

POWER IN PARTNERSHIP



CVEC and Dairyland Power assist Cornell Area Fire Department in purchasing a new fire truck



Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC), in cooperation with Dairyland Power Cooperative (DPC), provided low-interest loans to the Cornell Area Fire Department (CAFD). The loans were used to purchase a new fire truck that is already helping the CAFD to better serve the community.

Matt Boulding, fire chief for CAFD, shared that the truck was put into use to fight a fire just days after it was picked up. Cornell Area Fire Department services Cornell, Lake Holcombe, and

the surrounding area. The firefighting team typically responds to over 120 fire calls annually, plus accompanies EMS on additional emergency calls.

“I can’t say enough positive things about the process of partnering with CVEC & Dairyland for this truck acquisition,” shared Lisa Westman, Cornell Area Fire Department board president. “Not only was the rate significantly lower than anywhere else we had inquired, everyone was just wonderful to work with. It is clear how much CVEC & Dairyland care about the community & want to invest in its safety.”

Both CVEC and DPC are committed to helping organizations in their service area that are striving to improve safety and/or assist with economic development efforts.

“Concern for the communities we serve is a guiding light in everything we do,” shared Russ Falkenberg, CEO of CVEC. “We want to be a part of the reason our area thrives.”

CVEC is proud to be a part of this collaboration.



COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES MAKES US ALL STRONGER

Like most electric cooperatives in the United States, Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) serves a more rural area with fewer members spread out over more service territory than is typically found with investor-owned utilities (IOUs) and municipally owned utilities (munis). This can present problems when cooperatives are faced with large outages that span across their geographically large service area.

This is when we lean on each other. A great benefit of being a part of an electric cooperative is the mutual assistance program known as ROPE (Restoration of Power in an Emergency). In an incident where there are large outages across a cooperative's service area, fellow cooperatives step in and fill any gaps and help to restore power as quickly as possible for members.

Lineworkers who travel to assist other cooperatives through the ROPE program are compensated by the cooperative needing the extra helping hand. The program allows cooperatives to call in reinforcements during emergent situations without needing to pay the cost of having additional lineworkers on their team full time.

Just this year, we have had lineworkers from CVEC assist crews at Eau Claire Energy Cooperative and Alger-Delta Cooperative Electric Association to help restore electricity to members as quickly as possible during outages, knowing the favor would be returned if we ever faced large outages in our service area.

We are so grateful for the cooperative difference and the great partnerships we have.



Quentin and Zach helped out our neighbors at Eau Claire Energy Cooperative after a storm in May caused outages across their service area.

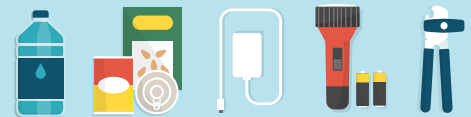
A Storm is Always Ready

ARE YOU?



When Mother Nature threatens a severe storm, be ready by having an emergency kit on hand.

YOUR KIT SHOULD INCLUDE:



Bottles of water
Nonperishable food
Portable phone charger

Flashlights
Batteries
Can opener



First-aid supplies
Hand sanitizer
Prescriptions

Pain reliever
Warm clothing
Blankets



Battery-operated radio
Toys, books and games
Important documents

Money
Baby supplies
Pet supplies

Once your kit is assembled, check it a few times a year to make sure batteries are fresh and that no one has borrowed a necessary item.

Learn more at:





A gifted musician, Janet sang the National Anthem at CVEC's annual meetings.

ensured their initial experience as a member was a positive one.

"I will miss my co-workers, helping new members work through the steps of connecting to our electrical system, and the area electricians that work hard to coordinate all the new and service upgrades for our members," shared Janet.

As a coworker, Janet never shied away from sharing her knowledge and experience with other team members. She was always willing to lend a helping hand and has truly cared for her colleagues and CVEC's membership throughout her time at the co-op.

"I am thankful that CVEC took a chance on me when I was a new face in town in 1994," said Janet. "I am very grateful to CVEC for all the cooperative has provided for me and my family these last 30 years."

Janet will continue her dedication to keeping the lights on by joining Jackson Electric Cooperative in the communication coordinator role. Our team at CVEC sees her change in role as, "staying in the family, just changing houses," and we look forward to keeping in touch with Janet for years to come.

