



Bradley Jordan was all smiles when he found the end of the fiber that had been broken off in the conduit during installation of the new submarine cable. His work lives on as this fiber is what's now providing fast internet service to the island.

# TAKEN TOO SOON

**B**y the time you read this you will have already heard of the tragic passing of Bradley Jordan. The death of this fine young man hit everyone on the Island and many in Door County hard. The feelings we all have are nothing compared to the loss for his family, Tom, Michelle, Brien, Katy, and Karoline. Our hearts and sympathy go out to them.

You may not know this, but Bradley worked for the cooperative for a time (and we honestly hoped for an opportunity to get him back). While he was in high school we put on a line safety demonstration and he told his Dad

that this might be something that would interest him, so we took him on as an intern, working two days a week and also helping out on outages. As a project that was part of his internship, Bradley built two of our temporary services. We have a number of these that are used for events such as the Fair, Fly-in Fish Boil, and Death's Door Barbecue. These services are also used as temporary power during construction of homes, so, while he may not have been there directly, Bradley might have played a role in the construction of your home if it was built in the last six years as his temporary service might have been the one that was used.



Bradley graduated from Line School at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College. I often got pictures of the view from the top of the pole when he was practicing climbing. Had he come back, he would have been the designated climber because all us old guys use the bucket truck!

Tom, Brien, and Bradley Jordan have often played a crucial role in the restoration of power during an outage, especially in the winter months when trucks are stuck or access is impossible.

They played an especially important role in the installation of the new submarine cable and as part of that the fiber that we have been talking about so much.

We have told this story before, but briefly, the fiber in the section of cable going from Plum Island to Washington Island was damaged during the manufacturing process. This necessitated the parallel run of fiber that was installed at the time of the cable laying. Bradley was on the Roen Barge tying this fiber to steel cable to help it sink faster and

as a bit of external reinforcement. Unfortunately, this fiber run got wedged in the conduit while being pulled up to Plum Island and we ended up having to cut it, retrieve it, and then run another fiber. This third fiber (number one in the cable, number two got wedged) was run from Tom's Barge and as it was pulled up the conduit, the pulling tape broke close to the end. We put the fiber on the bottom and did some calculations based on the tape and fiber and determined an approximate location where it broke.



Bradley Jordan (in the foreground in this photo and in the orange hat in the photos above) helping to lay fiber.





We returned to Plum Island the next day with the excavator and began to dig carefully as the conduit (which was installed as a spare) was in close proximity to the conduit carrying the new submarine cable. Once we located the conduit, we had to pump the water out of the excavation hole so that we could cut the conduit and hopefully be at least close to the end of the fiber. Because the GPS locations we were working from on our mapping were indicating the end of the conduit and not the cabinets, we were off by nearly 50 feet.

As Tom dug with the excavator, Bradley moved down the conduit, cutting a section out at each stop and being disappointed at not finding the end. Finally, finally as he held it, I told him, “Give the conduit a shake and see if you can hear anything in it.” Sure enough, the fiber was there.

It was a cold, rainy day, especially cold in the water, and I am sure Bradley was uncomfortable and cold in spite of wearing waders. He never complained and just did what was needed—a rare thing for a young man his age.

He will be missed by many, but our thoughts are particularly with his family and we hope they find a bit of solace in how well liked he was, how proud of him we all were, and how a little bit of Bradley will always be a part of why the lights are on here.

**Locating the end of the fiber in the conduit was not an easy task. A hole had to be dug first with an excavator and water had to be pumped out before Bradley Jordan waded into the cold water, cutting sections of conduit to find the end of the fiber.**



## ECONOMIC INTERRUPTION

From June 26 through the date of this writing (July 18), we have had 66 hours of economic interruption where we were forced to buy power on a very volatile MISO market. There have been no crazy circumstances or equipment outages at a generation level that we can

attribute this to other than the transition from stable generation sources. This is not a good indicator of stable pricing to come. As of this moment, we do not know the financial effect of these hours, but we expect it to exceed \$20,000 based on previous experience.

