

FARMERS ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE Open Lines

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2025



The Farmers Electric Cooperative office will be closed Monday, May 26 for Memorial Day

Energy Efficiency Tip of the Month

Routine maintenance is important to keep your refrigerator running efficiently. Lint and dirt should be cleaned from the refrigerator coils every six months



to one year, and more often if there are pets in the home. When coils are coated with lint, dust or pet hair, your refrigerator works harder than it's designed to, which can prevent the appliance from cooling properly and efficiently. The additional work can increase the energy costs of the refrigerator by as much as 35% and shorten the life of the appliance.

Source: energy.gov

2025 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

As an electric cooperative, Farmers Electric is proud to support our young members and demonstrate our commitment to their futures by offering an annual scholarship.

This year, the co-op awarded a total of \$10,000 to 12 local high school seniors. Learn more about them on page 2.

Congratulations to these students! We wish you all the best in your future plans!



Tyler Abbott



Delaney Blomme



Bailey Carstens



Taylor Day



Belle Fagan



Gabrielle Goemaat



Jessica Hartman



Michael Jensen



William Kading



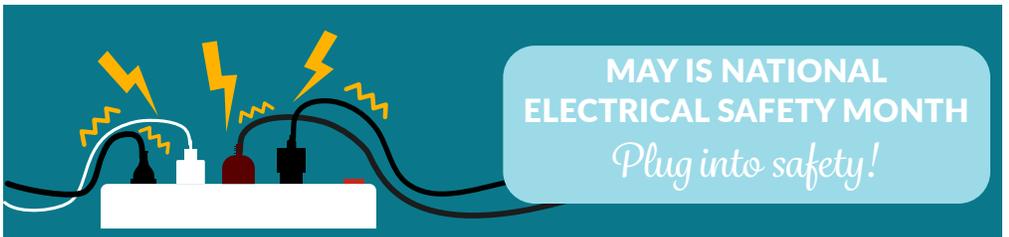
Kahne Kiburz



Lundy Sanson



Lillie Strode



CONGRATULATIONS



TYLER ABBOTT, WEST CENTRAL VALLEY. Tyler is the son of Amy and Bryan Abbott of Dexter. He plans to attend Southeast Community College in Milford, Neb.

DELANEY BLOMME, NODAWAY VALLEY. Delaney is the daughter of Lora and Matthew Blomme of Bridgewater. She plans to attend Northwest Missouri State University in Maryville, Mo.

BAILEY CARSTENS, NODAWAY VALLEY. Bailey is the daughter of Lisa Carstens of Greenfield and Kyle Carstens of Fontanelle. She plans to attend Simpson College in Indianola.

TAYLOR DAY, NODAWAY VALLEY. Taylor is the daughter of Christy Kernan of Fontanelle and Tad Day of Stuart. She plans to attend PCI Academy in Ames.

BELLE FAGAN, ACGC. Belle is the daughter of Monica and Matt Fagan of Adair. She plans to attend Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs.

GABRIELLE GOEMAAT, WINTERSET HIGH SCHOOL.

Gabrielle is the daughter of Janelle and Jeremy Goemaat of Winterset. She plans to attend Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny.

JESSICA HARTMAN, WINTERSET HIGH SCHOOL.

Jessica is the daughter of Billi Joe Hartman and Ted Hartman of Winterset. She plans to attend Iowa State University in Ames.

MICHAEL JENSEN, WINTERSET. Michael is the son of Tiffany and Bill Jensen of Winterset. He plans to attend Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny.

WILLIAM KADING, ACGC. William is the son of Leanne and Phil Kading of Casey. He plans to attend Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny.

KAHNE KIBURZ, WINTERSET. Kahne is the son of Melissa and Kent Kiburz of Winterset. He plans to attend Iowa State University in Ames.

LUNDY SANSON, EAST UNION. Lundy is the son of Sara Sanson and Chad Sanson of Lorimor. He plans to attend Iowa State University in Ames.

LILLIE STRODE, NODAWAY VALLEY. Lillie is the daughter of Kerri and Joe Strode of Orient. She plans to attend Northwestern College in Orange City.

DIRECTOR NEWS



Janelle Peiffer receives her certificate from Board President Dan Westphal.



Kris Petter receives his certificate from Board President Dan Westphal.

Two Farmers Electric Cooperative Board Directors have earned national certifications from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA).

Kris Petter earned the Director Gold credential, the highest distinction for REC board directors. Kris was elected to the Farmers Electric Board of Directors in 2018 and is currently serving his third term.

Janelle Peiffer earned the Board Leadership Credential, the second of three NRECA director education programs. The BLC program consists of a series of courses focusing in greater depth on specific industry and governance issues such as risk management, power supply and policy development. Janelle was elected to the Farmers Electric Board of Directors in 2020 and is currently serving her second term.

Congratulations, Kris and Janelle!

COPPER THEFT COSTS EVERYONE

CRIME STOPPERS 800-452-1111
STOP COPPER THEFT!

Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc. A Truist Energy Cooperative



NOMINATE A VOLUNTEER IN JUNE!

Guided by our cooperative commitment to community, Farmers Electric encourages our members to nominate an outstanding local volunteer for this year's statewide Shine the Light contest.

Nominations will be accepted online at www.iowashinethelight.com June 1-30. Three winners from across the state will each receive a \$3,000 donation to their local charity or nonprofit.