Longtime Chippewa Valley Electric Cooperative (CVEC) employee Janet Brandli ended her time with CVEC on May 31, 2024. Janet spent the majority of her career with CVEC assisting the operations department with setting up new memberships, processing

service orders, and so much more. However, she also spent time in the roles of cashier and billing clerk.

In her role as an operations assistant, Janet's was often the first voice or face new members at CVEC got to know. Her friendly, detailed-oriented personality



Left to right:
Todd Howard,
former
president/ CEO;
Russ Falkenberg,
current
president/
CEO; Janet
Brandli; Rod
Patten, former
operations
manager; Terry
Capek, former
lineman/
metering
technician; and
Nic Albersen,
current
operations
manager.



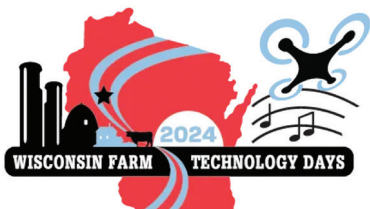
Your Cooperative **CVEC** Powering Your Future

Sparks CO-OP NEWS

CELEBRATING OUR CO-OP COMMUNITY!

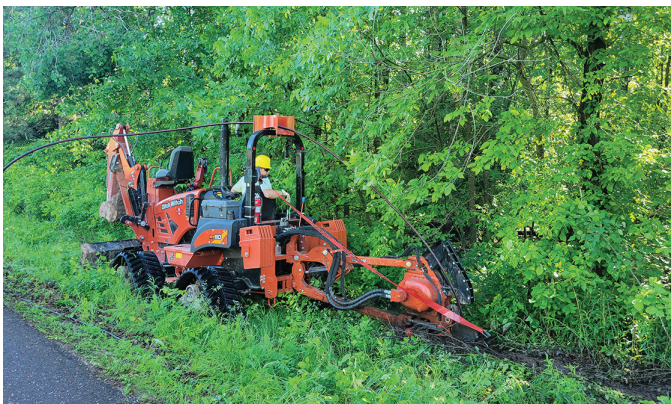
Wisconsin Farm Technology Days (WFTC)

Save the Date:
August 13-15, 2024.
CVEC crews have been working diligently to ensure the event, which is expected to bring over 45,000 visitors to the area, will be powered



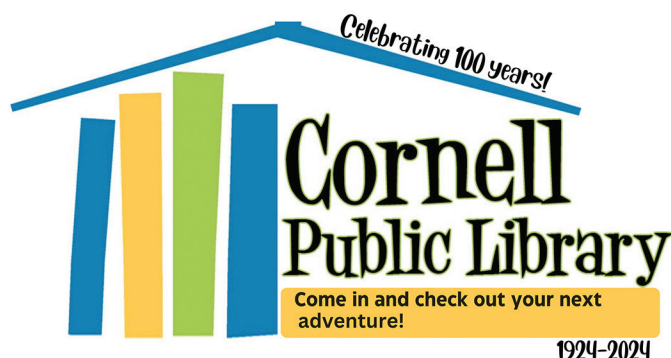
up and ready to go! WFTC will be hosted at Close Farms and Chippewa Valley Music Fest grounds. CVEC is sponsoring this event and will be there with the Touchstone Energy hot air balloon and our live high-voltage safety demonstration. WFTD is the largest outdoor agricultural event in the state, with more than 500 commercial and education vendors. We hope to see you there!

If you are interested in volunteering for this extraordinary community event, please contact Barb Close at closebj5@gmail.com or Cheryl Scheidler at cl_petska@yahoo.com.



Cornell Public Library to Celebrate 100 Years!

Join the Library in celebrating July 24-27!
Learn more about all of the fun that they have planned by visiting: <https://cornellpl.org/centennial/>



Come connect with our team at National Night Out!

The event will be held on July 29, 2024, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Mill Yard Park in Cornell. National Night Out is a free, family-friendly, community-building event where you can meet your local first responders, check out first responder equipment, play games with area business supporters, meet other community organizations, and just have fun!

Food will be provided and there will be door prizes for kids and adults, as well as a grand prize drawing. We hope you join in the fun!




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Rebecca Pehlke, Editor