 80 degrees, and you should set your thermostat well below the room temperature to ensure the system runs long enough for this test.

1. Using a digital probe thermometer (about \$12), measure the temperature of the air being pulled into your HVAC filter.
2. Measure the temperature of the air blowing out of your A/C vent.
3. Subtract the A/C vent temperature from the HVAC filter temperature. You should see a difference of about 17 to 20 degrees. If the difference is less than 17 degrees, you may need a licensed technician to check the coolant. If the difference is greater than 20 degrees, your ductwork may need to be inspected for airflow restrictions.