"We encourage our members to take advantage of this excellent opportunity to recognize those unsung heroes who work tirelessly to volunteer behind the scenes to make a positive impact on our communities," said CEO Holi Weston.

Member-consumers and employees of Iowa's electric cooperatives are eligible to nominate. Nominees do not need to be a co-op member. Minors may be nominated with consent from their parents or legal guardians. Nominees from previous years can be nominated again for another chance to win. The three winners will be announced in September and featured in *Iowa Electric Cooperative Living* magazine and on social media.

Visit www.iowashinethelight.com for complete contest rules and submission guidelines or contact the cooperative with any questions.

TOGETHER WE CAN BEAT THE PEAK

As the temperatures warm and we transition from spring to summer, we here at the cooperative office will be monitoring weather forecasts for potential periods of intense heat over the next few months. NASA has already predicted that this summer in Iowa could be just as hot as 2024, which was the warmest year on record.

When we say "beat the peak," we are asking our members to reduce their electricity use during periods of high demand which occur when temperatures soar and widespread air conditioning usage can put a strain on the electric grid.

Peak times vary, but typically they occur in the morning as people get ready for the day, and again in the early evening when they return home. These are common times for people to adjust their thermostat for cooling comfort, cook, run the dishwasher or do laundry.

It's important to understand that electricity generation and energy supply must match consumption in real time to ensure safe, reliable power. Every

moment of every day, there are people who monitor energy use and adjust power plant production up or down as needed to get the grid balanced. Our power supplier, Central Iowa Power Cooperative, lets us know when we need to reduce our energy consumption systemwide.



HOLI WESTON
CEO

Here's where you come in and help us do our part to use less. Collectively reducing our energy usage can help avoid costs associated with building new generation sources, ease the pressure on the electric grid and even lower your electric bill!

Over the summer months, we'll be providing easy energy efficiency tips you can implement to help combat periods of high energy use. Watch this newsletter and our Facebook page to be informed of peak periods and how you can help us "beat the peak". Even small changes can make a big difference to our energy grid!

WHAT TO DO DURING A PEAK ALERT:

Raise your thermostat 2-5 degrees (use fans)

Postpone indoor chores like laundry

Wait until after the peak to shower

What is a peak alert?
A period during extremely hot temperatures when electricity is most expensive due to high demand. Lowering your use helps keep our rates stable.



Graphic courtesy of Paulding Putnam Electric Cooperative



recipegirl.com

PASTA BAKE

- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 lb. Italian sausage
- 16 oz. rotini or penne pasta, cooked
- 2 T. butter
- 1 egg, beaten
- 16 oz. cottage cheese
- 12 oz. shredded mozzarella cheese (divided)
- 1/4 c. grated Parmesan cheese
- 24 oz. tomato pasta sauce
- Parsley flakes (optional)

Preheat oven to 350. Combine Italian sausage and beef in pan and cook until browned. Add pasta sauce and heat through. Drain the cooked pasta and transfer to a large bowl. To the pasta, add butter, egg, cottage cheese, Parmesan, and 8 oz. of mozzarella. Stir in meat and sauce mixture. Place into 9x13 baking dish and top with remaining mozzarella. Garnish with parsley flakes (optional). Bake for 30-40 minutes until bubbly. Serves 8. Tip: For browned and bubbly cheese finish on the top, put it under the oven broiler for 3-5 minutes. Watch it closely to prevent burning.

Tiffany Jensen, Winterset



tasteofhome.com

STROGANOFF SANDWICHES

- 1 lb. hamburger
- 1/4 c. onion
- 1/2 c. sour cream
- 1 c. shredded cheddar cheese
- 3 hamburger buns
- Mushrooms, green pepper optional

Brown hamburger and onion together. Drain. Remove from heat and add sour cream; mix well. Butter hamburger buns and lay face up on a sheet pan. Place meat mixture evenly on buns. Sprinkle with shredded cheese. Bake 15-20 minutes at 350. May use mushrooms and peppers on top.

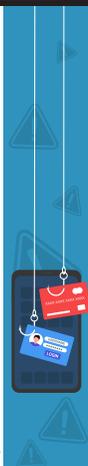
Cindy Baudler, Fontanelle

TIPS TO AVOID ENERGY SCAMS



If you suspect you're dealing with a utility scam, it's crucial to slow down before taking any action. Scammers will often pressure you to make quick decisions or immediate payments. Instead, take the time to verify the communication by contacting your utility directly. Use a phone number from a reliable source, such as your bill. Taking this simple step can protect you from falling victim to utility scams.

Source: Utilities United Against Scams



CALL FOR RECIPES

Each month, Farmers Electric invites readers and members to submit their favorite recipe for publication in this newsletter and a chance to get \$5 off their next electric bill.

To enter, mail your recipe with your bill to: Farmers Electric Cooperative, P.O. Box 330, Greenfield, IA 50849; or email it to: HWeston@farmersrec.com.

JUNE: Summer Salads

JULY: Grilling Month

ABOUT US



Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc.

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is a not-for-profit, member-owned electric cooperative, governed by an elected Board of Directors. This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The mission of Farmers Electric Cooperative, Inc., is to deliver safe, reliable, affordable electricity and other services to improve the quality of life within our communities.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
Dan Westphal

Secretary
Kevin Tanner

Vice President
Mark Earhart

Treasurer
RoxAnn Rhoads

Steve Chandler Cary Gilman
Janelle Peiffer Kris Petter
Kevin Stender

CEO: Holi Weston