

# SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC Cooperative



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## IT'S BEEN A BUSY SPRING AT SECO

By **TYE WILLIAMS** | Manager

**S**UMMER is in full swing again, and we all are hoping for rain to grow crops and keep the fire hazards down.

All of us at Southeast Electric Cooperative have been very busy. In early June, we energized 16 miles of 115 kilovolt transmission line and our new Albion substation.

The additional infrastructure will provide 15 megawatt of capacity for the pumping units near Albion, and reduce the load on our Capital substation.

The Capital substation provides power for members from the Capital area down through the Alzada area. We also have the capability to provide power from the Capital substation to members down through Hammond and into Wyoming. The increased capacity and loading Southeast Electric will see from the pump sites will continue to help keep our rates stable.

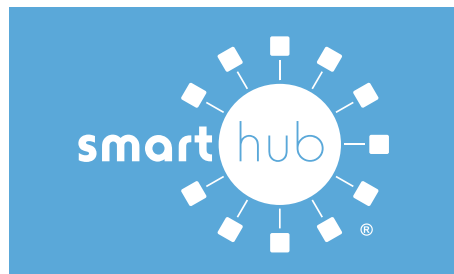
We are also now in the planning stages to build another 40 miles of 115kV transmission line from a substation on the MT/ND border, down to pump sites along Mill Iron Road. We will also be adding a new Mill Iron substation next to the pump sites to provide them with 15MW of capacity. This project is slated to be completed in late 2024 or early 2025, but it is dependent on the lead times of material, which can be more than a year out. This new line and substation will



The new Albion substation was energized in June. | **SECO PHOTO**

also be able to provide loop redundancy for Ekalaka if the transmission line to Baker trips out.

The SECO crews are also hard at work this summer changing poles, setting up new services and solving trouble issues as they arise. Our Red Rock contractor crews will be changing 600 poles this summer. Groundman Dave Johnstone has been out testing poles, and he will test 4,000 to 5,000 poles this summer. We have roughly 28,000 poles, so this allows us to stay within a 6-8-year rotation on pole testing. Material to do all our work is still hard to come by, but Line Foreman Jake Hammel has been working hard pursuing new avenues to get the material we need. We had a busy spring and summer so far, but if you are out of power or having power issues, call into the office and we will help you solve your issue. RM



# INDEPENDENCE DAY

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## CLOSURE

Southeast Electric Cooperative will be closed Tuesday, July 4





The Fossil Field Expedition for the 2022 Annual Dino Shindig in Ekalaka. | PHOTO BY SABRE MOORE



# 11TH ANNUAL DINO SHINDIG

## NEW, EXPANDED PROGRAMMING FOR 2023

BY DR. SABRE MOORE AND DR. NATHAN CARROLL | FOR SOUTHEAST ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

**J**OIN us in Ekalaka for the Carter County Museum's 11th Annual Dino Shindig on July 22-23, 2023. The Shindig started in 2013, as a celebration of the paleontological discoveries in southeastern Montana. The event went on to win the Montana Office of Tourism's Event of the Year award in 2017.

Each year at the end of July, paleontologists from all over the world journey to Ekalaka to share cutting-edge research in a public forum, augmented by dinosaur-based kids' activities, new exhibits at the Carter County Museum, a robotic T. Rex jaw demonstration, a street dance and more. This year we will unveil a new lighting redesign of the Lambert Dinosaur Hall supported by a Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development Grant, created by Pierce Lighting Studio of New York



The Berggren Family show off their fossil finds at the 2022 Dino Shindig. | PHOTO BY STEVE HOBE





Museum Educator Chloe Chambers heads up the the Dinosaur ice cream activity at last year's Dino Shindig. | PHOTO BY SABRE MOORE

City, and installed by Direct Electric of Baker.

There will be a total of 12 speakers at the event on July 22, including Dr. Jingmai O'Connor of the Chicago Field Museum, Dr. John Scannella of the Museum of the Rockies, Bozeman, Dr. Sarah Keenan of the South Dakota School of Mines, and Dr. Lydia Tackett of North Dakota State University.

Dr. Emily Graslie, host of PBS Prehistoric Roadtrip will also be sharing stories from the show's production.

Zoo Montana will have a booth with live animals on the museum lawn, and there will be demonstrations of taxidermy and a book signing by Ted Reclin of Rextooth Studios!

Kids activities include crafts, face painting, dinosaur golf and more! Admission to the July 22 events is \$10 for adults and \$7 for kids.

