

Spring 2014

# Flash

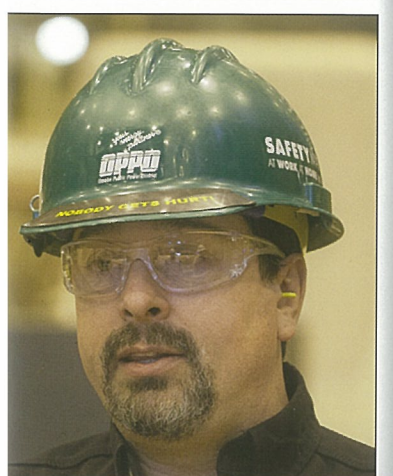
News for Omaha Public Power District Families



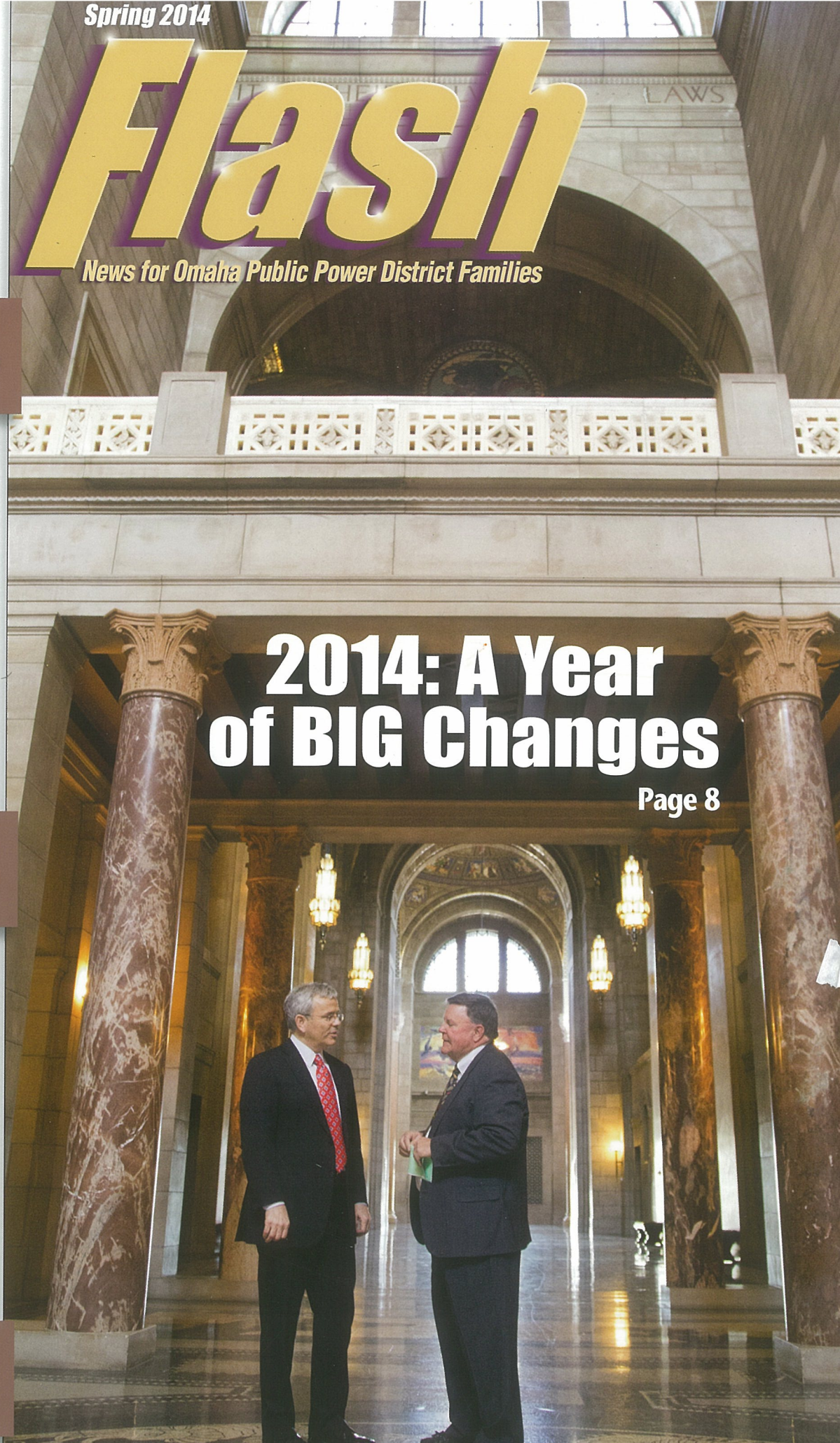
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## 2014: A Year of BIG Changes

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# SAFETY



## Extending Last Year's

"Last year, we went swimming with anchors in our pants," recalled Bob Gruber, supervisor of Injury Prevention. "That won't happen this year."

Bob was not talking about last summer's vacation. Rather, he was talking metaphorically about how OPPD employees operated the district's vehicles. Despite a very positive overall safety performance in 2013, OPPD's vehicle incidents remain stubbornly high.

"Just under 50 percent of the vehicle incidents last year involving an OPPD vehicle occurred while the vehicle was still on OPPD property," Bob said.

"It's one thing if you are rear-ended on the street when driving an OPPD vehicle," Bob continued. "That's basically

non-preventable. But too many accidents are happening on our property."

Bob believes complacency causes most vehicle incidents. "Look at our employee vehicle parking lots – nice-looking vehicles, nearly all of them without any dents or dings. That's because employees take pride in what they drive and there are personal consequences when they get in accidents with their own vehicles – their insurance rates goes up and they get to have a conversation with their significant other. That makes you a more vigilant – and safer – driver."

A committee called Preventable Incident Reduction Committee (PIRC), with union representatives, managers and supervisors, has been organized to jointly come up with solutions on how to stop damaging district vehicles.