# JULY STORM CELL CAUSES OUTAGES

**W**e had a brief but pretty violent storm cell come through on July 16 that affected not only us, but a large part of Door County as well. During this storm, a transformer fire in Gills Rock caused an outage for the entire Island. Anyone outside at the time could see the black sky and the high winds of this fast-moving cell. We were at the cooperative to start engines, and about 15 minutes after the outage, damage had already been done here.

We started the engines and took on the load of the south side of the Island. Due to the lines that had gone down after the Island-wide outage, you could hear the engines lug as the reclosers operated and opened. The load with just the south end of the Island on was just low enough that the imbalance was an issue, but putting the north end of the Island on would have compounded the problem and, without knowing what additional storm damage was out there, we made the decision to deal with the damage on the south end. We have explained in these pages numerous times the balanced load requirements that are needed to protect the windings on the generators and how the switch gear monitors and controls operation, preventing the generators from running under those conditions.

We had two outages on the south end of the Island. One affected members on a single-phase running east from the Albatross, and the other affected members on the west side of the Island running from West Harbor North. Both were due to healthy trees that had broken off and fallen across the line.

In the case of the east outage, we were able to remove a tap and get all except two members back on with the intention of coming back to them after the west outage was repaired. We had an additional outage in Njord Heim that went unreported until 10:45 p.m. (after engines were shut down and all else were back up).

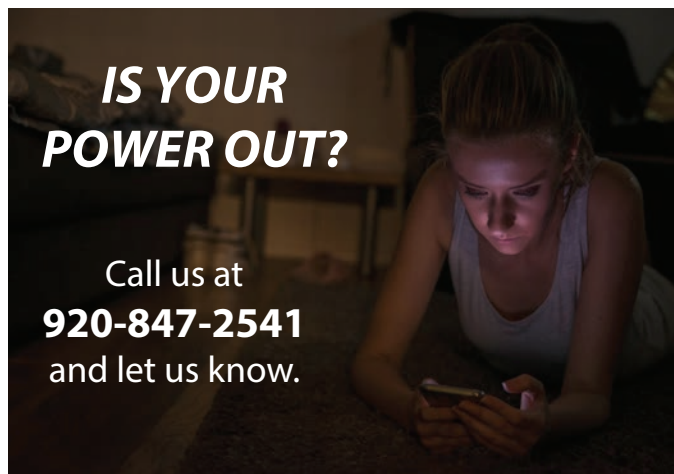
We were then notified of trees across the lines on Foss Road, so we went north to get lines that were down in two spans pulled back up.

Power was restored from the mainland at 9:45 p.m. and we closed the breakers for the north end of the Island shortly after that.

## A couple of reminders:

- **Posting your outage on a Facebook bulletin board is not reporting it to the cooperative.** During an outage our phone is ringing off the hook as we are trying to get things corrected, but the only correct way to report the outage is to call and talk to us or leave a message. We are not going to call you back to confirm we got your message. Believe me when I tell you, we will hear it and take care of it. Calling multiple times wondering how long it will be is not an effective way to hurry things along. If we are able, we will post to the cooperative's Facebook page any updates we can.
- **If you have a generator that is running, do not delay in making a report or leaving a message.** If you have not reported the outage, calling after everyone else is back on and we have gone home and just gotten out of soaking wet clothes to complain that your generator is still running because you do not have power is not how it should work.

We WANT you to report the outage; we want to know if you see or hear something that might make tracking it down easier. We are here to keep the lights on and to restore when they go out, but please understand that we cannot answer every call personally (and when starting engines, we can't even hear the phones). We will work diligently and as quickly and safely as possible to restore your power...IF we know your power is out. There is no magic map that lights up—we have to troubleshoot problems to find them and fix them.



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