After sunset, participants can join in a street dance in front of the Dawg-house Pub, the Ekalaka premiere of the *Tale of Horns and Teeth* animated film by Rextooth Studios and Museum of the Rockies, and a Bat Walk around town,

# THE 11TH ANNUAL DINO SHINDIG

## EKALAKA, MONTANA



**NAMED MONTANA'S EVENT OF THE YEAR**  
by the Office of Tourism and Business Development

Featuring lectures from leading paleontologists, fun kids activities, a street dance, and bat walk!

**JULY 22ND 9AM-5PM**  
\$7 Children  
\$10 Adults

- ZooMontana booth with live animals
- Taxidermy demonstrations
- Robotic T. rex!
- Fossil rehousing

**JULY 23RD 10AM-2PM**  
Free Event

- Science & Cultural History Gathering at Medicine Rocks State Park, featuring lectures, fossil activities, and a hike!

[cartercountymuseum.org](http://cartercountymuseum.org)







put on by Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks.

On July 23, the Carter County Museum and Montana State Parks will co-host picnic presentations at Medicine Rocks State Park. Pack a lunch and join us as we discover Pleistocene mammals with a team from the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle, learn to sort microsite fossils, and make your own pottery with Jenn Hall Tooke, executive director of the Waterworks Art Museum in Miles City, and take a nature hike

through the park.

Events at Medicine Rocks State Park are free and open to the public.

If you find yourself in town early, the Carter County Museum and Medicine Rocks State Park are also hosting Sunset Yoga at 8 p.m. and a Dinosaurs & Dark Skies guided star-gazing event at Medicine Rocks State Park on Thursday, July 20, at the Sunset Loop Area.

A full speaker list will be released in July on [cartercountymuseum.org](http://cartercountymuseum.org). Please follow our Facebook and Instagram pages for further information. 

# July is National Hot Dog Month

**T**HE current world record for hot dogs eaten in 10 minutes is 75. The human physiological limit is believed to be 83, provided sufficient training beforehand.

July is National Hot Dog Month, and the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council, (yes there is such a thing), estimates that more than 7 billion hot dogs will be eaten by Americans between Memorial Day and Labor Day. During the July 4th weekend alone (the biggest hot-dog holiday of the year), 155 million will be downed.

Every year, Americans eat an average of 60 hot dogs each. In 2018, US supermarket customers spent more than 3 billion on hot dogs alone. In 2014 the world's most expensive hot dog sold in Seattle, Washington for \$169. The cheese bratwurst was smothered in butter, Teriyaki grilled onions, Maitake mushrooms, wagyu beef, foie gras, shaved black truffles, caviar and Japanese mayonnaise on a brioche bun!



## How was it named?

The term "hot dog" is credited to sports cartoonist Tad Dorgan. At a 1901 baseball game at the Polo Grounds in New York, vendors began selling hot dachhund sausages in rolls. From the press box, Dorgan could hear the vendors yelling, "Get your dachshund sausages while they're red hot!" He sketched a cartoon depicting the scene but wasn't sure how to spell "dachshund", so he called them simply, "hot dogs." And the rest is history.

## Most popular condiment?

Seventy-one percent of Americans like to garnish their dogs with mustard,

where 52 percent prefer ketchup. That said, preferences do change from region to region. For instance, hot dogs in New York are generally served with a lighter mustard and steamed onions, while Chicago hot dogs can come with mustard, relish, onions, tomato slices, or pretty much anything at all.

## Dress the dog or bun?

Always dress the dog and not the bun. The Council also recommends the following order for condiment application: first wet (mustard for example), then chunky (relish or onions), then cheese if desired, then any spices. <sup>RM</sup>

## STAY COOL

### KEEP COOL WITH AIR-CONDITIONING

- **Install a programmable thermostat.** Make sure it's programmed to automatically turn back the cooling when you are not home or when you are sleeping.
- **Set the thermostat at 78 degrees or higher if you use ceiling fans.** You can save 3% to 5% on your air-conditioning costs for each degree you raise the thermostat in the summer.
- **Keep filters clean.** Check furnace and air conditioner filters monthly.
- **Consider using an interior fan along with your air conditioner.** This can help spread the cool air through your home without greatly increasing your power use.
- **Buy an Energy Star air conditioner.** Replacing a 10-year-old window air conditioner with an Energy Star model can cut energy bills by an average of \$14.00 per year.
- **Avoid setting your thermostat at a colder setting than normal when turning on your air conditioner.** It will not cool your home any faster. It could result in excessive cooling and unnecessary expense.

### KEEP COOL WITHOUT AIR-CONDITIONING

- **Use fans.** You can use circulating fans near open windows at night to help rid the house of daytime heat.
- **Close shades and windows during the day.** At night, open windows opposite each other for cross-ventilation.
- **Take a cold shower or go for a swim.** For a shortcut dab cold-water or icecubes on your wrists.